



John M. Kirton

December 18, 1937 - July 9, 2025

A Gathering of Friends for John M. Kirton, age 87 of Lindale, Texas, will be held between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 19, 2025, at Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale.

John passed away on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, in Tyler, Texas. He was born on December 18, 1937, in Waxahachie, Texas to the late Alexander and Netta Lee (Walker) Kirton. John has lived in Lindale for the past 33 years and was previously of Tyler and Waxahachie. He was a Purchasing Account Manager with Tyler Pipe and after retirement worked as a Bus Driver for Lindale ISD and was also a Coach Bus Driver. In his spare time, John was very active with the Lindale High School Theater and built many of their props, the Lindale High School Key Club, the Hideaway Lake Kiwanis, and also enjoyed golfing, and racing. He was preceded in death by his wife, Peggy Kirton; son, Bruce Alexander Kirton; brother, Lyall Kirton; and sister, Irma Alsup.

John is survived by his children, John Mercer Kirton II of Dallas and Olivia D. Kirton-Duke and husband, Frank of Lindale; grandchildren, Rebecca Duke, Franklin Utah Duke Jr, Braylee Duke, and George Alexander Walker Duke; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family members and friends.

Previous Events

Gathering of Friends

JUL 19. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home
206 West South Street
Lindale, TX 75771
(903) 882-3141
jeff@crdfh.com

Tribute Wall



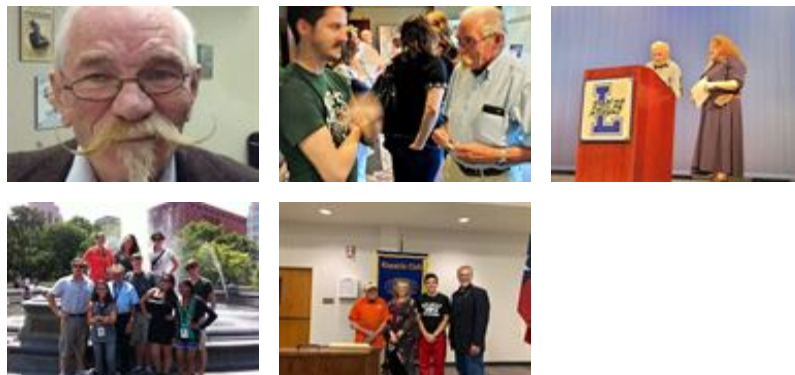
“ *Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of John M. Kirton*



Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home - July 17, 2025 at 09:32 AM



“ *20 files added to the album Life Tributes*



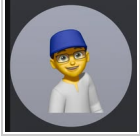
Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home - July 17, 2025 at 09:25 AM

KH

“ *Kiwanis Club of Hideaway-Lindale purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John M. Kirton.*

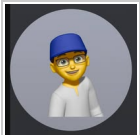


Kiwanis Club of Hideaway-Lindale - July 12, 2025 at 03:20 PM



“ He could talk like Donald Duck . . . he took me to my first Dallas Cowboys football game in the original Texas Stadium (formerly located at North Loop 12 and TX 114) . . . he built a sailboat and kept it at Lake Tyler . . . he was an amazing mechanic and spent many years restoring a Triumph convertible (to this day, the smell of gasoline, WD-40, oil and Lava soap brings back so many memories) . . . he built and installed a Dutch door in my playroom in Tyler, Texas . . . he kept a refrigerator box for me to play in . . . later in my life, he helped me build replicas of the Star Trek Original Series’ Communicator, Tricorder and Phaser out of pieces of wood and various odds and ends . . . despite the separation by divorce and geographical distance, he was my “DaddyJohn” Kirton, who I loved and will miss dearly. Thank you so MUCH for a life of love and WONDERFUL memories that you gave me during your lifetime. —
John M. Kirton II

John Kirton II - July 11, 2025 at 10:14 PM



“ He could talk like Donald Duck . . . he took me to my first Dallas Cowboys football game in the original Texas Stadium (formerly located at North Loop 12 and TX 114) . . . he built a sail boat and kept it at Lake Tyler . . . he was an amazing mechanic and spent many years restoring a Triumph convertible (to this day, the smell of gasoline, WD-40, oil and Lava soap brings back so many memories . . . he built and installed a Dutch door in my playroom in Tyler, Texas . . . he kept a refrigerator box for me to play in . . . later in my life, he helped me build replicas of the Star Trek Original Series’ Communicator, Tricorder and Phaser out of pieces of wood and various odds and ends . . . despite the separation by divorce and geographical distance, he was my “DaddyJohn” Kirton, who I loved and will miss dearly. Thank you so MUCH for a life of love and WONDERFUL memories that you gave me during your lifetime.



John Kirton II - July 11, 2025 at 12:17 AM

DS

“ He was such a Lindale Treasure

Darla Strickland - July 10, 2025 at 08:51 AM

PK

“ Sincere condolences to the family of John. As a former school nurse at Lindale , I saw John doing what he did best - helping anyway he could for the kids. He also went with our New York theater tour when my granddaughter was in high school. That was a fun trip: 1:  . I know he will be missed by many 

Patsy Kirby - July 09, 2025 at 10:53 PM

JC

“ For years, Mr. Kirton drove our bus to debate tournaments but he did so much more than that! He was my male chaperone. He was my asst coach. He was my biggest supporter. He was the best judge. He was loved by our students, our competitors and other coaches in our orbit. He drove us to nationals around the country, to local tournaments and he never tired of praising our students and me. How I loved him! I will always remember after he retired from us, seeing him ringing the bells for Salvation Army and getting my big hug. Heaven is a better place tonight.

Janice Caldwell - July 09, 2025 at 07:57 PM

CT

“ He was such a special bus driver when my daughter Penny was Drama Director at Lindale High School. I saw him a few weeks ago and it was always a treat to visit with him. So thankful for his friendship and help with all those special students at LHS. Claudie Cline Thompson



Claudie Thompson - July 09, 2025 at 07:21 PM