



John Holmes

January 9, 1941 - September 9, 2020

John Hubert Holmes was born January 9, 1941 in Houston Texas. He was the son of the late Wilbert and Nelly Holmes. He departed this world on September 9, 2020. He was 1 of 4 children. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, doctor Shirley Roden-Holmes whom he married on December 6, 1969.

John grew up in Houston and attended Phillis Wheatley High School, enlisted into the Navy, then into the Army. After service in Vietnam, he attended SIU and received a Master's degree in broadcasting and public speaking. While at Southern Illinois University, he hosted a TV show called What's Happening SIU. He was the coordinator of the cultural diversity program at the University of Wisconsin.

John enjoyed music/jazz, nicknamed "Doctor Jazz", as he spent 3 years as a radio personality for Brenau University radio 89.1 WBC XFM while teaching night classes for speech communication.

John thoroughly enjoyed life and he loved his wife. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Shirley, brother-in-law Clarence and nephew Clarence Jr. A host of friends and extended family. John was loved by everyone!

Tribute Wall



“ *John Holmes*

October 22, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ *Dearest Shirley, how sad we are to read in the Alumnus magazine of John's passing. We only found out today and we are both just stunned. We always enjoyed being in John's presence and hearing his jazz shows. We send you love!*
Shirley & Don Beggs

Shirley & Don Beggs - June 03, 2021 at 06:59 PM



“ *We were so sorry to hear of John's passing. He was a very nice and kind man. We always enjoyed him coming in to 129 Salvage. He will be missed.*

Richard Thomas - September 17, 2020 at 12:08 AM



“ *John Holmes was an incredible influence and inspiration. At SIU he was more than an adviser, he was a friend, a confidant, a motivator, and a champion for all of his students. He showed us the way to success. John, thank you my friend, rest in peace. My condolences and prayers for the Holmes family.*

Paul Taylor - September 13, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ *My condolences to Shirley and the entire Holmes family. John was not only a colleague, but a true friend. I know his spirit will live on through the many lives he reached and touched.*

Juanita Anderson - September 13, 2020 at 08:13 AM



“ *God bless this wonderful Saluki Dad! He was our go to mentor and friend and is loved by so many. John you will never be forgotten. Rest in Peace my friend we will miss you and continue you to share all that you taught us. Much Love....*

Derrick Young - September 12, 2020 at 09:59 AM

OD

“ My sincere condolences to the Holmes Family. John and I were colleagues at SIU in the early 70's. He was in the Communications-Radio/TV Department and I in African American Studies. He assisted me with producing a weekly TV program, "Blacks Folks, Then & Now." We had the pleasure of interviewing Muddy Waters on his performance visit to the campus. It is still a very fond memory. God bless and keep him on his journey home.

Olu (AKA Reggie) Davis, class of 69 & 74

Oluwa Davis - September 11, 2020 at 07:51 AM



“ When I needed a strong male father figure at SIU, John was there. He was a great mentor to me and good friend. I am grateful to God for him being in my life when I needed him most, and for all the great fun times we shared. His legacy will live on.



Kayak Mike - September 11, 2020 at 07:21 AM

DJ

“ Shirley,
I don't have words to express my sorrow, but I want you to know that I love you more than you know. Both you and John were instrumental in my being who I am now and I will be eternally grateful. Please know that you have a Brother here who will be with you during this and other times. Know that I am here for you. Stay strong and be encouraged. James Jackson

Dr. James Jackson - September 10, 2020 at 07:37 PM

DZ

“ RIP my friend!!! I'll forever hold on to the good times and laughter we've shared. I will miss you.

Dhyana Ziegler

Dhyana Ziegler - September 10, 2020 at 05:00 PM

JJ

“ John was my friend. I will miss him. RIP.

Jordan Davis Jr - September 10, 2020 at 04:35 PM