



John Cross

August 10, 1937 - May 21, 2025

John S. Cross, 87, died on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, under the care of hospice at his home in Cedar Falls.

He was born on August 10, 1937, in Belleville, Illinois, the son of Ollie H. and Josephine (Scholl) Cross. John married Mary Ann Kelling on January 31, 1960, at the United Church of Christ in Belleville. She preceded him in death on November 4, 2015. He was a 1955 graduate of Belleville Township High School and in 1959 was awarded a bachelor's degree with honors in liberal arts and distinction in mathematics from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He later earned a master's degree in mathematics from that same university. John was a member of the social fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha.

He was an assistant professor at UNI and taught mathematics there for 37 years. For the last 33 of those years, he was the faculty advisor to the undergraduate mathematics honor society, Kappa Mu Epsilon.

John was a member of the Cedar Valley Stamp Club, the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Coin Club, the Cedar Falls evening Kiwanis Club, the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematics Associate of America and several philatelic groups. Following his retirement in 1999, he was a weekly driver for the Cedar Falls Meals on Wheels for 13 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years and his parents.

Comment from John: To my friends, neighbors and students, "Thank you."

It was his wish that his body be cremated and that no services be held. Burial

at a later date. Memorials may be made to the John S. and Mary Ann Cross Scholarship Fund at the UNI Foundation or to a charity of your choice. Online condolences at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com.

Tribute Wall

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“ John was my advisor while I was a math major at UNI in the late 60"s. He was also my favorite math professor. When registering for a math class, I always tried to sign up for the class he was teaching. He was a great teacher and was very helpful as my advisor. One of the things that amazed me was when, sometime in the last few years, I visited with him and he remembered my maiden name! I was out of college over 50 years by then.

Rita (Praska) Durchenwald (UNI grad 1969)

Rita Durchenwald - May 25, 2025 at 01:56 PM