



## John Pearson

October 6, 1955 - March 16, 2010

After graduating from Denver University in 1954. Lieutenant Colonel Don Pearson took his infant son, Tim and his wife, Roberta to Aberdeen Maryland where he served as an instructor at the Army proving grounds. Their second son, John was born at a nearby hospital in Havre de Grace, Maryland on October 6, 1955. The first months of John's life were spent in a small apartment in officer's housing on the army base. At the conclusion of Don's active duty in 1956 the Pearson family loaded their car and a trailer and drove back to Denver. Like many Baby Boomers John grew up in neighborhoods teeming with children and attended schools bursting with students. In those days before video games, computers and cell phones children moved freely around the neighborhood in flexible groups. John, in the company of friends, cousins or brother, explored, and occasionally fell into, a nearby creek, played softball in vacant lots, sledded down the steep neighborhood streets and visited various homes for snacks. As a child John drew frequently. He sketched detailed portraits of airplanes, motorcycles, snowmobiles, cars, and sometimes people. His lifetime love of music also began when he was young. He listened to the top forty hits on his bedside radio and often took music with him on his transistor radio. To his mother's dismay his love of music did not translate to a desire to play the piano. She finally surrendered her attempts to get him to practice and bought him a guitar. John's love of this instrument endured. He collected and played guitars and other string instruments throughout his life. John had a keen sense of style. From an early age he

enthusiastically embraced new fashion trends. He wore paisley shirts when they were hip, pulled on bell-bottoms in the 60s, bought a Nehru jacket after John Lennon made them popular and even owned a leisure suit before he came to his senses. After graduating from John F. Kennedy High School in 1973 John worked for a ceramic supply business. With this job came access to clay and a studio and a new outlet for his artistic talents. For several years he explored this medium. Some of his works still reside in the homes of family members. John became a fence-building contractor in the late 1970s. He was a skillful craftsman and his business thrived for several years. A wrist tired and sore from hammer swinging prompted him to look for a new career. Following in his father's footsteps John became a manufacture's representative. After he had demonstrated his sales ability working for another employer, John's father invited him to join his business in 1984. Pearson and Pearson flourished under the guidance of the two Pearsons. When Don retired in 1998 John took over the business. He continued to head the company until June 2009. John's two boys, Jay and Will and his stepdaughter, Julia were an important part of his life. His children were a source of solace and pride. He frequently pointed to his part in raising these successful young adults as his finest accomplishment. John will be remembered for his gentleness, adventurous spirit, engaging smile, unwavering devotion to his children and his love of people. His passing leaves an enormous void in the lives of those who knew and loved him, especially among his surviving family members. These include his sons, Jay and Will Pearson and their mother, Kathy Pearson; stepdaughter, Julia Dereere and her mother, Jeanne Severson; parents, Donald and Roberta Pearson; brother, Tim Pearson; sisters, Jean Stewart and Amy DiMarco; and two nieces and three nephews. A memorial service will be held Monday, March 29 at Saint Phillip and Saint James Episcopal Church, 2797 South Lowell Blvd., Denver, CO, at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow. Memorial donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity ([www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org) or Habitat for Humanity International, 121 Habitat Street, Americus, GA 31709-34980)



# Tribute Wall



“ *John Pearson*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *I am so glad to have known John - he was a special person.*

**James Dugger** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *I will miss you dearly, John. Over the years, we had a special relationship. Through Pearson and Pearson it grew into something even more because of your personality. It was a pleasure to see you every time I had the opportunity. Thank you for all the comradeship as well as your ability to make things "feel" right at Listen Up as well as Audio Analysts even when they were not. Thanks again Buddy, for showing me how to "manage" Norm! You were there for me everytime I needed you to be. Had I known what was going on in your life the last few years, I would have been there for you. Good by dear friend. I'll see ya again soon!*

**Dan Eller** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *John was a good, good man. I always looked forward to his visits, we would talk about the world of guitars and our children. I know he loved his children very much. He is missed*

**Bob Laughlin** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ I had known John for several years and learned to enjoy and respect his friendship. We became business partners when John took on our product line as a Rep for the Mountain States. I am very sorry about his passing and I shall miss him very much.  
*Paul mastrangelo*

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**Paul Mastrangelo** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We are sending our comfort to all members of John's family, especially his sons. We believe John is no longer suffering in his new world and we are grateful for that. Know that your cherished memories will be the way John wants to be thought of and remembered.

*Warmly,  
JoAnn and Kevin*

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**JoAnn and Kevin Brown** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We were friends since high school and even though we hadn't been in touch lately, I will think fondly of him forever.

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March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WA

“ John was our representative for many years. We are shocked and very saddened by the news of his passing.

*To the Pearson family we offer our most sincere prayers and condolences. John always talked about his family and children while we were on the road together; he was a very proud Dad.*

*We will miss you John, rest in peace.*

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**Whitt Adams** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ I met John 40 years ago when he lived next to the Wahls on Knoxville. He bacame part of our gang (gang didn't have such a bad conotation back then).He and worked together at the ceramics shop and at the fence company. We always had fascinating philosophical discussions. He introduced me to some of the finest american musicians of our time. Folks like Lightnin' Hopkins, Blind Lemon Jefferson, Robert Johnson, were a few that we would listen to until the wee small hours of the morning. As the hours waned, I would whistle the blues. John told me I was the best blues whistler he knew. I don't know if I was or not, but that's the kind of guy John was. He would find something you were proud of and shine a light on it. Other 19 year olds wouldn't have done that. John always made you feel better about yourself. He was a generous, kind and gentle soul. I loved him and will miss him. Rest in peace, Amigo.

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**Rocco Barboni** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ John,  
So many memories, so many years. John will always be part of my life. From our meeting in 8th grade, hanging out, traveling together, working together, having true friendship for so many years. Please celebrate the joy that John brought to so many lives. He touched so many people and had a huge impact on their lives. Our thoughts are with his family. May you find peace. Bruce & Maggie

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**Bruce Leiman** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ John was always so nice and helpful, a true gentleman and professional rep. I am deeply saddened to hear this news, and pray for his family at this tragic time. God bless and watch over you all.

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**Matt Gotchey** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ John was so kind and pleasant to work for. I enjoyed the 3 plus years I spent at Pearson and Pearson, and knowing John. I will miss him.

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**Sylvia (Sally) Hawley** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ We hope the hand of Jesus will cover you in peace for eternity. We will always miss you, and your kind and gentle ways will stay in our hearts forever. Rest in Peace my friend.

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**Edward and Karen Guion** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ John, my wife Claudia, her brother Mike, my brother Brian, me and our close friend Bruce, were all part of a greater group of JFK Jr./Sr. High School students who gathered together to have fun after school, on weekends and during summer breaks. We especially enjoyed getting together exploring the foothills southwest of Denver. I fondly remember riding with John, as he drove up and down the canyons west of Denver as fast as his green Saab's three little cylinders could take us. It was John who first helped teach me how to rappel down a mountain cliff. I shall never forget Johns calm and easy reassurance when I became paralyzed with fear when dangling over the cliff. He helped me overcome my fears. No words can fully express the measure of sadness and disbelief that Claudia and I felt upon hearing of Johns passing. He and his loved ones are in our hearts and in our prayers. Our memories of our times with John will forever be cherished.

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**Kevin and Claudia Smith** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ I have nothing but fond memories of John during our formative years at Kennedy High School and many years following. He was a good buddy and, among other life-lessons, he taught me the appreciation of great music. John was into early blues like Muddy Waters, Howlin Wolf, BB King, Cannonball, etc while most were listening to Bread. He introduced me to the likes of Roy Buchanan and Larry Coryell - for just that I will be forever grateful. John listened to KFML, frequented art houses, and drove a Saab in the 70s - he was mature in his tastes beyond his early years. He was a great cook and we shared many of his creative dinners together in the 80s. John was thinking "out-of-the-box" long before it was fashionable. He remained my friend for nearly 40 years and I will miss him deeply. To his family, I am sorry.

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**Rob Molitor** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *The Pearson Family,*

*I have known John from the early days of Pearson and Pearson and enjoyed our times growing up in the systems contracting industry. I appreciated John's passion for the arts, his family, the industry and his model airplanes. I am saddened at learning of his passing and will miss him. I pray that the Lord be with you and comfort you in this time of loss.*

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**Steve Harder** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ *I was truly shocked to hear of John's passing and I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends. John sold me the first fence I bought for the first house I ever owned and our paths crossed many times after that. I was priviledged to meet with John and Don when they were first starting Pearson and Pearson and enjoyed a long working relationship with them. Again, my deepest sympathies to John's family.*

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**Kenton H Kuhlman** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ *I have known John for years and he was always a gentleman and a good friend. I will miss his enthusiasm and gentle presence.*

*Rest in peace, Jogn, I love you.*

*Best wished to his family and to my old friend Don.*

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**Gary Powers** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

R(

“ My deepest sympathy to John's family and friends. The thing that I remember the most about John was his knowledge of music. I have some of the tapes that John created for his friend, Bruce Leiman, for his 4th of July pigroast many years ago. Thank you John!

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**Robin Fong Booras (Leiman)** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Rea, so sorry to hear the news. I only new you as part of his business family.

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**Darrell Dorland** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ John was an enjoyable rep. Full of excitement for the products he sold, and helpful in every way. He also enjoyed our common interest, vintage guitars, which we discussed and played at length. His soft and gentle demeanor will be missed but not forgotten.

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**Gordon Close** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Bobby & Don,  
May I offer my sincere condolence on the loss of your son.  
Most sincerely,  
Bob Johnson

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**Bob Johnson** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ *John was an excellent salesman and I would cross paths with him in many different states as we shared the same territory. He always supported local musicians and helped as many as he could. We will miss you John*

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**Neil Grudzen and Mary Anne Mckown** - March 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM