



John Fuqua

January 29, 1960 - September 3, 2021

John R. Rusty Fuqua passed away on Friday, September 3rd 2021. He was 61. Born on January 29th 1960 in Ocala, FL.

Rusty was a staple in the community and loved by so many. Like one of his good friends Jim described, he would immediately become a friend to anyone that he would meet. He grew in our hearts and was the person that you always wanted to sit by at an event or when you were together. Never short of an opinion or a laugh, he would always brighten the lives of those that were with him. Rusty was someone that you could always call, and he would be there for you. He cared for others, more than he cared for himself.

He was a diehard fan of the Florida State Seminoles and Alabama Crimson Tide football. As an alum of Vanguard High School class of 1978, he was still actively involved with the football team. Over the years, he and his brother, Larry would coach younger kids in the Marion County Youth Football League, so they would go on and play at Vanguard. For many years later, both would continue to support Vanguard with their time and contributions, running the annual golf tournament and doing whatever support they could for the team. One of his favorite hobbies was hunting. He loved when fall rolled around because it meant he could enjoy time at Hidden Creek plantation near Greenville, Alabama with his brother and hunting buddies. It helped him regroup and become one with nature. He also enjoyed evenings out on his back deck, listening to music, drinking a nice glass of whiskey and smoking a cigar while watching his dogs Maddie and Mia play in the yard.

He worked for the family business, Fuqua Sawmill for 40+ years and was proud of his family name. It showed in his dedication to the Mill.

Rusty became a grandfather a little less than 3 years ago to Ava who he called AJ or his "Peanut". He was head over heels for her. She was the apple of his eye and he truly enjoyed that new role of being a doting grandparent.

Rusty is survived by his children Jessica and Son-in-law John, Amanda and Brandon, granddaughter Ava, Siblings Larry and Sister-in-law Mary, Jay, Torin and Debbie, and nieces Kelli and Taylor. He is preceded in death by his mother Ruth, Step-Father Charlie, and Father Bill.

Funeral service will be held at 606 SW 2nd Avenue Ocala, FL 34471 at Roberts of Ocala downtown on September 9th, 2021. There will be a viewing from 12-2pm, and the service to follow. There will also be a live streaming of the service online for those who cannot make it in person.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Vanguard Touchdown Club in his honor.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 9. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel
606 SW 2nd AVE
Ocala , FL 34471

Funeral Service

SEP 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel
606 SW 2nd AVE
Ocala , FL 34471

Tribute Wall



“ *Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Webcast in memory of John Fuqua*



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - September 09, 2021 at 11:08 AM

PB

I will miss you my dear friend! Until we meet again. 🕊️

Priscilla Bellcase - September 09, 2021 at 01:53 PM

JP

please move the camera to show the speakers

Jeff Preston - September 09, 2021 at 02:21 PM



thank you for sharing for those of us who could not make it I love you all.

The Downes Family

Tony Downes - September 09, 2021 at 05:39 PM

TC

Such a beautiful tribute to Rusty. Thank you for allowing us to share it with you. Love and Prayers to all of the Fuqua family.

Tab Minichillo Chancey

Tab Minichillo Chancey - September 10, 2021 at 09:37 PM



“ *Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of John Fuqua*



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - September 09, 2021 at 11:08 AM

DM

What an amazing tribute to one amazing guy! You will truly be missed, but never forgotten.

Dawn Mobley - September 09, 2021 at 01:42 PM

DJ

*THAT WAS A BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE TO A GOOD SOUL
REST IN PEACE RUSTY
FROM DANK OR YOU CALLED ME DINK
DANNY KINNER*

DANIEL KINNER JR - September 09, 2021 at 02:33 PM



Thank u for sharing for those who could not make it love u all the Downes Family.

Tony Downes - September 09, 2021 at 05:41 PM

BC

I just watched Rusty's tribute.... this brought tears to my eyes because whoever put this together caught his loving and caring spirit. Thank you for sharing. Bonny Hoffon Castillo

Bonny Castillo - December 24, 2021 at 08:08 PM

JF

“ *This is so special - so many precious memories of a precious man. Rest In peace, dear Rusty.*

Jackie Frescoln - September 11, 2021 at 08:59 PM

CR

“ *Couldn't ask for better songs than these will definitely make u cry for his loss and others that have gone to Heaven Amen I know hes missed already I miss all my love ones it's hard when we lose our family and friends*

Carolyn ray - September 10, 2021 at 09:18 AM

CR

“ *I'm so sorry for yalls loss may he RIP in his Heavenly Father,s house fly high rusty*

Carolyn ray - September 10, 2021 at 09:15 AM

CR

“ *Beautiful Family god man great songs in honor of him from Carolyn ray in ocala fla*

Carolyn ray - September 10, 2021 at 09:13 AM

DE

“ *Rest in Peace my Friend! You will truly be missed! Everytime I bring my bonfire I'll always think of you! Watch over us! Truly one of the best men I've know in my Life! Beautiful Tribute Sweet Home Alabama my Friend!!!❤️❤️*

Diane Ernst - September 09, 2021 at 11:23 PM

LW

“ My condolences to Rusty’s family and friends! RIP Rusty!

Lisa Waldren - September 09, 2021 at 09:55 PM

PF

“ Rusty was so proud of his kids and that grand baby! I couldn’t make the funeral but watched virtually. It was such a testimony to Rusty’s life. You should be proud. Rusty always made me laugh and always said that when he gets to the pearly gates they would make him sit down cause “he had some splainin to do”! I will miss his calls to check on me and see if he could do anything for me...and making me laugh. He was truly a great friend.. Much love, Pam Foster

Pam Foster - September 09, 2021 at 05:22 PM

BC

Rusty was one of the sweetest and charming people I had the pleasure to know. Never looked down on people and he found good in each. My heart is broken to hear of his passing but he has earned his wings by being a wonderful friend to many and a fantastic father. My condolences to all of his family members. You will and are missed. Much love, Bonny Castillo

Bonny Castillo - December 21, 2021 at 05:25 PM

PB

“ Emotions run every direction as I view this incredible video. I knew Rusty as he headed towards adulthood. His kindness and joy were always clearly evident. His devotion to Vanguard, family and friends and to those who followed him will echo in hearts well beyond his days. To know Rusty clearly was a gift, for he left an imprint on all hearts he encountered. This old schoolteacher will be sad for a long time!

Pidge Boyles - September 09, 2021 at 03:48 PM



“ Steve Talbert sent a virtual gift in memory of John Fuqua



Steve Talbert - September 09, 2021 at 03:10 PM



“ RIP my friend, everyone's friend. Loved my so many. We will miss you but you will never be forgotten. Thank you for the good times. Peace to the family.

Carmine - September 09, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ Rusty was such a fun loving person who dedicated his life to making others happy. I have not seen him in a few years, but will always remember his sweet smile and infectious laugh. Rest In Peace my friend.



dawn mobley - September 09, 2021 at 02:12 PM



“ RIP my Brother. We will see each other again!!

John Garza - September 09, 2021 at 02:00 PM

DM

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Rustys children, grand daughter, and family. He was so loved. He touched so many hearts.
Dannie and Julie Moore



Dannie and Julie Moore - September 09, 2021 at 01:50 PM

MF

“ We love you Rusty and will miss you always.

Mary Fuqua - September 09, 2021 at 01:13 PM

CB

“ What a beautiful tribute, I know you will be watching over all of us our friend, fly high Rusty 🙏❤️

Carol Rogers Bryant - September 09, 2021 at 01:07 PM

DH

“ My deepest condolences to the family
Rusty will be sorely missed
David and Debbie Howard

David Howard - September 09, 2021 at 12:11 PM

BW


“ Praying for The Fuqua family. Rusty was a Great Man, Father, Brother, Granddad. He will truly be Missed. Billy Wood

Billy Wood - September 09, 2021 at 10:41 AM

MF

“ Rusty was a Friend to me the very first day we ever met. I have so many great memories on the Baseball and Football field, chasing all the pretty girls at VHS, and just hanging out at the lake. He was one of a kind and a class act ALWAYS. I am going to miss my friend in a big way. Love and Peace to his children and grandchildren. He was always so proud of all of them. All my love to the Fuqua family.
Mike Flowers


Mike Flowers - September 09, 2021 at 10:32 AM

 Tracy Alderson

“ Tracy Alderson sent a virtual gift in memory of John Fuqua



Tracy Alderson - September 09, 2021 at 10:18 AM

 Tracy Alderson

“ To my dear friend who could always lift me up with the kindest words and advice.....you will be forever my friend and forever missed. God Bless you my sweet friend. God has gained a wonderful soul. Tracy Alderson

Tracy Alderson - September 09, 2021 at 09:56 AM

SS

“ I will miss you forever my brother. You always showed up to our "Girl" get togethers to hang out with us. You gave the best bear hugs and always said "I love ya girl!" You professed your faith to Christ many times so we know you are hanging with your dear mother and grandfather. Until we meet again!



Shari Sexton - September 08, 2021 at 09:05 PM

PH

“ Rusty was a dear friend. Even though we moved from Ocala some three decades ago, my youngest brother stayed there and in touch with Rusty. At our 40th Vanguard reunion, we re-connected after so many years apart. Rusty was, and always shall be, Vanguard football's finest voice. I will miss Rusty with all my heart, as his 'Tippin Hat' was a Facebook standard when he liked or agreed with your take on a matter. A stalwart Ocalan, a Knight forever, a reach-across-the-aisle spirit in ever sense, the world is a little bit sadder, a little bit quieter, and a little bit less genuine with a friend, a true, 100% friend in every definition of the word, that has gone to his greater calling.

A Crown on the Rocks for ya, Rusty. Your body fought the fight, you tried with all your heart but the Big Man needed you more than we did.

Rest In Peace, old friend. Look down on all of us and watch over us. We have the watch.

Pruitt Hall - September 08, 2021 at 04:32 PM

JP

“ I have known Rusty for most of my life and always enjoyed the great times and experiences that we shared together. Whether it was at a Football game (watching or playing in it together), sitting on the beach or on one of our many Road Trips!

You will always be my brother and you made life for all others around you, more better. You will be missed, but never forgotten!!

I tip my hat to you and yours! Love you, my friend!



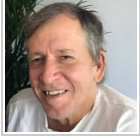
James Pennington - September 08, 2021 at 03:13 PM

VH

“ Rusty was a very near and dear friend of my sister Selena for more yrs then I can remember, his loss is huge to her. Rusty was a kind soul, his family as my husbands were the brick and mortar in Ocala. God Bless him and his family and his journey home to Heaven, I just lost my husband in May so I feel the pain his family is going through. Rest in Peace "RUSTY" and your kind soul. Vickie Hanegan



Victoria A Hanegan - September 08, 2021 at 12:41 AM



“ *Since we were 11 years old at ft king middle school till our last conversation he was Rusty being rusty. going to miss our sonnys lunches and his rants on facebook...they were epic, what a wordsmith. RIP in the Fathers arms*

tom dixon

Tom Dixon - September 07, 2021 at 05:21 PM

MF

“ *I remember picking Rusty up every morning before school his freshman and sophomore year of high school. I was dating his older brother, Larry and it gave me a chance to see him every morning before school. I remember running out of gas one morning and it was raining, Rusty who was on crutches from a football injury walked to the gas station to get us some gas so I wouldn't get wet. Not long after that I had a wreck, running into the back of Henry Etheze's truck and crying all the rest of the way to school. Rusty comforting me all the way there. But one of my favorite memories was Rusty walking me across the field, standing in for his brother, for the homecoming court. Rusty was always there as a brother even before we became family. I will miss you Russ and our long conversations.*

Mary Fuqua - September 07, 2021 at 04:27 PM

LF

“ When it came to deer hunting, Rusty would always say I had a rabbits foot up my ass. I am pretty sure this came about one day while hunting near Salt Springs..I had put up 2 stands and offered him the opportunity to choose which one he wanted for the morning..He took the first one , I took the second. I killed a deer and he didn't..so that afternoon he wants my stand. Sooo, we swap and I kill another buck and he didn't even see one. He stands by the rabbits foot theory, I told him I just smell better! Larry Fuqua (Rusty 's big brother)

Larry Fuqua - September 07, 2021 at 04:12 PM

VG

“ Vi, Kaylin, Megan and Carson Gulick purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of John Fuqua.



Vi, Kaylin, Megan and Carson Gulick - September 07, 2021 at 03:46 PM

LW

“ Rusty was a one of a kind. Gentle and giving in everyway. To know him is to love him. You will be greatly missed by so many. God bless you 🙏❤️

Leslie widmann - September 07, 2021 at 03:34 PM

NP

“Rusty and I were friends since the 6th grade. There were a lot of laughs and good times over the years. Last year Rusty, Selena and I all drove together and went to the VHS vs Dunnellon football game in Dunnellon. This is my last memory of him as it was an evening of fun and laughter. RIP my friend!!! Now I have one less great friend on this earth.

To his entire family I give you my sincerest condolences.

Love you my brother!!!

Nick Pucek

NICK PUCEK - September 07, 2021 at 10:40 AM