



## Mr. John Norman Spahr

June 21, 1946 - June 26, 2014

John Norman Spahr, age 68, of Roswell, GA, formerly of Mechanicsburg, PA, passed away June 26, 2014. John was born and raised in Mechanicsburg and attended Gettysburg College. He graduated from Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, CA, and served as a Vietnamese Linguist in the US Navy in the Vietnam War. John was a current member of Vietnam Veterans of Mechanicsburg, where he lived until he retired from IBM and moved to Georgia seven years ago. He is survived by his wife of over 37 years, Candy Spahr, of Roswell; daughter, Collene Iris Spahr, of Alpharetta, GA; son, Ryan Patrick (wife, Morgan Horton) Spahr, of Harrisburg, PA; granddaughter, Ramona Horton Spahr; sister, Lucette Rizzetto, of Mechanicsburg; many nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 PM at Northside Chapel Funeral Directors, Roswell, GA. A memorial service will be held in Mechanicsville at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please donate to [www.supportwoundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.supportwoundedwarriorproject.org)

# Cemetery Details

## Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 1. 7:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors & Crematory  
12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. John Norman Spahr*

---

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Dear Candy,*

*I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. I know John will be missed greatly by all that knew him. I send all of my blessings and love to you a this time of celebration of his life. God Bless You, Candy.*

*Billie Bass Valley*

---

**Billie Valley** - July 03, 2014 at 02:54 PM



“ *To the Spahr family,*

*I am really sorry to hear about your loss. John was a very fine gentleman the short time that I knew him. I became friends with him at work. He always had some comical notes or songs he wrote about our place of work. He was quite the man. He had a great sense of humor and kept you laughing on what ever was going on. He Loved his family very much. He always had great stories to tell. He was very proud of his daughter and her accomplishments. I will miss him and all those jokes he told before I started to work, you all should be very proud to have had a father such as him, God bless you and your family and may John always be remembered. Thanks John for the memories.*

---

**Richard & Debi Ash** - July 03, 2014 at 10:34 AM

CR

“ Dearest John, Candy, Family & Friends,

*Yes John, we were just reminiscing about you(in fact, it was with our beautiful family under a blanket of stars out west)...& Candy, Wally, Jeannie, Amy, Mia, Craig and the many others we have been so blessed by fate to have met either by a brush of the arm walking quickly to and from, in the DMV line, at the gas pump, and yes, Kudzu Theatre. We will never forget the recruited soldiers from Babes in Toyland, as well as, Colonel Candy who drafted these remarkable men. Ironic both of these men are veterans. Both soldiers are exceptional, but little did our family know how much one of the soldiers, John would impact and always carry a special place in each of our hearts as we have continued on through life. As stated in earlier tributes from my husband and daughters, John shared with us that the first half of his life he was quite shy, but the second half he wanted to engage with the world. He talked about how short life is, reach out to people and don't be afraid to try new things. We've done just that and when new things come or things get difficult we think of John. Talk about going for it...shaving the mustache and beard for the show was definitely fearless. You made us laugh, smile and by example have made our lives a lot more special. Thinking back to my family reminiscing about you while sitting under the stars reminds me of a little special poem for a notable individual..."Perhaps they are not stars in the sky, but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy." And that you were...Thank you John for being a part of our lives. You will be missed!*

---

**Cynthia Ross** - July 02, 2014 at 11:38 PM

MR

“ Dear John,

*I honestly don't know how to express in words the sorrow that I and many others feel for your passing, but I will try. I remember a time in the waning months of 2009 that my family and I first met you. You were a shy, somewhat quiet man with a full beard who went about tinkering with and helping Candy put together Babes in Toyland (which, by the way, I regard as one of the most pleasant and unparalleled theatrical experiences, thanks to you guys). As time progressed, you became the life of the party! I remember you shaved your beard (apparently for the first time in years) for your star role as a toy soldier, opposite my dad. You cheered everybody up, and just made them feel good when you were around. When you walked into a room, it was like sunshine! The whole room just lit up! A few days before we got the news that you had passed, my family was fondly reminiscing about the Babes crew, and obviously, you came up... and I remembered a poignant lesson you taught me, that really struck a chord. You said that for the first 50 years of your life, you were very shy, cared very much about what others thought of you, and were afraid to speak out. Then, you said, a light went off, and you realized that you only had one life, and you were going to live it, allowing your beautiful soul to shine by dauntlessly taking chances and talking to people without giving an iota about what they thought. I am very appreciative of this advice (some of the best I've ever received!) and have lived by it every day for a very long time. Thanks to you, I am living a much more fulfilling and uninhibited life. I thank God that you have touched so many souls in this way. I also pray that Candy and the rest of your finds peace in your sudden departure and know that they will see you again someday. I am absolutely positive that heaven is treating you "juuuuuuuuuust right!"*

---

**Madge Ross** - July 02, 2014 at 10:21 PM

PR

“ *John*

*I can see you now up in heaven, sharing your heartfelt compassion for others, goofy jokes to anyone that would listen, uplifting sense of humor and truly authentic personality. My family often recalls, with tremendous fondness, our wonderful times with you, Candy, and the rest of the Babes in Toyland family. There is a special place in heaven for you and from one toy soldier to another...I salute you!*

---

**Pat Ross** - July 02, 2014 at 09:53 PM

HR

“ I was lucky enough to be in a very special production of *Babes in Toyland* (as well as *Mr. Craig Kroeger!*) at Kudzu Playhouse in 2009. (He and Mrs. Candy also let me and my sister watch their cats when they went on a trip!) It was the best play I had ever been a part of and I know that both John and Candy Spahr were a very big reason for that. It's amazing, because just several days before my family and I got the news that Mr. John Spahr had passed away, we were all reminiscing about what a great time we had in *Babes and Toyland*. We also talked about how we admired Mr. John. I remember when we first met John, he was very quiet and always helped out at the rehearsals. Eventually, he became outgoing and we got to see what a kind and sincere person he was. My dad said he recalled something John had once said. Mr. John had said that for about the first 50 years of his life he had been so shy, and then he realized that he only had one life. So he wanted to "engage with the world." He did that very well and I think that is why myself and the entire cast enjoyed him and will miss him so much. I did cry when I heard that he passed away, but then I realized something. He wouldn't want me to cry. He would want me to engage with the world like he did and live life to its fullest. He would want me to know that he is at peace now. I know that John has passed away, but now he really is in "Toyland". And that makes me happy to know that he is at peace. I hope that Mrs. Candy and their family know that too. And Mrs. Candy, thank you for being a really great director. I'm really sorry for your loss. Thank you, John, for helping me. I couldn't ask for more.

---

**Hanna Ross** - July 02, 2014 at 09:43 PM

WE

“ John was always good for a laugh. He had the ability to know when you needed it. I will miss his Roast of his fellow employees at ADP. We always talked about his gran daughter and how proud he was of her. And of course he spoke so much of his wife Candy and how he met her. I am truly sorry for your loss.  
Your family is in my prayers.  
Wendy Rice (ADP)

---

Wendy - July 01, 2014 at 09:48 PM

J)

“ John we shared so much time together here at ADP that we were family you always knew how to make me laugh even when i didn't want to you would tell me all the time i need a hug and you didn't stop until i let you hug me i will miss that about you Big John i enjoy all the story you told over the years about how you met your wife Mrs. Candy Cane Spahr your children and Ramona my best memory was the snow back in February in the snow when your and i car pool you always made sure i got to the car safe you waited for me every time i will miss your love Janet



---

Janet Thurman ( ADP ) - July 01, 2014 at 02:40 PM

TG

“ John was a patient at our office and always had a joke ready to share with all of us. He always spoke so lovingly about his wife, daughter, son, granddaughter and daughter-in-law. My prayers are with his family during this difficult time. He will be missed by all of us at Leading Edge Sport and Spine.



*Theresia Greer, LMT*

---

**Theresia Greer** - July 01, 2014 at 02:02 PM

TD

“ Sorry for your loss John was a good Friend and co-Worker he will really be missed.



---

**Tammie Dismuke** - July 01, 2014 at 01:51 PM

MT

“ John and I crossed paths because of Candy and for that I'm truly grateful. John was such a giant of a man in many ways. Soft spoken, smiling, friendly, willing to help out and not enough space for more. My candle for John is yellow to represent the sunshine John brought to people's lives, including mine. He may no longer be here, but his sunshine will last forever in his loving family and friends.

---

**Minnie Tee** - July 01, 2014 at 12:42 PM

MT

“ *Minnie Tee lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr*



---

**Minnie Tee** - July 01, 2014 at 12:35 PM

IG

“ *Ian Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr*



---

**Ian Gibson** - July 01, 2014 at 07:29 AM

IG

*It was a blessing to have gotten to know John. He was a great man, always happy, always in good spirits. My thoughts are with Candy and John's family in this time of greiving. John, my friend, Go Reds!*

---

**Ian Gibson** - July 01, 2014 at 07:32 AM

JR

“ *Joel W. Rose lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr*



---

**Joel W. Rose** - July 01, 2014 at 06:43 AM

JR

*Candy, you and your family remain in my thoughts and prayers. I was so glad to know John and it was so beautiful to see the love that flowed between the two of you. In many ways, it was the same love I saw in my own parents. Much love!!*

Joel W. Rose - July 01, 2014 at 06:44 AM



“ So glad I got to know John and have the pleasure of working with him on stage. He was always in good spirits, and always had a joke, funny story, or interesting anecdote at rehearsals and backstage! Miss you John!



Karen Covington - June 30, 2014 at 03:47 PM

CK

“ My heart breaks for you Candy. I am so glad to get to know you and this very fine, awesome man. Words just can't do justice to John. Everyone that had the pleasure of knowing him knows exactly what I am talking about. I will never forget our time together putting on Babes in Toyland. John was always so upbeat and so much fun to be around. God has taken this beautiful soul much too soon!



Craig Kroeger - June 30, 2014 at 12:52 PM

RM

“ Candy, I am so deeply sorry for the loss of your husband. Sending prayers for comfort and piece to you & family.  
Robin Mangrum, Aetna Inc.

Robin Mangrum - June 30, 2014 at 08:49 AM

LI

“ Linda lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr



Linda - June 29, 2014 at 08:50 PM

BS

“ Brian And Erica Stewart lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr



Brian and Erica Stewart - June 28, 2014 at 12:22 PM

V(

“ Vikki Erb (Sister-n-Law) lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Norman Spahr



Vikki Erb (Sister-n-Law) - June 28, 2014 at 11:22 AM

VE

John you will always and forever be in our hearts and thoughts. You are an awesome Brother-n-law, Brother, Father and Husband. We miss you so much!! Rest In Peace.

Vikki Erb - June 28, 2014 at 11:26 AM

KS

“ *John: I will never forget you & all the fun times we shared together! How many times did we laugh together about our story of you driving the tractor at the farm? How many good conversations did we have over the years while split-wrapping? Our friendship, like you, was special, & I will miss you very much! Rest in peace now, my friend, & give my love to Kristina when you see her...*

---

**Kevin Stricker** - June 28, 2014 at 05:23 AM