



## John David Garten

December 14, 1939 - March 29, 2022

John David Garten was born on December 14th, 1939, at St. Francis hospital in Charleston, West Virginia to William and Pauline Garten. He was the youngest of two brothers, Billy and Pat, and one sister, Laura Ann. It was during his time at 1015 Red Oak Street in Charleston's West side, playing countless games in the back ally, channeling his favorite player, Jerry West, that he developed his love for the game of basketball. But, more importantly, it was during this time where his lifelong loyalty and dedication to Notre Dame football began.

A product of local catholic schools, he attended St. Anthony's Catholic school and Charleston Catholic High School, graduating with his high school diploma in 1957.

He attended one year at West Virginia State College, and later graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from Morris Harvey College.

On June 20, 1965, also known as West Virginia day, he met Elizabeth "Libby" Tinney on a blind date. After six months of courtship, they married on December 30, 1965, at St. Anthony's church. After honeymooning for a single night at the world famous Greenbriar Hotel, they returned to Charleston to begin their 56-year shared life together.

In May 1971, with no job prospects on the horizon, they left West Virginia, taking their modest belongings, and moved to Orlando, Florida. A few months after arriving, John began his first foray into the building supply industry, while Libby worked in various front office jobs.

On October 19th, 1972, John and Libby welcomed their daughter, Emily.

John continued to work in the building supply industry until 1975 before taking a job with Florida Lumber Dealers Association, eventually becoming the association's Executive Director.

It was during this period that John and Libby welcomed their son, David, on March 22, 1976.

As the Executive Director of the Florida Lumber Dealers Association, John hosted the association's annual retreat, welcoming world-renowned dignitaries including President Gerald Ford, Washington Post columnist George Will, Norman Vincent Peale, and many more.

From 1989 to 1993, John took a leadership role for the Gypsum Supply Dealers Association before eventually opening his own thermography printing business in 1993 with his wife. They kept their small business open until John retired in 2010.

Throughout his personal life and professional career, John was guided by a deep moral compass and his unwavering love for his family. And there hasn't been a single fall season where John wasn't ferociously cheering on the best team in college football – the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame.

John is survived by his sister Laura Ann, his wife, Libby, his daughter and son, Emily and David, his daughter-in-law, Melanie, and his grandson, Rohan.

In lieu of flowers, if you would like to make a donation in his memory, feel free to donate to the non-profit, Devereux, at <https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/FLMemorial/team/JohnGarten> or your favorite charity.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations

910 W. Michigan Street

Orlando, FL 32805

(407) 841-4424

<https://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of John David Garten.* ”



April 02, 2022 at 09:43 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John David Garten.* ”



April 01, 2022 at 10:18 PM



“ *Teresa Wiersteiner Ansell lit a candle in memory of John David Garten* ”



**Teresa Wiersteiner Ansell** - April 01, 2022 at 06:33 PM



*Libby, I am so sorry for your loss. Jim Magee*

**Jim Magee** - April 02, 2022 at 08:20 PM

SB

“ John and I have been friends since elementary school ,CCHS,and Morris Harvey College . We remained friends throughout our lives! I will miss hearing his laugh and his wonderful sense of humor. He will be sadly missed ! Thoughts and prayers are with Libby and his family.

Sandra Buckalew - March 30, 2022 at 06:03 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of John David Garten.



March 30, 2022 at 02:12 PM



“ Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of John David Garten.



March 30, 2022 at 02:02 PM

TA

“ *Laughter!! When Uncle Johnny was around there was always roaring laughter. Get togethers with my parents and uncles/aunts were always fun and loud. When Uncle Johnny was with his sister (my mother), my dad and his two brothers, hilarity ensued. And Notre Dame football games on Red Oak Street were loud! Especially when they all came out of their seats for a bad call. But some of my earliest memories of Uncle Johnny go back to him babysitting my four siblings and me when we were all under the age of 10. He was so handsome, so sweet and so great. I will miss him dearly. ❤️*



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**Teresa Wiersteiner Ansell** - March 30, 2022 at 12:02 PM