



John A. Pritchard

July 19, 1925 - February 1, 2012

John Pritchard, 86 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, peacefully left his earthly body on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 due to a long-term heart condition. John had been living at the Lutheran Care Center in Little Falls while recovering from a broken femur. Audrey Pritchard, John's wife of more than 58 years – married August 18, 1953 – lives in Little Falls. John was born July 19, 1925 – the son of Fredrick Pritchard and Hazel Bateman Pritchard – on the family farm in Becker County (between Osage and Park Rapids), MN. He spent his younger years helping his family on the farm and discovering his aptitude and love for mechanical engines. When John was 19, he traveled with his family to Everett, WA in search of better health for his father and employment (during the economic depression). While there, John worked in a paper mill. After the family returned to Minnesota, the passing of John's father, Fred, soon followed. John attended Northwestern Bible college in Minneapolis, MN and Oak Hills Bible School in Bemidji, MN – while at Oak Hills he toured with the college choir and maintained the college vehicles. John then joined the project to build the world's largest earth-filled dam (at that time) Garrison Dam, in Riverdale, ND. John worked a short while in construction then became a mechanic specializing in the euclids (large earth moving implements). It was at a church near there that John met his wife Audrey – she had come to visit her brother and sister-in-law who were also working on the project. After John and Audrey's marriage in 1953 at Cushing Baptist Church, they taught bible school with John's brother David in Devil's

Lake, ND. Returning to Minnesota, John and Audrey attended Oak Hills for a time before moving to Park Rapids – where John worked as a mechanic at Parkway Motors – and later to Wadena, MN (Stuntebecks Automotive & Carter's Station) where they began a family, and on to Osage, MN (Glenn Bateman's Garage). In 1965 John and Audrey moved their family to southwestern Minnesota and opened John's Service; a mechanical repair business in Dundee, MN – serving the local community – while living nearby in the Fulda, MN area. In 1978 they moved to Worthington, MN, where John worked at Spomer Motors. For many years, John and Audrey were on maintenance staff at First Baptist Church in Worthington also volunteering teaching Sunday school and Awana. After moving to Little Falls in 1994, John worked at Wal-Mart, and both John and Audrey worked in maintenance at the Alliance Church and volunteered in the community. They moved to Dundee, MN in 2001, and in 2006 returned to live in Little Falls. In his lifetime, John worked for more than 50 years as a mechanic on autos, trucks, tractors, farm machinery and nearly every other handyman project imaginable! John loved music and singing, and played many instruments by ear; including violin, guitar, piano and autoharp. Playing and singing was a highlight at many family gatherings. At a young age John came to know Jesus as his personal Savior, and was a loving and faithful Husband, Father, Grandfather and friend. John is survived by wife Audrey; daughter, Julie (Calvin Raab) Turbiville of Elgin, ND; son, Darrel (Janet) Pritchard of Colorado Springs, CO; daughter, Rose (Steven) Peterson of Bakersfield, CA; son, Randy Pritchard of Dundee, MN; son, Rodney (Tarah) Pritchard of Minneapolis, MN; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren; brother Dale (Janice) Pritchard of Osage, MN; sister Betty Pellegrino of Norwalk, NC; sister Ida (Don) Benham of Park Rapids, MN; sister-in-law Jeanne Pritchard and many nieces and nephews. John was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, David, Herbert, Harold, Donald, Robert and Fredrick Pritchard; sister Lydia Christlieb; sisters-in-law, Ellen, Luella, Lois; brother-in-law Ray Christlieb.

A celebration of John's life will take place Saturday, February 4, 2012 – 11:00

a.m. at Cushing Baptist Church, 26298 Bear Road, Cushing, MN 56443

Previous Events

Service

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Cushing Baptist Church
26298 Bear Road
Cushing, MN

Tribute Wall



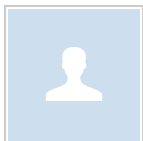
“ *John A. Pritchard*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Julie and family > Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this difficult time. Take care and may your dad rest in peace##imported-begin##Armin and Lorraine Treiber##imported-end##*

February 02, 2012 at 10:43 PM



“ *I am so thankful to have been a part of John's life for more than 58 years. I know he is enjoying being with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in our Heavenly Home.*

John was ready to meet Jesus and told me a couple of hours before that he felt he was dying even though it was hard to speak laying on his back with his breathing problems. I assured him it was okay and that I would meet him there. I am looking forward to sharing with our whole family, relatives, and friends on Saturday to celebrate John's special life. God made him a uniquely crafted individual who loved his family, visiting with everyone and sharing his mechanical knowledge even with those who didn't understand. Ha! I loved him and still do. Audrey##imported-begin##Audrey Pritchard, John's wife##imported-end##

February 02, 2012 at 02:09 PM