



John Charles Dhabolt III

March 5, 1959 – March 25, 2023

John was born to John Dhabolt II, and Maxine Taylor King Dhabolt on March 5, 1959 and passed away March 25, 2023.

He grew up in Dallas Oregon, mostly living with his paternal grandparents Charlie and Mary Dhabolt. He graduated from Dallas High School.

He had been battling a rare Cancer for the past 6 years (metastatic pancreatic neuroendocrine cancer with tumors that started in his pancreas and spread to his liver and lungs.) We thought we'd have to say goodbye to him all those years ago, but thankfully the disease was slow moving and various treatments kept him with us and active far longer than we anticipated. We are so grateful for the extra time we got to have with him! He passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones.

John then married Teresa Cornwall in 1980, they had one son, John Paul Dhabolt. After their divorce, he married Kristine Johnson in April 1983, and they had John's second son Andrew Scott Dhabolt.

John worked as a Computer Programmer all his adult life, according to a story he published, he began learning programming on his own at the Salem, OR Library, having been first introduced to computers by winning an Atari computer (with a whopping 16k of RAM) by attending a timeshare presentation in 1985. He never bought the timeshare but did become a lifelong lover of computers. John's self proclaimed other passions were running, pop culture, commercial art and illustration, music (a guitar playerist), a fascination with mushrooms, and he was a geek learning Greek. I am his Aunt Derryll and I remember Johnny as a kid being a very insistent "why" asker, to the point of driving me crazy.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Helen Buell Taylor Dexter, Orin George Dexter, Charlie and Mary Dhabolt, Elwood Taylor; his mother Lois Maxine Taylor Dhabolt, and his brother Joseph Darren Dhabolt. His Aunts and Uncle Colleen Dhabolt, Jackie Taylor Lanig Martin, Larry Taylor.

He is survived by his wife Kristine Johnson Dhabolt, son JP "Gwydd" Dhabolt, and wife Niamh and their 3 children Dia, Rhiannon and Brigit; son Andrew Dhabolt and wife Kristen; Father John Charles Dhabolt II; brothers David M King and Daniel K Dhabolt. Aunts LaVerne "Klancee" Dexter Call, Derryl Dexter, Orina Dexter and Uncle Chuck Taylor. Cousins galore, both sides.

John Charles Dhabolt Jr

By Niamh Dhabolt

I've waited almost a week to type this up and post, as I wanted to give family members some time to grieve... and also because I needed time myself to, well grieve... and to think about what it was that I wanted to say.

My father-in-law, my husband's dad, John Charles Dhabolt III, passed away on March 25th at about 10:30pm.

He had been battling Cancer for the past 6 years. We thought we'd have to say goodbye to him all those years ago, but thankfully the disease was slow moving and various treatments kept him with us and active far longer than we anticipated. We are so grateful for the extra time we got to have with him! He passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones.

John was such a great father-in-law to me and grandfather to my children. He was welcoming from the beginning even though his son and I had a bit of an unconventional meeting (haha! 😂), having eloped after only a month of dating. He had no idea what sort of weirdo his son impulsively decided to marry, lol... but he welcomed me with open arms and never, in the nearly 20 years his son and I have been married, made me feel like I didn't belong. He always went out of his way to make sure I knew that he was interested in what I was interested in... asking me questions, researching my interests, learning about my passions and what made me tick, considering my point of view. He would send me YouTube videos of things he thought I might find interesting. He'd buy books on my spiritual beliefs and my hobbies to better understand who I was, and also because it genuinely interested him. I always appreciated that. I already deeply miss him.

He had always been incredibly accepting of people and nonjudgmental. When my oldest child, his oldest grandchild, came out as trans, John was immediately accepting and never made Dia feel like she couldn't be herself around him. He took an active interest in anything and everything Dia, Rainbow, and Brigit were into. Especially if it involved music or creating things together. He and Dia built this "useless box" box together... its entire function was when you flipped the switch, the box would open and a creature would peek out and flip the switch again, closing the box (LOL! 😂). They had such a special bond together.

Every Friday we had an online family hangout on Discord. Sometimes it was just chatting about our week. Sometimes we'd play Dungeons & Dragons as a family (John was the DM!). But my favorite was when we'd play Minecraft together. Oh man, John was kind of a master at Minecraft! Whenever we started a new family server, John would spend hours of his time setting up super elaborate storage fortresses (and they really were fortresses!) with meticulously organized resources and materials! It was always an amazing spectacle and super useful! He also built amazing underground train tunnels connecting all the villages and our family-made cities. Playing Minecraft just won't be the same without John.

One of the ways we are honoring John is through mushrooms. He used to go mushroom hunting with his sons when they were growing up, as mushrooms had always been something he had been fascinated by! I believe some of his research on mushrooms has even been cited in books on the subject (other family members know the details of that more than I do though)! Dia has several items that are mushroom themed (everything from clothes, books, jewelry, etc) as they make her think of her Grandpa. Many of the tributes we are doing for him involve mushrooms in some way. If you have made it this far, thank you for reading all this, and please in your condolences, leave a mushroom emoji in honor of my father-in-law.

By John himself:

My name is John Dhabolt and I've been a software developer and architect for over 30 years. I was also President/CEO of an early Java products company in the late 1990s with the award-winning Roaster Java IDE. In my spare time I'm a runner, commercial art enthusiast (also worked with a past Director of the Society of Illustrators on a side project), pop culturalist (have a tiny [IMDb listing](#) and a [pop culture website](#) currently in deep sleep), metal guitar playerist, and geek learning Greek (κόσμος χάρειν).

Warning: A Long Rambling About Me

My programming journey began in Oregon in 1985 when my wife and I attended a vacation timeshare presentation, where the free prize for staying through the entire presentation was an Atari 600XL computer (with a whopping 16k of RAM). We got the computer, and no, we didn't buy the timeshare.

Since the internet was a few years away, learning to program meant either going back to school or visiting libraries. At the time, going back to school wasn't an option, so it was off to the library to see what it had to say about computers.

I've always found libraries to be magical places (you can become almost anything with enough time at a library), and we were fortunate enough to live near one of the finest libraries on the planet: The Salem Public Library (in the Oregon capital). For the Atari and similar small home computers, COMPUTE! magazine was the go-to resource, and the library had a great selection of it and other related computing titles. Through the resources at the library I learned to program in BASIC and assembly (primarily games and animated sequences).

The following year I traded up to an Atari 800XL (64k of RAM) and added a cassette recorder for storage. While game programming was fun, I had some business ideas that just weren't being met with the type of software available on the Atari. After a trip to a local computer store in 1987, I walked out with a brand new Apple Macintosh and 4th Dimension, a little known database application development framework (still available today at 4D.com). The choice of databases available on the Macintosh at that time were between Filemaker and 4th Dimension. While Filemaker was the most popular and easiest to learn, 4th Dimension was said to be the most powerful (with a corresponding premium cost), but with a steep learning curve. For me, the choice was a no brainer.

Shortly afterward I started a small sole proprietorship (JCD III Systems) that used 4th Dimension to create data-driven applications for clients. As one of my first paid jobs I took over the database programming tasks for an Oregon premium wine distributor (Henny-Hinsdale Wines). While this was a great programming experience, the free wine tasting on Friday afternoons was probably the highlight. After several years of part time and full time consulting jobs through the sole proprietorship, I decided to join another consulting company that was also using 4th Dimension, Touch Media (later renamed to Vector Technologies).

John Dhabolt, 2017.08.17