

NH + N.Y. **John S. Berst** 3-10-00

WESTMINISTER, CO -- John S. Berst, 53, Westminister, CO, died Friday, March 3 of injuries received in an automobile accident which had occurred several days earlier.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, March 7 at 1:30 p.m. at the Spirit of Christ Catholic Community Church, Arvada, CO.

Inurnment was in the Fort Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO.

John S. Berst was born Aug. 11, 1946 at New Hampton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo M. Berst. He attended the New Hampton schools and graduated from Iowa State University in Ames with a bachelor of science degree in plant pathology. John served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He married Julia A. Trewin in 1967 in New Hampton. They moved to Colorado in 1971 at which time John began working for the Colorado State Forest Service. He became the District Forester for the Eastern Plains Region. He was instrumental in developing the Tree City USA award that honors Colorado cities that are committed to utilizing trees in beautifying and improving their communities.

In 1994, John became a member of the Soil Conservation Board for the State of Colorado.

In connection with his duties as a member of the Soil Conservation Board, he became the director of Camp Rocky, a conservation camp for high school students west of Colorado Springs. He was also the Living Snow Fence Coordinator for the Soil Conservation Board. John was a high school basketball referee throughout the state and was a member of the International Association of Amateur Basketball Officials (IAABO). The Berst family lived in unincorporated Morgan County, south of Ft. Morgan, CO from 1972-1989. The family then moved to the Denver metro area and currently resides in Westminister. John enjoyed hunting and fishing with his sons. He was a Little League baseball coach for several years in Fort Morgan.

Surviving are his wife, Julia A. Berst; two sons, Andy (Chrissy) Berst and Brian (Alecia) Berst; his father, Leo M. Berst; mother-in-law, Kay Trewin; two sisters, Carol (Bill) Marner and Laurie (Joe) Spolidoro; one brother, Carl (Sandee) Berst; numerous other family members.

Memorials may be directed to the Rocky Mountain Children's Cancer Center Fund, c/o CHOA, 1800 Williams Street #300, Denver, CO 80218.