



## John Walter McCrary

November 20, 1956 - September 6, 2022

John McCrary, 65, passed away unexpectedly on September 6, 2022. He was a loving and deeply devoted husband and father.

John was born to the late Walter and Irma (Giordano) McCrary on November 20, 1956 in Pinckneyville, Illinois. He attended St. Bruno Catholic School and graduated from Pinckneyville Community High School. In 1975 he started what would be a life-long career in printing. He loved to tell the story about how he kept all of the first edition Marvel and DC Comic Books he helped to print only to have his mother sell them at a garage sale years later for a nickel a piece while he was at work. He moved to California in 1984 where he met his best friend and lifelong partner, Tina (Probst) McCrary, as he liked to say, “the old fashioned way - in a bar.”

John and Tina left California after their son, Tyler, was born and continued to progress through the ranks in the printing industry in Madison, WI, Dyersburg, TN, and Cincinnati, OH before settling in metro Atlanta in 2002. They discovered their “happy place” at Lake Oconee in 2010 as week-end residents until they moved full-time in 2020. John said he felt at home for the first time since leaving Illinois when they settled in Sebastian Cove and was looking forward to retiring in 2023. He could tell you the name of every dog in the neighborhood and where they lived even if he didn’t know the owner’s name. His recent passion was learning to play pickleball where he was labeled “Fast

John.”

John never sat still which earned him the nickname “Zippy” from Tyler. He was always taking care of things around the yard, “piddling” around the house, or playing with his rescue dog, Nala. He was fun loving and always the first to volunteer to get up onstage or dress up in a costume - the zanier, the better. He loved traveling and exploring new places as long as he wasn't required to sit still for too long, which is probably why he preferred hiking in the mountains to sitting on a beach. Nothing brought him greater joy in life than the time spent watching Tyler play sports or teaching his “kids” how to water ski for the first time.

John is survived by his wife of 33 years, Tina; son, Tyler (Kirsten); sister, Nancy McCrary Wickler (John), and countless friends and extended family.

A celebration of life will be held on September 18th at 1pm at Oconee Brewing Company in Greensboro, GA.. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at <https://www.williamsfheatonton.net> for the McCrary family. To honor his memory, please make a donation to your local humane society.

# Tribute Wall



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of John Walter McCrary.*



October 11, 2022 at 09:15 AM



“ *Tina and Tyler  
I am so shocked to hear the news about John and I am so very, very sorry for you. I'm sending you loving thoughts and hugs. Missy*



missy - October 01, 2022 at 09:19 PM



“ *Tina,  
We met you and John on the baseball field where Tyler & Taylor were able to make many great memories....as well as John, you, Lisa and myself that year.  
That season lead to John joining RRD where he grew from working in a plant with me to working off-site at a customer locations and driving work to plants - he was a great planner and flourished in that role.  
Seeing his picture (with the slight smile) makes me smile.  
John was a great guy with a great heart and I'll miss him.  
Prayers to you and your family.  
~~ David, Lisa, Anthony & Taylor*

David & Lisa Fields - September 16, 2022 at 02:33 PM

MT

“ Tina, so sorry to hear this news. Patricia and I have kept you and Tyler in our thoughts and prayers. While I never knew John, I did know and could feel the bond between the two of you. I could always sense that great relationship between you guys. Honestly, I've been lost for words but please know I'm here for you. Mark and Patricia Thompson

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**Mark Thompson** - September 13, 2022 at 04:26 AM

JM

“ We were so saddened to hear of John's sudden passing. We met him at Sebastian Cove and had the wonderful opportunity to play pickleball with him and experience his wonderful friendly personality. Our prayers are with your family during this most difficult time. Scott & Janice Mozley

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**Janice Mozley** - September 12, 2022 at 02:36 PM

TB

“ I worked with John for several years and remember that he was always a nice person to be around. I know things were crazy in our jobs but you never would have known it from John. He did talk of his love for his lake house and hiking. He was a good man and I am sorry for you and your families loss but that you do have so many fond memories!!

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**Timothy Becker** - September 12, 2022 at 12:19 PM

NL

“ Tina, I played pickleball with John on just one occasion at Sebastian Cove but he made a big impression on me with his kindness, energy and enthusiasm. What an awesome guy and a beautiful love story you two shared. My deepest condolences and heartfelt prayers for you and your family. 🙏  
Nancy Lewis

Nancy Lewis - September 11, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ John was a wonderful person, always kind. I went to high school with John and have fond memories of him. Prayers for his family!

Deb Herbst - September 10, 2022 at 04:31 PM

PO

“ John is a wonderful person. I had the privilege to work with John and a true professional and a true printer. There are so many things in life they don't make sense and John's leaving us is so hard. There is now one more star shining bright above us and joining our family members' stars. Sincerest thoughts and prayers to Tina and entire family. Pete O'Rourke. We will be happy to give to local rescue. 💕💕

Pete O'Rourke - September 09, 2022 at 10:18 PM

PA

“ John was a senior when I was a freshman at Pinckneyville Community High School. He and my sister, Kathy were in the same grade and how I got to know him. He was one of the nicest boys in school. So friendly, always smiling and a pleasure to be around. Love, hugs and prayers to his family as I can tell he will truly be missed. My condolences on the loss of a special guy. Peg (Brostmeyer) Allen

Peg Allen - September 09, 2022 at 08:18 PM

MW

“ Those of us living in Sebastian Cove know how lucky we are to be here. John was certainly a big part of the special feeling of friendship that flows through these streets and creeks. It was always nice to see John walking the dog with a 'hi' and smile. I remember his encouragement on the Pickle Ball court and the fun he had with the social club activities. Our best to Tina and of course prayers for all the family. Called home to the Lord too soon. Love, Mary and Dan Williams

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**Mary Williams** - September 09, 2022 at 04:37 PM

MK

John was a gentle soul. He will be missed by anyone lucky enough to have crossed his path.  
He loved Tina and his family, his Nala, a good wine, his pretty yard and a good laugh.  
Our prayers are with him and his wonderful family  
Mike and Margie

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**Mike / Margie Kelly** - September 10, 2022 at 11:25 AM



“ *Dear Tina, you and John are and always will be the perfect couple.*

*So many great memories spending time with you and John in Merced, L.A., San Francisco, New York others, that I cannot begin to relate all of them.*

*Even if John was not on board on these corporate ventures, I always felt his presence. You see Tina, you see John, and visa versa.*

*You were inseparable my dear.*

*For some unknown reason, he is not physically present any longer but he will always be by your side yet the mystery of why he was taken will linger.*

*As one of your best friends in our corporate days at TIME WARNER I am shattered by this loss.*

*Bowing my head in grief, with love,*

*Dave K.*

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**Dave Kirchgessler** - September 09, 2022 at 03:49 PM



“ *I only worked with John a short time but he was always there to help me navigate the ordering process with RR Donnelley. I always thought he was unflappable when a crisis arose. I appreciated his help as I was new to my position. May his family and friends treasure their memories and find peace in them. Godspeed John!*



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**Nita Doolin** - September 09, 2022 at 02:22 PM

JN

“ Hi Tina! I was so sorry to hear this news. Just know that we are thinking about you! Jeanie Noltemeyer

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**Jeanie Noltemeyer** - September 09, 2022 at 11:59 AM

BF

“ I had the pleasure of working with John the last several years. John was truly a nice guy. I would always walk away from our conversations with a smile on my face. John would tell me how happy he was - and it was infectious! He loved his family, his job, travel and just loved life - he never had any complaints. I consider myself fortunate to have known him. John - you will be sorely missed.

*Barbara Fedorys*

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**Barbara Fedorys** - September 09, 2022 at 10:58 AM

JS

“ Tina, I am so, so sorry. Please know that you are in my prayers during this difficult time. We hope your warm memories and the love and prayers of your family and friends will be of comfort to you in the days ahead. - Joe Stone



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**Joe Stone** - September 09, 2022 at 10:40 AM

KA

“ I will always remember the first time I met Tina and when she moved to California and began working for TIME Magazine. She then met John and romance forever started. The two of them were definitely meant for each other and lived their lives to the fullest. Happiest day was when Tyler was born. The 3 of them never quit exploring and enjoying life. When they moved from California, I personally did not stay in touch with them, but always loved them and followed their adventures through my very best friend and Tina's sister Norma. I don't understand why God ever calls a loved one home. I cannot imagine the heartbreak of losing a spouse. You Tyler and Kirsten will always be in my prayers and heart. Have always loved you guys even from a distance.  
Forever in our hearts and prayers  
Dick and Kay Ackerman

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**Kay Ackerman** - September 09, 2022 at 09:54 AM

DS

“ We met John and Tina through mutual friends and shared being Supper Club friends for several years. John was a witty and genuine person and always a pleasure to be around. Our hearts are broken to know he is no longer here. So happy that he and Tina were living in such a beautiful place. John will be missed , we love you John .  
Carlos and Debbie Seoane



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**debbie seoane** - September 09, 2022 at 09:05 AM

RW

“ I was blessed to know John, albeit a short time. I worked next to John, and he was my "training partner"...he & I would figure out our new roles at RRD together. John would always take a several walks around the warehouse a day to keep his brain fresh. I was very grateful that he allowed me to walk with him to help break up the day. This is where I learned of the game "Pickleball"...I had never heard of it, but when John talked about it...man, the passion he had for this game!!! When the pandemic hit, we were now work from home employees. John & I would still talk via phone or Google meet, to solve problems or just talk life & pickle ball...but just NOT the same as John & I walking around the warehouse to do our daily laps. My wife Teresa & I really enjoyed having dinner with the two of you when we came down to Lake Oconee, and I got a real glimpse of the fun, funny and very happy John. I am very sorry that I will not get to know more of him, he was a friend, a new friend, but a friend nonetheless.

Rob Welsh

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**Robert Welsh** - September 09, 2022 at 08:34 AM

SG

I saw John's photo and immediately recognized him as "Beek" from my teenage years. He and Eric Beninati spent summer running around together, friends, swimming, going to fairs and festivals together and having fun. I always wondered what happened to my friend and where he went in life. What a great fun loving guy. So very sad to see his passing. 🙏

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**Sarah George** - September 10, 2022 at 02:45 AM

TI

“ 3 files added to the album life



Tina - September 08, 2022 at 05:29 PM

PO

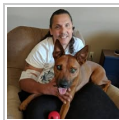
*Wonderful, absolutely wonderful pictures, people and friends.*

Pete O'Rourke - September 09, 2022 at 10:22 PM

JH

*Tina & John are neighbors & dear friends! John will be missed by all of us who knew him. He was funny, always smiling & always busy even if he was just pulling weeds in their yard. Now I understand why Tyler called him "Zippy". We often wished we had his energy! He was so dedicated to Tina & always in the background doing what needed to be done. He was a great guy, as Tina said many times "He's the Best".  
Don & Judy Hill*

Judy Hill - September 10, 2022 at 01:48 PM



*John was my friend from HS . Soooo sry to hear of his passing .*

Henry Guerrero - September 10, 2022 at 07:54 PM

KB

*I'm very sorry for your loss! I worked with John for several years here at RRD and admired his integrity as a fellow co-worker. You and your family are in my prayers.*

Kathy A Barnette - September 12, 2022 at 12:53 PM