



Jon Albert Campbell

January 16, 1947 - September 24, 2025

Jon Albert Campbell, a lifelong educator, mentor, and dedicated father and husband, passed away on September 24, 2025, in Hopkins, Minnesota. He was 78.

Born on January 16, 1947, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Rev. Archie N. and Naomi (Peterson) Campbell, Jon developed values that shaped a life defined by teaching, coaching, and encouraging young people to believe in themselves.

Jon's path of service began with the United States Navy. He enlisted in 1969 and served aboard the U.S.S. Camden as a Hospitalman Apprentice. Though his time in uniform was cut short by a disabling injury, he received an honorable disability retirement later that year, a recognition of his sacrifice and commitment to country.

After his discharge, Jon pursued higher education with determination. He earned his B.A. from Concordia College in Moorhead in 1970 and his M.S. from St. Cloud State University in 1974. His vocation was clear: he would dedicate his life to young people navigating the "Bubblegum Years" of junior high and middle school.

For decades, Jon shaped classrooms and hallways as both teacher and

administrator. His career took him to Newfolden, Minnesota; Verndale, Minnesota; Northfield, Minnesota; Eaton, Colorado; Huron, South Dakota; and Maplewood, Minnesota. In each of these places, he challenged hundreds of students to see their own worth at an age when it is hardest to do so. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched.

Beyond the classroom, Jon was rarely far from a ballfield or court. He loved basketball, golf, and baseball, not only as a player but also as a coach. He found joy in competition, camaraderie, and passing along lessons of discipline and hard work to younger generations.

Jon's greatest pride, however, was his family. With his first wife, Catherine (Stockman) Campbell, he raised two sons: Terrence "Terry" Campbell of Lawrence, Kansas, now an attorney, and Neal Campbell of Olathe, Kansas, now a physician. Their professional callings filled Jon with profound pride. Terry and his wife, Kristin (Stoddart) Campbell, are the parents of Karen, Jackie, and Luke. Neal and his wife, Siri (Hanson) Campbell, are the parents of Leif, Finn, and Kai.

Though life took him down many paths, Jon's heart was always tied to JoAnn (Cedarleaf) Campbell, whom he first met in the fifth grade. They remained lifelong friends before marrying in 1995, and in JoAnn he found his truest companion and the love of his life. Through JoAnn, Jon's family circle widened, and he cherished his close relationship with her daughters, Jeryn (Hall) Konezny and her husband Ron of Minnetonka, and Jana (Hall) Pavek and her husband James of Portland, Oregon. He delighted in their children as well: Adelaide, Emma, and Hannah Konezny, and Demi, Deter, Zack, and Jordan Pavek.

Jon was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his wife JoAnn, his sons and their families, his stepdaughters and their families, and his many

beloved grandchildren.

The family will gather with friends on Sunday, November 9, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Minneapolis Marriott Southwest, Lake of the Isles Conference Room, 5801 Opus Pkwy, Minnetonka, Minnesota, with a 20-30 minute program beginning at 2:45 p.m." A private burial with military honors will take place the following day at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Midwest Fetal Care Center of the Children's Minnesota Foundation or the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

NOV 9. 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Minneapolis Marriott Southwest, Lake of the Isles Conference Room
5801 Opus Pkwy
Minnetonka, MN 55343

Tribute Wall

MI

“ Mike, Margo, Steph, Anna, Heather & Families purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of Jon Albert Campbell.



Mike, Margo, Steph, Anna, Heather & Families - October 25, 2025 at 11:16 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of Jon Albert Campbell.



October 06, 2025 at 11:11 AM



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

October 06, 2025 at 11:11 AM

KF

“ I am greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Jon. He was a dear friend throughout our school years and on. He was a person that I would connect with years later, and still feel the sincerity of his friendship. My deepest sympathies to JoAnn and their entire family. Jon will be remembered and truly missed. Kathy (Ruhberg) Fortin

Kathryn Fortin - October 03, 2025 at 05:42 PM

KH

“ A devastating and heartbreaking loss. My condolences. I have always admired both Jon and JoAnn for their leadership, for their warmth and kindness. Peace to JoAnn and the rest of the family. May Jon’s memory be a blessing to all who knew him.

Kathryn Hewitt

Kathryn Hewitt - October 03, 2025 at 10:29 AM

KC

“ My heartfelt condolences to Neal and his family.

Kim Clemensen

Kim Clemensen - October 02, 2025 at 11:46 AM

JM

“ Jon will forever be remembered as an outstanding high school athlete, he honed his skills for many more years. JoAnn, we feel your loss and send you our love. May the Lord grant you comfort in the hours, days, weeks and months ahead. Remember, He is our refuge in time of trouble. He will sustain you.

~ John Menning

John Menning - October 02, 2025 at 11:14 AM

JT

“ My condolences to you all. Jon was my administrator at Maplewood middle school when I was a young and inexperienced teacher. We had an instant connection due to sports, as I had played college football at SDSU with some former students of his. I saw Jon at the gym I worked out at and at school pretty much daily. I really looked up to him and he inspired me in so many ways! Mostly by being authentic and encouraging and he always knew when to tell me “Jamie...don’t sweat the small stuff” when I would seem stressed. My friend Brian Fell told me of Jon’s passing. I’m glad Brian reached out to me. Jon was a great man and influenced MANY!!
God Bless,
Jamie Thompson
(New London-Spicer Teacher)

Jamie Thompson - October 01, 2025 at 11:51 PM