



John Henry Morgan III

December 17, 1967 - May 2, 2025

<https://vimeo.com/event/5127736>

Obituary

John Henry Morgan III was born on December 17, 1967, in Topeka, Kansas, to Jarris Lonona Morgan and John Henry Morgan II. He departed this life on May 2, 2025, at the age of 57.

Raised in a loving home alongside his siblings, John was shaped by the spiritual foundation of Brown Chapel AME Church and 8th Street Baptist Church. John's childhood was enriched by his experiences at the Boys and Girls Club, a place he often spoke about with fondness. It was there that he honed his basketball skills, forged lasting friendships, and learned valuable life lessons that would carry him through adulthood.

A graduate of Topeka High School, John was an accomplished athlete, earning the title of State Basketball Champion in 1986, and a dedicated member of the school band, where he received the prestigious John Phillip Sousa Award for outstanding musicianship. His talent on the basketball court earned him a scholarship to Allen County Community College, where he played for two years before continuing his athletic journey at Southwest Texas State University and receiving his Bachelor of Business Administration in

1991. He returned to his hometown to serve as a Graduate Assistant Basketball Coach and earned a Master of Business Administration from Washburn University in 1994.

John moved back to Texas in 1996. He joined Abundant Life Christian Center in San Marcos, Texas, where he was ordained as a deacon under the leadership of Pastor Paul Buntyn Sr. It was during this time that he met the love of his life, Gloria Guine. They were best friends, confidants, and each other's greatest cheerleaders. After dating for two years, they married on August 26, 2000, embarking on a beautiful journey of love, laughter, and shared dreams that spanned over two decades. Together, they became godparents to a host of children, nurturing them with the same love, guidance, and spiritual wisdom that defined their union.

John became a licensed minister under Pastor Ed Reynolds at New Light Christian Center Church in 2021. He also served as a board member and treasurer for The Love Center Bible Fellowship and as Vice President of Kingdom Christian Center in Jacksonville, Texas. His unwavering commitment to God and his community was evident in every role he undertook.

John dedicated over two decades to educating and mentoring young minds in various high schools across central Texas, including Reagan High School, Johnston High School, Crockett High School, Elgin High School, and Navarro High School. John was an educator who strived to leave a lasting impact on every student he encountered. He poured into his students, helping them recognize their inherent value and potential while investing in their futures both academically and personally. As a beloved coach and AVID teacher, he not only taught lessons in the classroom but also imparted wisdom on the basketball court, encouraging his players to excel on and off the court. His impact extended beyond the classroom through the Navarro African American Male Literacy Group, which he co-founded, fostering literacy and leadership

among young men.

John was an avid reader with a thirst for knowledge, a sports enthusiast with a competitive spirit, and a mentor to countless youth. His love for travel, quiet strength, and encouraging nature left an indelible mark on everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. He was a father figure to many, a devoted friend, and a loving husband who lived by his favorite saying, "If you see me in a fight with a bear, help the bear."

John was preceded in death by his parents, Jarris L. Morgan and John H. Morgan II; his sister, Cheryl D. Bunch; and his brother, Jack C. Jefferson. He leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Gloria Morgan; his brother, Edwin Jefferson (Kim); his brother-in-law, Bobby Burton; and a host of nieces, nephews, and godchildren whose lives he profoundly touched. John's life was a testament to the power of faith, love, and service. He will be deeply missed but forever remembered in the hearts of those who loved him.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAY 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. James Baptist Church
3417 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Austin, TX 78721

Celebration Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. James Baptist Church
3417 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Austin, TX 78721

Tribute Wall

CR

“ To The Morgan Family, I would like to send my heartfelt sorry for your loss. I have known Coach Morgan for many years. As I was coaching at LBJ, we developed a friendship. Even when I started coaching at San Marcos Academy, we would contact each other. I even had Narravo on my 2024-25 basketball schedule. This city has lost a Great Mentor and Coach.

Coach Harvey Rhodes & Family

Coach Harvey Rhodes - May 19, 2025 at 04:38 PM

AZ

“ On behalf of all of the Washington Street Cousins, families & friends in Topeka please accept our heartfelt condolences for this great loss. Loving known to all of us as "JJ" you will forever be in our hearts and never be forgotten. We loved you growing up together, we love you now and we will love you tomorrow. You have your wings and crown & other family members waiting for you. Forever with us!

The King, Clark, Young, Hendricks, & Lewis Families. Anita King Zimmerman

Anita Zimmerman - May 17, 2025 at 12:30 PM

RG

“ 3 files added to the album THS



Ronnie Guest - May 16, 2025 at 04:18 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of John Henry Morgan III.*



May 15, 2025 at 08:07 PM



“ *TroyTaraTrevinTrentonTrevorToiya&Todd purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Henry Morgan III.*



TroyTaraTrevinTrentonTrevorToiya&Todd - May 15, 2025 at 06:31 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of John Henry Morgan III.*



May 15, 2025 at 10:53 AM



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

May 15, 2025 at 10:53 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of John Henry Morgan III.*



May 15, 2025 at 10:40 AM



“ *Coach Morgan was a colleague at Crockett who went out of his way to come and talk. We would have wonderful conversations in the library. I know he really cared about the kids he coached. I'm so sorry that I will be away for his service, but my thoughts are with his family and my deepest condolences as well.*

Claudia Gibson - May 13, 2025 at 10:28 PM



“ *Gloria Morgan purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of John Henry Morgan III.*



Gloria Morgan - May 13, 2025 at 06:45 PM



“ *On behalf of the Guest Family, we offer your condolences, thoughts, and prayers during this challenging time. I've known John since I was a kid at the Boy's Club and went to school with him at Topeka High. John was such a kind soul, and his smile was truly a gift from God. You are all in our daily thoughts and prayers. May Good continue to bless you all. Rest in Heaven, John. Ronnie & Carol Guest and Family*

Ronnie Guest - May 08, 2025 at 03:13 PM