



John Lee Henderson III

October 24, 1946 - March 30, 2026

John Lee Henderson III age 79 of Sandy Hook, Kentucky, went home to be with the lord on Monday, March 30, 2026, at the VA Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky, leaving behind a life filled with love, hard work, and quiet kindness.

He was born on October 24, 1946, in Columbia, Missouri a son of the late John Lee II and Kathryn Johnson Henderson.

John was raised on a farm in Hallsville, Missouri, where he learned the value of dedication, family, and simple living alongside his parents and his sister, Audrey. Those early years shaped the man he would become- strong, humble, and deeply caring.

After high school, John answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Marine Corps. He served in Vietnam with honor and courage, dedicating 9 years, 11 months, and 20 days protecting others.

When he returned home, John built a life centered around love and family. He got married to the love of his life, Christine Petterson, and became a proud father to his two sons, John Arthur and Gary Edwards. He worked tirelessly throughout his life, taking on jobs in surveying, asphalt, road work, and factory work, always doing what needed to be done to provide.

John found peace and happiness in the simple things. He loved fishing, whittling, and spending hours putting together puzzles. In his woodshop, he poured his heart into every piece he created with his scroll saw, often giving his work away to other- daycares, local nursing homes, and everyone who could use the joy. His generosity was quiet but endless.

He truly loved his life in Sandy Hook, where he shared his days with his wife and the home they built together. John has a special love for animals, and his many pets brought him comfort and companionship. They, like so many others, will miss his gentle presence and care he gave so freely.

John's life was one of service, love, and giving. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. He has the biggest most gracious heart, and truly an honorable soul. His memory will live on in the lives he touched, the kindness he showed, and the love he never failed to give.

Military graveside honors will be held 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast with Kenova American Legion Post 93 presenting.

Whitt & Sons Funeral Home in Sandy Hook in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Veterans Cemetery North East

100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Grayson, KY 41143

Previous Events

Interment

APR 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Veterans Cemetery North East
100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Grayson, KY 41143