

Obituary

John Anthony Coon, 80, of Morton, passed away Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born on December 20, 1945, in Galesburg, Illinois, to Ivan John and Janet (Cochran) Coon. John married Linda Collister on August 4, 1968, in Galva, Illinois.

Surviving are his wife, Linda Coon of Morton; daughter, Jen (Jerrod) Williams of Grimes, Iowa; granddaughter, Sadie (Kevin) Cary of Grimes, Iowa; great-grandson, Kotah Speedie Cary; brothers, Richard (Mary) Coon of Bettendorf, Iowa and Gary Coon of Walnut, Illinois; brothers-in-law, Marshall Collister, Robert (Jennifer) Collister, Russell (Carol) Collister, Keith (Teri) Collister, Phillip (Greg) Collister-Murray, and Paul Estes; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents, Earl and Mabel Coon and William and Agnes Cochran; father and mother-in-law, Barbara Collister; and sister-in-law, Janet Estes.

John attended Galva schools and graduated in 1964 from Galva High School, where he played football, was a basketball manager, played in the band and sang in the choir.

He was active in the Galva First Methodist Church, was a Boy Scout who attained the rank of Eagle and attended Philmont Scout Ranch. He played Legion baseball as a catcher and joined the Kewanee Black Knights Drum and Bugle Corps, as a soloist soprano horn player.

John graduated from Eureka College in 1972 and began his teaching career. He taught in several central Illinois schools, until he found his home at Metamora Grade School, where he taught for 25 years. Over the years, John coached boys' basketball, girls' softball and track. At MGS, his 8th grade boys' basketball team won state in 1997 with a record of 23-3 and the girls softball team went to state multiple times. He was named Jr. High Coach of the Year by district #12 by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association in 1997.

John was a member of the Morton Methodist Church for 50 years, where he sang in the choir, served on numerous committees, attended Bible studies, as well as a men's prayer group. John's deep faith in his Lord and Saviour sustained him throughout his life.

John enjoyed golf, travel, music, reading and great food. He loved family get-togethers, especially if they included his grandkids. He liked to grill for the masses and cheer on those participating in the sports and games of the day.

The family wants to thank Restmor, Eureka Apostolic nursing home, as well as OSF Home Hospice team for their care of John.

*Funeral Arrangements: Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home
and Cremation Center, Morton, IL*

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Celebrating the Life of

John A. Coon



December 20, 1945 – March 18, 2026

11:00 AM
Friday March 27, 2026
Morton Methodist Church
Morton, Illinois

A Service of Death and Resurrection

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. -Psalm 23:4

John A. Coon

December 20, 1945 – March 18, 2026

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymns**

God Will Take Care of You UMH 130 (*v. 1 & 4*)
I Love to Tell the Story UMH 156 (*v. 1 & 4*)

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 23

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-7

Words of Remembrance

***Centering Hymns**

Surely the Presence UMH 328 (*sung 1x*)
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus UMH 349 (*sung 1x*)
Blessed Assurance UMH 369 (*all*)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand UMH 474 (*all*)

Message

Rev. Dr. Bill Novak

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name;
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.*

***Closing Hymns**

God Be with You 'Til We Meet Again UMH 672 (*v. 1-2*)
When We All Get to Heaven UMH 701 (*all*)

***Benediction**

*Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak but He is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so*

Postlude

Officiants: Rev. Dr. Bill Novak and Rev. Adam Penn

Organist: Jane Chapman

A/V Technician: Don Chapman