



## John G. Dove

January 14, 1947 - November 29, 2023

### In Memory of John Grady Dove

John Grady Dove was born January 14, 1947, in Decatur, Illinois. He passed away on November 29, 2023. Born to Norine Olive Wall and Grady Videll Dove, who have preceded him in death and is also preceded in death by sister, Mary Dove. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and unwavering dedication to family.

Survived by his wife of 49 years, Iris Guillen Dove, and children: Sheila Copeland (preceded in death, Ken Copeland), Lela Kavanaugh (Lee Kavanaugh), John Dove II (Sydney Dove), Daisy Greek (Steven Greek), Julia Christenson (Brandon Christenson), Karen Peek (Andrew Peek), and Lillian Aragundi (Jose Aragundi). His memory lives on in them and his 17 grandchildren: Nile Copeland, Noah Copeland, James Copeland, Jonah Copeland, Kristen Dove, Brittany Ruiz (Gabriel Ruiz), John Grady Dove III, Ariel Dove, Bella Mock, Sofia Dove, Mikey Dove, Octavian Dove, Daniel Greek, Nathan Greek, Joshua Greek, Aurora Peek, Riley Peek and 2 great-grandchildren: Paloma Ruiz and DeLuka Ruiz. And his bonus daughters and Nieces with their children: Claudia Garza (Juan Garza), Charles, Samuel, Benjamin, and Leah Garza, and Kristle Garza, Andres Aguirre and Ava Aguirre; and 2 sisters, Helen Dove Dill and Lillian Dove Wilson.

A proud veteran, John served in the United States Marine Corps, embodying the values of honor, courage, and commitment. John also served as a well-loved teacher starting his career at Raymondville ISD, then Harlingen CISD, then 7 beloved years at Giddings ISD as a welding teacher to students who stayed in contact with him after all these years, then finished at Rio Hondo High School teaching math and drafting. He treated everyone with respect no matter their color or creed and made an effort to connect with students, making them feel seen and valued. However, John could best be described as a perpetual tinkerer who was happiest when immersed in a project, and he was eager to tell you all about it for as long as you were willing to listen.

John was a humble and down-to-earth man. He had a knack for telling great stories and cracking absurd jokes, leaving everyone around him smiling. He faced life's challenges with a sneaky smirk and embraced each moment with happiness.

Family was everything to John. His devotion to Iris and their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews and who ever needed a home was unwavering. His home was filled with warmth, laughter, love, a dozen projects he'd be tinkering on, and countless index cards filled with notes, jokes, and random musings.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to support John's widow with funeral expenses, Iris Guillen Dove. Your generosity will be a fitting tribute to a man who touched many lives. Iris Dove Zelle 956244-4917 or Venmo @Iris-Dove

John Grady Dove will be deeply missed. May his soul rest in peace, surrounded by the love and joy he brought to the world.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 2. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Rudy Garza Funeral Home - Harlingen  
1702 E Harrison Ave  
Harlingen, TX 78550  
(956) 425-8200  
rgfhtx@aol.com  
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

## Military Honors

DEC 2. 3:00 PM (CT)

Rudy Garza Funeral Home - Harlingen  
1702 E Harrison Ave  
Harlingen, TX 78550  
(956) 425-8200  
rgfhtx@aol.com  
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

## Chapel Service

DEC 2. 3:30 PM (CT)

Rudy Garza Funeral Home - Harlingen  
1702 E Harrison Ave  
Harlingen, TX 78550  
(956) 425-8200  
rgfhtx@aol.com  
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

# Tribute Wall

RS

“*Mr. Dove was an extraordinary teacher and talented craftsman; he helped my father and I fabricate a tool that would help us take posts out of the ground with ease versus manually pulling them out; he helped us tremendously on that job. I still remember him making me laugh in Math class. Not every teacher makes a difference, but he easily succeeded in doing so.*

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**Roger Sandoval** - December 20, 2023 at 09:35 AM

PD

“*I am so saddened by John’s passing. I feel like a part of me is gone. John was truly the best friend I ever had. I met John in the third grade. “Hey, what’s your name?” he asked. I said, “Pedro.” “No, no,” he said right back. “Your name is ‘Pete’.” I’ve been ‘Pete’ ever since. That was 64 years ago. John’s super humor and great persona made him so many admirers. I have many memories of his comic capers, his frolics and jokes, his humorous ways of making people laugh and be happy with themselves. He was so unique. He rightly was “The John Dove.” My most sincere condolences to Iris and the family and the many friends John had. May God ever bless you. Rest in Peace, my brother, til we meet again.*

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**Pete Diaz** - December 03, 2023 at 12:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John G. Dove.*



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December 02, 2023 at 03:00 PM



“ *With Love: Aragundi Gutierrez Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John G. Dove.*

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**With Love: Aragundi Gutierrez Family** - December 02, 2023 at 03:00 PM



“ *My heartfelt condolences and prayers to Mr. Dove. He was a friend of mine and my family, he was also my teacher in high school. Such a good nice man he was. When he would see me he would say I know you, you were my student in high school. Great memories to look back on about Mr. Dove. May you rest in peace in the arms of God.*



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**Brenda Lee Guerra Garcia** - December 01, 2023 at 02:05 AM



“ *George H. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John G. Dove.*



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**George H.** - November 30, 2023 at 11:39 PM

GH

“ George H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John G. Dove.

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**George H.** - November 30, 2023 at 11:39 PM

LB

“ JOHN and I were two of the outliers from at least 6th grade where we shared Mr. HOPWOODS office and " board of education ". I remember John lying down at the rear of Mr. Landrum's class and going to sleep. I also remember when he stood up for me after a fight in Jr. High. John, with all his quirkiness, was a great guy.

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**Larry Brotzman** - November 30, 2023 at 10:37 PM