



John Cessna

July 2, 1951 - August 31, 2025

John Ralph Cessna, 74, died Sunday, August 31, 2025, at the Hospice of Mercy in Hiawatha.

He was born July 2, 1951, in Waterloo, IA, the son of Marion and Mildred “Mickey” (Larson) Cessna. John graduated from Cedar Falls High School in 1969, received his accounting degree from the University of Northern Iowa, and also an IT degree from Kirkwood Community College. On August 10, 1985, he married Kris A. Smith. She died September 13, 2011. He was employed in Information Technology at LeFebure and later TransAmerica.

John is survived by his son, Michael Cessna of Hiawatha; brother, Scott (Kathy) Cessna Cedar Falls; sister in-law, Kathryn (Lloyd) Bettis; brother in-laws, Fred Smith, Neil Smith and Gary Smith and many nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Kris Cessna; in-laws, Clair and Amy Smith and sister in-law, Carolyn Smith.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30am Friday, September 19, 2025, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, with interment in the Fairview Cemetery in Cedar Falls. Visitation will be from 4-7pm Thursday, September 18, 2025, at Richardson Funeral Service in Cedar Falls.

Memorial contributions may be directed to: UNI Panther Scholarship Club.
Online condolences may be left at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

12th and Division Streets
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 273-8628

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **18**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service
615 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3525
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

Funeral Service

SEP **19**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
4000 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3541
<http://bethlehemcf.org>

Burial

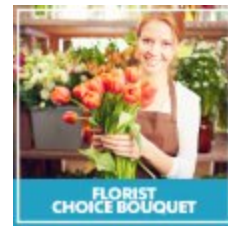
SEP **19**. 12:15 PM (CT)

Fairview Cemetery
12th and Division Streets
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 273-8628

Tribute Wall



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



September 18, 2025 at 08:56 AM



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

September 18, 2025 at 08:56 AM



“ *Along with myself and a few others from my class of CF Class '70, I spent a great deal of time with John and his buddies from his class of '69. I remember Cedar Falls Shakey's was a favorite hangout for us. What a great group of friends John and the rest of us enjoyed during our high school years. I miss all those guys along with John, losing classmates is always a tough loss.*

Stan Poe - September 16, 2025 at 11:07 AM



“ *I've known John for over 60 years. It took me 40 years to catch up to him in golf. He was a good roommate with a dry sense of humor. Haven't seen him for many years but always looked forward to seeing him and talking to him. John Kelting*

John Kelting - September 15, 2025 at 11:36 PM

TB

“ My sympathies to John's family. I worked with John at LeFebure for many years. He was a great guy with a sense of humor. I will miss visiting with him at the UNI football games, the only place I saw him the past few years. He was a good man and will be missed.

Tom Bullis

Tom Bullis - September 14, 2025 at 12:21 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Cessna.



September 04, 2025 at 09:09 PM

JH

“ I worked with John at LeFebure. He was so nice. So sorry for your loss.

Judy Hawes - September 04, 2025 at 08:35 AM

LD

“ Loved knowing John as we all grew up. Many great memories. Know he is playing his best golf games now. May God be with your family.

Linda Dills - September 03, 2025 at 07:33 PM

BS

“ I will miss John more than I now realize. Have been good friends for over 40 years. Spent many years sitting next to him at Roughrider games, even went to see Jessie the body Ventura wrestle once. Made numerous trips to Dubuque to bet on dog races and often encountered him walking at Cedar Lake. He loved golf (and desserts) and was one of the best golfers I ever played with. That being said, he was an even better person. RIP my friend!

Boyd Severson - September 03, 2025 at 07:16 PM

GS

“ All the times our kids shared a Christmas. Mike and Emily were always close as children. Working on Kris and John's home on Council.

Gary Smith - September 02, 2025 at 05:19 PM