

## **John Wayne Mercer**

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4/16/51 - 3/14/09

John Wayne Mercer, 57, of Rhodes, Iowa, died Saturday, March 14, 2009, at Mary Greeley Hospital in Ames, Iowa, with his family by his side.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 A.M. Wednesday, March 18th at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home in Marshalltown. Visitation will be from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday evening at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home in Marshalltown. Memorials may be directed to the family. For condolences please visit [www.mitchellfh.com](http://www.mitchellfh.com) The Mitchell Family Funeral Home is caring for John and his family. Ph 641-844-1234.

John was born April 16, 1951 in Marshalltown, Iowa, to Frank and Betty Porter Mercer. He attended school in Marshalltown and Grinnell. Entering the Army in 1970 he served through 1973 as an Army E4 Specialist. On June 12, 1971 he married Nancy Gibbs in State Center at the St. Paul Lutheran Church. They lived in Germany for two years while John was in the service, and then moved to Rhodes, Iowa in 1973. John worked at Fisher Controls for 35 years. He was a Union member. John enjoyed his family and his grandchildren, fishing and camping and Rhodes Little League. He was the mechanic in the family. He collected Pepsi memorabilia, and enjoyed Dale Earnhardt, James Bond and John Wayne. John will be remembered for being the card in his family, his singing fish and you never knew when he came to visit how he would be dressed.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife of 38 years, Nancy; his children Kristina Mercer of Melbourne, Michelle (Jason) Helton of Marshalltown, and John Michael (Lindsay) Mercer of Nevada, Iowa, and he also raised niece Erica Weeces of State Center and nephew Bill Weeces of San Diego, California; seven grandchildren, Brandon Ecklor, Blake, Cody and Jay Helton, Alyssa Weeces, Cheyenne and John Stokesbary, brothers Larry (Deb) Mercer of Rhodes, Steve (Marge) Mercer of Ames, George Mercer of Texas and sister Frances Mercer-Fink of Marshalltown, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Donna Weeces and Jane Mercer.