



John Lewis Bushman

July 10, 1991 - June 3, 2019

John Lewis Bushman entered this world on July 10th, 1991 to loving parents Jeff and Heidi as the youngest brother in a family of six children. Two older brothers and three older sisters were eager to teach and share this world with him. He always talked of his childhood fondly and lovingly. He felt comfort belonging to a fun, full house of people that gave him great attention and care. His childhood interests in movies (Pete's Dragon was a favorite), games (Pokemon always Pokemon), music (Phantom of the Opera and primary songs), adventures and helping others sprouted passionately as he grew up.

John attended Orchard Elementary and Canyon View Jr. High where he was in the Chess Club. He graduated in 2009 from Orem High School where he enjoyed competing on swim team and singing in the school choir as a talented tenor. He developed these passions further into his adult life by continuing his love of fitness; bicycling up Provo Canyon in record time, practicing yoga, and weightlifting. Wim Hoff was one of his heros. His singing voice also continued to improve with voice lessons where he would perform heartfelt solos such as "Go the Distance" from Disney's Hercules in recitals. A favorite family past time was singing Broadway and Disney songs with his sisters around the piano for hours.

John was a diligent worker with a strong work ethic and had a skill for sales and customer service. He worked for UPS for seven years where he made many friends and became a member of the Teamster's Union. When he worked for the Mini Mustachery in University Mall he sported a great, big, bushy, red beard and was a favorite with customers and was their top salesperson in result of this. John also worked hard as a Boy Scout and earned his Eagle painting fire hydrants for the city of Orem. He was also a 4 year seminary graduate and member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

When he attended Utah Valley University he did well in his classes and was enjoyed by his professors. John loved learning and had a naturally inquisitive disposition. He was always reading, reading, reading. He read philosophy, fantasy, classics, comics, and unconventional self-help books. He loved the Harry Potter series and was definitely a Ravenclaw. He also loved Scott Pilgrim, Watchmen, Animal Farm, The Picture of Dorian

Gray, The Tao of Pooh, and Waking Up by Sam Harris to name a few. He was deeply passionate about good storytelling and loved watching movies as much as he loved reading. His latest favorite movie was Call Me By Your Name and, though he was not pleased with the ending of Game of Thrones it was a favorite as well. If you were lucky enough to hear John retell one of his favorite movie scenes you were in for an arrest of heartfelt detail and emotional intensity that would be completely unique in it's telling. He relived the moment for you. John's recounting of these scenes, perfectly woven into his memory, were truly unforgettable and a profound pleasure to witness and to partake in.

Inspired by his passion for an excellent story John authored an original work of writing in 2016 in the form of a super hero comic book he titled The Paladin. He recruited his father Jeff to illustrate it and employed the minds and hearts of close friends and family to aid in brainstorming and editing its creation. To promote The Paladin John wrote and directed a Youtube trailer complete with voice actors, started his own business, designed a logo, and marketed The Paladin at ComicCon in Salt Lake City and again at CVX in Orem that same year.

John was also an avid gamer in the local Pokemon Go community. On behalf of Team Instinct John caught 34,266 Pokemon, won 6,216 Battles, walked 2,216 km to hatch his eggs and volunteered his time and expertise to many struggling players often into the wee hours of the morning. John felt a sense of purpose and gratification when helping others. He was always seeking knowledge and had such a vast bank himself to share.

John's stubbornly good-natured and courageous approach to life was contagious. Those that were lucky enough to be close with him knew him for his spirited, ebullient, inquisitive nature, loyal support, playfulness, courage and kind-heartedness. When he was appreciated he was always willing to make a new friend. He loved playing with his nieces and nephews, generously taking them out to choose toys that only the coolest uncle could truly value. He participated in holiday festivities with the family in fun, playful ways; decorating his beard with bells, for instance, at Christmas and also enjoyed playing with his cousins during family reunions.

John loved going on adventures with friends and family. He traveled to San Diego ComicCom with his friend TJ after designing a successful set of costumes to celebrate one of his all-time favorite shows Avatar the Last Airbender. He also traveled with his friend Michael Barker to historic sites in Central and South America and to Glacier National Park in Canada. Locally, John would frequent Provo and Rock Canyon weaving its trails with a friend or family member to talk. When his Australian Shepard dog Sadie was alive she was always along for the ride.

On June 3rd, 2019 John took his life in his favorite hiking area up Provo Canyon. His family and close friends know that John's choice location for his last breath must have brought him some comfort. His family is thankful to be able to commune with his bright spirit in such a beautiful location.

John is survived by his Father Jeff, Mother Heidi, Grandfather James Olsen of Alamo California, Brothers Mason (Jennifer) of Blaine Washington, and Clinton (Christina) of Bountiful Utah, and sisters Kirstiann, Gwendolyn Fullmer (Ben), and DeeAnna Ponath (Chris). The majority of John's family resides in Orem, Utah.

Written by John's Sister Kirstiann Bushman

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, June 8th at 1:00 pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints chapel located at 762 East 1200 North, Orem, Utah, where Visitations will be held on Friday, June 7th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm and prior to services on Saturday from 11:45 am to 12:45 pm. Interment in the Orem City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation in memory of John to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Humanitarian Aid Fund at [Humanitarian Aid Fund]<https://give.lds.org/humanitarian-services?cid=humanitarian> or [LDS Philanthropies]<https://ldsp-pay.ldschurch.org/donations/lds-church/ldsp.html?cid=memoriam>

Cemetery

Orem City Cemetery

1520 North 800 East
Orem, UT, 84097

Events

JUN 7 Visitation 07:00PM - 09:00PM

7

Orem LDS Chapel
762 East 1200 North, Orem, UT, US

JUN 8 Visitation 11:45AM - 12:45PM

8

Orem LDS Chapel
762 East 1200 North, Orem, UT, US

JUN 8 Funeral Service 01:00PM - 02:00PM

8

Orem LDS Chapel
762 East 1200 North, Orem, UT, US

Comments



“ I remember John as the database of all things cinema. He was so inspiring to speak with that afterwards I was sure we were all going to make a movie!! He was so full of kindness that he would be willing to get me anything I needed, and also gave me things just for fun, like spontaneous trinkets from the Disney store, copies of his favourite books, smoothies or frozen yoghurt.

One time I remember being at his and DeeDee's house, being upset about where to live as my apartment lease had run out and I was unable to find any roommates. I saw a gleam in his eye, and all but an actual light lit above his head as he turned to DeeDee and said, let's ask Mom if she can stay here! And there I lived for many months afterward, due to his selfless consideration. He set up the extra room in the basement, and from then on I feel I became another of John's family! Every day I could count on a conversation, many jokes, thoughtful insights, and of course, his hilarious Mad Hatter laugh!

One time I was feeling very weighed down, and since it was very late, I knew who would be up, chipper, and totally ready to talk about it; so I found John in his movie-watching chair and asked him what he thought a person should do with their life when they weren't sure which path to take. Although he must have been watching some epic and superb film, because all his films were, he immediately stopped it, not thinking at all about how I was interrupting him, and talked to me for at least an hour. His heartfelt empathy showed me he had already thought about this many times, and in the end his answer was, "you have to do what YOU have to do. You have to be true to yourself."

Those simple words were definitely lived out in his life as he created, gave, inspired, encouraged, and loved everyone who was lucky enough to be around him. I have rarely met a being so unique as John Bushman, and I can hear his joyful laugh in my head even now as I find new things amusing, as he always did.

Another time, there was a guy his sister liked, but whom she was having a hard time texting him so. He had texted her he liked her, and the words to tell him back were agonizingly hard to find. Luckily, her wordsmith brother was sitting beside her, and like the intuitive confidant he was, he read the text, knew his sister liked him very much, and calmly and effortlessly (and precisely!!) informed her of what she ought to write back to be clear that she liked him too; not too much, of course, but just enough, and non-chalant but caring at the same time. ;) He must have been right on the dollar because Chris and DeeDee are now happily married!

I will miss John terribly, but never, ever, ever will I be able to forget his smile, laugh, wit, wisdom, selflessness, and abounding love. I hope to always have a part of him with me, finding everything amusing, inspiring, and remarkably meaningful, forever onwards.



“ Thank you for sharing this Carla !
SO beautiful & a perfectly accurate example of John’s character & talents So much
love to you, dear Carla

Kirstiann - June 12 at 01:57 AM



“ Jeff and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. What a blessing children are. I hope you can remember the joy your son surely brought to your life. Love, Tiffany Bills

Tiffany - June 10 at 01:38 PM



“ Dear Heidi, Jeff and family, I’m so terribly sorry for your grief. May you recognize John’s brilliant energies all around you, as they continue, and be comforted. Love to you, Rick Chase

Rick Chase - June 10 at 02:53 AM



“ Heidi & Jeff, a beautiful service today in memory of John, he was an amazing young man, and we have numerous memories of him making us smile. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers, we love and miss you
Ken & Cindy Plymale

Ken & Cindy Plymale - June 08 at 09:31 PM



“ Jeff and Heidi, We want to you to know that we can't begin to understand what you must be going through. Please accept our sincere words of love for you and your family members. We stand to support you all in any way now and in the future. It has been our blessing to have shared these past few years with you. Ann and Keith Youngquist

Ann - June 08 at 12:31 PM



“ I met John 4 years ago when I started working at UPS and we quickly became good friends. I always enjoyed working with him, he was the kind of guy that was just fun to be around! Even though we were working in the freezing cold or sweating profusely in the blazing heat as we shoved thousands of boxes around, John somehow made it fun. John was a great storyteller for sure and always had me laughing. I was so jealous of his bushy beard and loved it when he would show up to work with it all dressed up in Christmas lights, a beard jewel, and my personal

favorite when he braided it like a Viking. John was always so friendly and easy to talk to. He was great at making relationships which I could tell were very important to him. When I locked myself out of my car and needed a ride, John was the first person I called because I knew he would drop everything to help a friend. I always admired all these things about John. He was a great guy and a great friend. I will always remember our friendship. He will be greatly missed.

Matt Dailey - June 08 at 12:45 AM



“ Several years ago I was staying with Jeff & Heidi while attending BYU Education week and hadn't gone to bed when John came home. We started talking about books we had read, books we wished we hadn't read, books we'd recommend reading or re-reading. It was so fun. Such a sweet connection. We finally gave it up about 3am.

Aunt Delcia - June 07 at 08:22 PM



“ Dear Heidi and Jeff,
We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are for you.
Love,
John and Maryann Pace

John and Maryann Pace - June 07 at 05:00 PM



“ I worked with John at UPS. We spent hours discussing movies and shows , especially Game of Thrones. I could always count on him to give me a good debate on our favorite shows. He will truly be missed. I will miss his smile and little laugh.

Rosa Reyes - June 07 at 02:11 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Rosa Egbert - June 07 at 01:32 AM



“ John, I can't begin to count the hours we spent playing Pokemon at Riverwoods and discussing movies. Every time I saw a good movie you were always the person I couldn't wait to talk about it with. You always had great movie recommendations and would often lend me your own movies to watch, like Birdman and Call Me by Your Name. You were kind, gentle, generous, passionate, and nobody could make me laugh as hard as you could. Everyone on Team Instinct misses you terribly.



Ryan Thayne - June 06 at 10:28 PM



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Kirstiann Bushman - June 06 at 05:04 PM



“ Dear Heidi and Jeff,
Our love and deepest sympathies to you and your family.
Love,
Your Friends at UCAS

Anna Trevino - June 06 at 04:38 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Kenzie Jones - June 05 at 02:25 PM



“ John, you were such a genuinely kind, happy, and positive teammate in high school. You were a really good friend to me back then when I needed it. You always made me laugh and kept me on my toes. One of the best memories I have of you is when you came up to me at lunch and told me that I needed to help you dye your hair for region and state. That was a fun night that I look back on fondly. The world will miss your light.

Kenzie - June 05 at 02:31 PM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



DeeDee Bushman Ponath - June 05 at 12:18 PM



“ I Love my brother John he helped me so Much and was Always so generous of his time. He was Always there for me and it's just not the same without him.

DeeDee Bushman Ponath - June 11 at 12:37 AM



“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



DeeDee Bushman Ponath - June 05 at 12:04 PM