

In Loving Memory Of
JOHN B. SOLIE

June 26, 1946
Madison, WI

September 26, 2019
Brownville, NE

Funeral Service

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
10:30 a.m.

Hemmingsen Funeral Home
Auburn, Nebraska

Officiating

Rev. Robert Chitwood

Special Music

"The Old Rugged Cross"
"I'll Fly Away" ~ solo
"How Great Thou Art"

Amy Mincer ~ soloist and accompanist

Casket Bearers

Rick Wachtler Marty Hayes Paul Fish
Paul Logue Lonnie Sierks Kent McGinnis

Honorary Bearers

Caleb Stone Seth Stone Jared Stone Ethan Stone
George Nincehelser Floyd Reeves

Final Resting Place

Walnut Grove Cemetery
Brownville, Nebraska

John Bruce Solie, one of three children of Bruce and Mary Elizabeth (Matthews) Solie, was born June 26, 1946 in Madison, Wisconsin. His family moved to Wheaton, Maryland where John attended school and graduated from high school. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, his Juris Doctor degree from Creighton Law School, and PHD in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

On December 30, 1972 John was united in marriage to Lou Hayes at the Peru Community Church in Peru, Nebraska. The couple first lived on a farm in rural Nemaha County before moving to Lincoln, Nebraska while John attended school. They then moved to Stillwater, Oklahoma where John was a professor at Oklahoma State University for 28 years. Their union was blessed with two daughters, Amanda and Deborah.

In addition to his teaching at OSU, John's research resulted in many advances in agriculture. He received the prestigious USDA Secretary of Agriculture's Honor award and was invited to speak to the National Research Council at the National Academy of Science. As a Fellow in the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE), John was recipient of the 2013 Cyrus Hall McCormick Jerome Increase Case Gold Medal Award for distinguished leadership and exceptional engineering achievements. At the time of his retirement from the university, John was regents professor emeritus and Sarkeys distinguished professor emeritus. John and Lou moved to Brownville, Nebraska in 2013.

Besides being a member of ASABE, John was a previous member of the Stillwater First Baptist Church and a current member of the Brownville Christian Church. He was a member of the Peru Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star and served on the Board of the Brownville Historical Society. John loved to ride his bike around Brownville and on the Steamboat Trace Trail. Another pastime was working with wood. John's love of farming was developed while helping his grandpa while a young man.

John's health declined in recent months, and he was able to remain at his home with the help of Lou and other family members. It was at his home in Brownville, with family around him, that he passed away on Thursday, September 26, 2019. At the age of 73 years and 3 months, John was preceded in death by his parents Bruce and Mary and parents-in-law Tom and Delphine Hayes.

John is lovingly remembered by his wife Lou of Brownville; daughters and son-in-law Amanda and Caleb Stone of Chandler, OK; Deborah Solie of Brownville; grandchildren Seth, Jared, and Ethan Stone; sisters and brothers-in-law Susan and Rick Wachtler of The Woodlands, TX; Nancy Solie and Paul Logue of Jefferson, GA; sisters-in-law Sherry Warrick of Omaha; Kay (Paul) Fish of Brownville; brother-in-law Marty (Allison) Hayes of Brownville; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Quotes from John's former colleagues

OSU is currently doing memorials and remembrances for T. Boone Pickens. Yes, his legacy will be remembered for erecting structures and putting money in different areas around campus, but Your dad has given something more, he gave his knowledge and part of his life to the students and colleagues of OSU. There will not be a statue erected for John on campus, but his legacy lives on in the students he taught and in folks like me who were fortunate enough to work, associate with, and call him friend.

- Wayne Kiner

Thanks for sharing him with us and thanks to him for making his students better engineers and most of all for teaching us how to mentor the next generation of engineers.

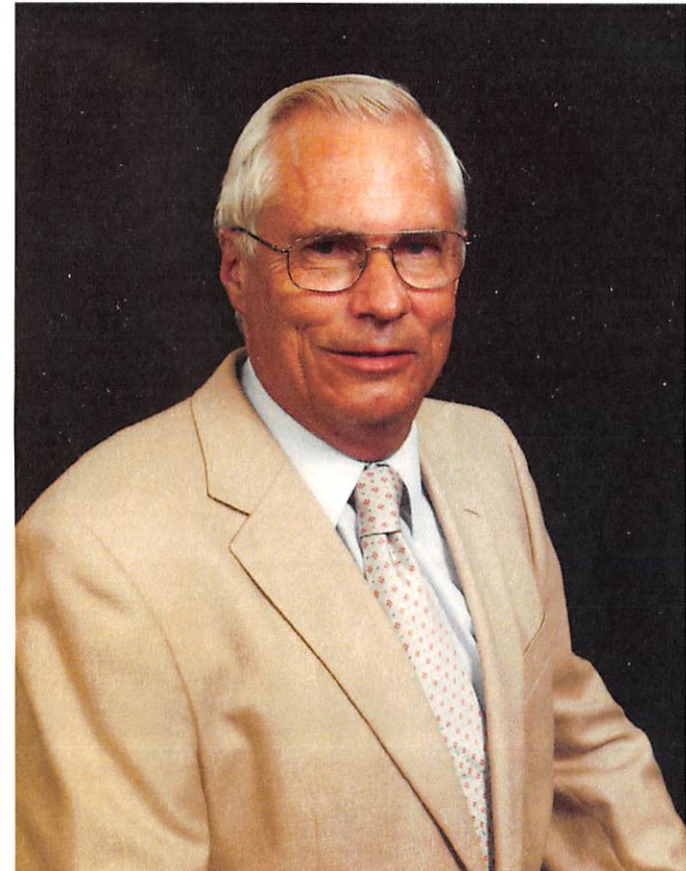
- Sherry Britton Hunt

The world lost a truly great man. He was known worldwide for his research and inventions but I will always remember him for his gentle spirit. How he would treat everyone the same no matter who they were or what they did for a living. How he REALLY cared for his students. He treated me with the greatest kindness and respect just as he did everyone. He was so touched by the scholarship established in his name and seemed genuinely surprised by donations made by previous students. He was humble in that way. I wasn't surprised, as I always knew how the students felt about him.

- Jana Douglass Moore

Services entrusted to Hemmingsen Funeral Home ~ Auburn

In Loving Memory



John B. Solie

June 26, 1946 ~ September 26, 2019