



John Marshall Thacker

November 29, 1981 - June 29, 2025

John Marshall Thacker, 43, of Ocala, Florida died suddenly on Sunday, June 29. John was a graduate of St. Francis de Sales High School (Toledo, Ohio) and the College of Central Florida in Ocala. John was a Registered Nurse and was nearing completion of his Master of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Jacksonville, preparing to become a Nurse Practitioner with a specialty in psychiatric nursing. His plan was to work with those who, like himself, struggled with addiction and mental illness.

Always popular with his peers, John was smart and quick-witted, a life-long character. In grade school he was often incapable of hiding his well-honed sense of humor, much to the chagrin of his teachers. He was practiced at shirking homework, relying on his native intelligence to get good grades while doing the bare minimum. Teachers always began parent conferences with “I love John but ...”, after which followed a description of John’s latest shenanigans.

John could laugh at himself, and he was a master at getting others to laugh at themselves. But John’s best and truest trait was his good heart. He was outgoing, kind and fun to be around. He was always the guy who would befriend the new kid in the class or involve a shy person in activities. And John was always there to help others. He was blessed with many true and loyal friends.

After suffering the ravages of addiction for over a decade, John became sober in 2015. He promptly obtained his college degree, started on his advanced degree, got a job in a nationally-renowned drug rehabilitation center, purchased a home, got married and had a beautiful baby girl, our beloved Winnie. He helped dozens of people get sober in his work at the rehabilitation center and in the community. Perhaps most remarkably, John shocked everyone when he proved to be “handy” around the house, a trait never before demonstrated by any Thacker male in his lineage. All of these accomplishments are a tribute to John’s intellect, resilience and fortitude.

John is survived by his wife Jennan and his precious daughter Winslow (Ocala); his mother Pamela and his father Joe (Naples); his brother, Sam and sister, Kate (both of Columbus, Ohio); and a close-knit extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins, all of whom will miss him deeply.

There are in the end three things that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on July 13, 2025, at The Stage at Shalom Park, 7110 SW 80th Avenue, Ocala.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 13. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Sholom Park
7110 SW 80th Avenue
Ocala, FL 34481

At The Stage

Tribute Wall

RO

“ Our family, the Oswanski’s from Saint Joe’s
That John went to school with our oldest son Stephen and then onto
Saint Francis and Michael, who is in the same grade as John’s
brother are extremely sadden of John’s passing. No words can
express our heartfelt feelings for all of you.
Everything you said about John was accurate on how we remember
him. Very funny, lovable guy.
Our prayers are with you!

Robin Oswanski - July 16, 2025 at 09:03 PM

SK

“ Sue K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall
Thacker.

Sue K. - July 16, 2025 at 04:18 PM

LR

“ Love, Hadi, Kylee, Nash and Reese purchased
the Beautiful Dreams for the family of John
Marshall Thacker.



Love, Hadi, Kylee, Nash and Reese - July 11, 2025 at 01:39
PM

KM

“ *Karl and Simona Martin purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Marshall Thacker.*



Karl and Simona Martin - July 11, 2025 at 10:34 AM

MR

“ *Mike, Bryan, Tim, John. Lakeside Retreat purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Marshall Thacker.*



Mike, Bryan, Tim, John. Lakeside Retreat - July 10, 2025 at 06:08 PM

MR

“ *Mike, Bryan, Tim, John. Lakeside Retreat planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.*

Mike, Bryan, Tim, John. Lakeside Retreat - July 10, 2025 at 06:08 PM

AW

“ *Amanda, Jayme, Joe, Kim, Natalie, Wes purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Marshall Thacker.*



Amanda, Jayme, Joe, Kim, Natalie, Wes - July 10, 2025 at 10:24 AM

TW

“ *The Shumaker Team - Amanda, Jayme, Joe, Kim, Natalie, Wes planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.*

The Shumaker Team - Amanda, Jayme, Joe, Kim, Natalie, Wes - July 10, 2025 at 10:21 AM

TU

“ *Tamara U. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.*

Tamara U. - July 10, 2025 at 07:07 AM

VF

“ *Von Rosenberg and Duenas Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of John Marshall Thacker.*



Von Rosenberg and Duenas Family - July 09, 2025 at 09:29 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Marshall Thacker.*



July 09, 2025 at 04:36 PM

JH

“ Jess & Jake Hodge purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



Jess & Jake Hodge - July 09, 2025 at 10:32 AM

SK

“ Susan K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.

Susan K. - July 09, 2025 at 05:52 AM

YD

“ Your girls in Cbus, LA, KY, & the Dam purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



Your girls in Cbus, LA, KY, & the Dam - July 07, 2025 at 09:02 PM

UB

“ Ursula B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.

Ursula B. - July 07, 2025 at 10:15 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



July 06, 2025 at 08:14 PM



“ Diana, Renée, Tina Dumbadse & Robin purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



Diana, Renée, Tina Dumbadse & Robin - July 06, 2025 at 11:14 AM



“ Diana, Renée, Tina Dumbadse & Robin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.

Diana, Renée, Tina Dumbadse & Robin - July 06, 2025 at 11:14 AM



“ The Byersmiths purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



The Byersmiths - July 05, 2025 at 11:32 AM

RL

“ Robin L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Marshall Thacker.

Robin L. - July 05, 2025 at 09:06 AM

PT

“ Having a T last name led me to John. We had lockers right by each other and sat by each other in Latin class. He welcomed a short awkward Asian kid from with open arms. John had no preconceived notions about people. John let people be themselves and embraced them. He made all of us laugh 24/7. My memories with John and the high school crew are some of the best times of my life. We all love John and will miss that laugh greatly. John is simply the best.

-Philip To

Philip To - July 04, 2025 at 06:23 PM

DT

“ John has been a part of our family since befriending Danny, a new kid to the school, in first grade. They became instant buds and have been ever since. We have many memories of the boys thru grade school, high school and college. We have not seen him recently but have had updates and know he will be missed by so many people. We offer our prayers and love to his family. Dianne and Bob Tankoos

dianne marie tankoos - July 04, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Marshall Thacker.



July 04, 2025 at 01:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Marshall Thacker.

July 04, 2025 at 01:54 PM



“ I was johns last roommate at mikes halfway. My name is bryan beshock. Weeks ago it took me a good while like 7.5 hrs to find him and took him to detox. We talked a good hour. Or so before he went in. Talked to him every other day until this past friday we messaged each other and hw said i will def call u sunday. I will miss him and never forget him. Trying to see if i can drive up to his service on th 13th. God bless u all. It hurts bad that i didnt do enough for him. Ty ty john. RIP. LOVE U ALWAYS BROTHER!!!

Bryan beshock - July 04, 2025 at 12:06 PM