



John Alvin Strum

July 12, 1954 - May 14, 2025

John A Strum, age 70, of Sentinel Butte passed away in his family home on May 14th with his two brothers, Carl and Loren at his side. John's Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 11:00 AM at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Beach, ND, with Rev. Anthony Ahrendt officiating. Silha Funeral Home of Beach has been entrusted with arrangements.

John graduated from Beach High School in 1972 and worked for local farmers and ranchers and doing woodworking/construction work for about 6 years. After that he farmed, did woodworking, and raised cattle and sheep near Sentinel Butte. John Strum was always quick to lend a hand whenever needed by family, friends or strangers in need. He was well known for his love of old tractors and photography of nature.

John was a gifted mechanic and applied his skills in daily farm work with Carl as well as ensuring that his and his friends' antique tractors were operating smoothly. He was a regular at the Friday lunches at the Sentinel Butte Station. His love of photography started when he received a camera from his mom for a church confirmation gift at age 13-14. John's passion was to capture the natural beauty that we see every day, primarily in western North Dakota. Many of his photographs were taken during his drives through the 10-mile loop in the South Unit of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park. John's camera and huge telephoto lenses were his constant companion on the pickup seat beside him whenever he was driving to town for church, auction sales, gun shows, to neighbors to visit, or to help with brandings, sheep shearing or harvest. His

philosophy was that at any moment he could pick up the camera and get a shot of nature at its finest!!

His family and friends all treasure their "favorite" John Strum photographs and have them prominently displayed in their own private "John Galleries".

Admirers of his work and his photos are sprinkled around the world in places like Israel and Sweden. We all enjoyed seeing the wonder of nature through John's lens!

John was also known for his gifts from the garden during the summer seasons, to family, friends and the Manor. Although he grew a wide variety of produce, he rarely ate much of it beyond corn and potatoes; the rest was all to give away to others to enjoy. And during the Christmas holidays, his homemade butter toffee, caramels, fudge and pfeffernusse cookies were always special treats.

John is survived by two brothers, Carl (Esther Myers) of Beach and Loren (Kathleen Wieder) of Bismarck and 2 nieces and 2 nephews and 1 grandnephew, Renae Strum of Fargo, Jesse Strum (Emily Massingill) of Bismarck, Nate Strum (Kadence Zuelch) of Duluth Minnesota, and Kimberly (Strum) and Todd Kocis and grandnephew, Finnegan of Bismarck. He is preceded in death by his parents, Leslie and Leonora (Ackermann) Strum of Sentinel Butte and his younger brother Rex Alan Strum.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with www.SilhaFuneralHomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Beach Lutheran Cemetery

Beach, ND 58621

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUN 7. 11:00 AM (MT)

St Paul's Lutheran Church
387 S Central Ave
Beach, ND 58621
(701) 872-4700

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Tribute Wall

AN

“ John was a great friend , not only to me but to so many people. When I needed help with something, he was there to help. His way with words and story telling will never be forgotten. My heart goes out to Loren and Carl and family. He is missed by all!

Angie Nelson - June 07, 2025 at 07:30 AM

DC

“ Dan and Grace Cash purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of John Alvin Strum.



Dan and Grace Cash - June 06, 2025 at 09:54 AM

SM

“ Sandy, Bo, Thao and April Murray purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Alvin Strum.



Sandy, Bo, Thao and April Murray - June 02, 2025 at 07:30 PM

LB

“ John was a wonderful friend and neighbor to my parents, Laurence and Ardys Zook. He shared Dad's love of antique tractors. Dad always enjoyed attending the Culbertson, Montana threshing bee and antique show with John. Over the years John took beautiful pictures of the wildlife in the Zook farm yard that he shared with my sister Wendi and I. To Carl and Loren and your families, I am so sorry for your loss. John will be missed.

Laurie Zook Bader - May 30, 2025 at 08:20 PM

LB

“ Im so sorry to see this. I regret not doing a better job at keeping in touch with John. He was so always so thoughtful When I was going through chemo he sent this photograph he took of a blue bird. He heard I loved birds. I think of John everytime I look at it. Rest easy John. God's blessings. Carl and Loren, Im so sorry for your loss.
Lyla Strom Blazer



Lyla Strom Blazer - May 24, 2025 at 05:45 PM

TS

“ The Family of John Strom planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Alvin Strum.

The Family of John Strom - May 22, 2025 at 04:35 PM

TS

“ *The Family of John Strom purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John Alvin Strum.*



The Family of John Strom - May 22, 2025 at 04:35 PM

VZ

“ *My deepest sympathy in the loss of your brother and brother-in-law. They always leave us before we are done loving them. It is sad to see that loss in the South of Beach farm community.*

Vicki Zook - May 22, 2025 at 02:08 PM

JO

“ *I'm sure sorry to see John passed away ,he was a very good person , he had me come get some bum lambs once and his mom cooked dinner for us , he also surprised me with some angora gots he bid on in bowman at the sale barn , I'm thinking of his family also , hi to Ester also , she and I are cousins , my condolences, Jack osterhout ,los ang ,ca*

Jack osterhout - May 22, 2025 at 01:39 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Alvin Strum.*



May 20, 2025 at 12:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Alvin Strum.

May 20, 2025 at 12:08 PM



“ Our whole family enjoyed John's down-to-earth approach to life, especially in his annual Christmas greeting. We could almost visualize his dealings with nature and their impact on his garden and/or crops. Those visions will be missed but not forgotten along with the pictures he sent along with his holiday wishes. God's peace John! Stan, Marla Schmitt and family

Stan - May 20, 2025 at 11:54 AM