



## John A. Hinson

December 31, 1947 - September 18, 2021

American Businessman and US Marine

Born in Whiteville, North Carolina on December 31, 1947, John Hinson led a truly remarkable life and rose to the heights of the American business world. The son of L.A. and Maxine, Hinson grew up with his parents and his 7 siblings in a small home in the rural community of Whiteville near Wilmington, North Carolina.

During his high school years, Hinson was a member of the football team and exhibited the extraordinary intelligence, focus and determination that would become his hallmark traits later in life. Following his graduation in 1966, Hinson went on to study at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Hinson joined the Marine Corp and subsequently attended the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School.

Following his training in Rhode Island, Hinson was deployed to Vietnam where he managed logistics and loaded ordinance on to combat aircraft. While he was reticent to discuss his tour in Vietnam, Hinson readily credited his time in the military for helping him develop the discipline and sense of mission that would serve him so well later in life.

Returning from Vietnam in the mid-1970s, Hinson began searching for a

career path and became interested in the business of real estate. Sensing that the city of Atlanta was poised to grow dramatically, Hinson moved there to search for opportunities in the market. In Atlanta, Hinson began to work with Jim Baker, who became one of his closest friends and business partners. Hinson and Baker were young real estate brokers who shared a single desk in a small office in Atlanta. Learning the real estate business from this modest foundation, Hinson went on to create a vastly successful business in Atlanta. Through the many years since, Hinson and Baker remained close friends and business partners and spoke to each other nearly every day.

Following a motorcycle accident that Hinson readily admits he was lucky to survive, Hinson retired in his 30s, purchased a sailboat, and sailed the Caribbean for nearly two years. Growing restless, Hinson decided to re-enter the real estate business and moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Once more, sensing that South Florida was poised for major growth, Hinson began investing in properties and projects in Fort Lauderdale and Miami. Having again created a very successful business and amassed a considerable portfolio of properties, Hinson moved to Miami Beach and was a pioneer in the Miami South Beach area.

It was in Miami that Hinson created and developed one of his most successful real estate projects, The Ocean Club on Key Biscayne, Florida. While finishing the Ocean Club project Hinson met and married his wife of nineteen years, Jeanine Sagebien Hinson. His closest friends Jim Baker and Harold Wright happily declared at Jeanine and John's wedding that 'He got it right.' John wholeheartedly agreed.

After finishing the Ocean Club project, Hinson split his time between his home in Key Biscayne, Florida and Evelynton in Charles City, Virginia, which he acquired with Jeanine in 2008.

While he never boasted and rarely spoke of his past successes in business, Hinson would tell the most extraordinary stories about his experiences if one just asked. Hinson had a voracious appetite for learning and read several books on many topics every week. He was a thoughtful, generous, and respected man with many friends throughout the United States and the world. Entirely self-built, Hinson loved his country, recognizing that the United States was perhaps the only country that afforded him the opportunity to achieve such great success through his hard work, fierce determination, and grit.

John Hinson passed away in a single car accident on Saturday afternoon, September 18, 2021 not far from his beloved Evelynton. He is survived by his wife Jeanine and 6 of his 7 siblings, in-laws, and 19 nieces and nephews. His family and friends will gather to mourn his passing and to celebrate his remarkable life at Evelynton in Charles City, Virginia on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the following charities near to John's heart:

Charles City County Animal Shelter  
c/o Charles City Sheriff's Office  
10780 Courthouse Road  
PO Box 87  
Charles City, VA 23030

Missionary Kitchen  
c/o Walter Paige  
5321 West Run Road  
Charles City, VA 23030

# Tribute Wall

SD

“ I was blessed to know Jeanine and John. Although I only met John twice, I will never forget him pushing me on the Rope swing over the side of the berm at Evelynton. E turned my fear into laughter. That is something the world will miss greatly. So few have such a special gift. Jeanine, your loss is so great. Our prayers, thoughts and hopes for great strength and healing as you as you move forward will be sent up every day. You will be amazing as you carry forward John's legacy. In deepest sympathy - Sharon and Jim Dillard

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**sharon dillard** - October 05, 2021 at 07:12 PM

MS

“ Johnny was my beloved uncle. When i was a baby he came to Rio De Janeiro Brazil to visit our family in 1969, my mother has baby pictures of uncle John tickling me and being playful in Brazil. We moved from Rio de Janeiro Brazil to Whiteville NC aprox 1970 to live with our grandmother Maxine Jones Hinson and LA Hinson. We were crowded in the little white house. Whenever Uncle John came around he took a few minutes to talk to me and horse around. He and all his brothers and sisters always made me feel as if i belonged there and was part of their family. As i became a young adult one thing never changed uncle Johnny usually at the last minute on my part, always took time out of his busy schedule to meet me in and around Miami. On many occasions while waiting on a layover on a Atlanta-Mia-Rio bound flight uncle John picked me up at MIA airport and treated me for dinner or lunch even though he was usually working late rebuilding his business. I liked cars and he always was driving something unique (back when cars were cars) Jaguar Cadillac etc usually a convertible sport luxury sedan We would talk about family and life in general.

Jeanine,

I am truly sorry for your loss.

It was wonderful to meet you for dinner on Key biscayne back when my children were little. I recall a little joke, Uncle John turned off the elevator when my children were going up and down for rides. In your Key biscayne home that evening. Johnny liked playing with my kids that evening.

Last summer 2020 we were passing through Miami and we stopped by. I didn't have either of your phone numbers. I identified who we were and Security finally let us drive to your building. Your Guard / porter was very nice and told us you were both in Virginia.

Too bad we missed out seeing you. I had my youngest 9 year old boy and Brazilian wife with me i wanted you and uncle John to meet.

I always looked up to uncle John and i am certain he inspired many

*with his endless achievements.*

*My beloved uncle John Hinson will forever be remembered and share a place in my heart.*

*Love*

*Marc*

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**Marc N Silva** - September 25, 2021 at 05:01 PM

HW

“ *Johnny and I became friends when we were in high school and that friendship endured while he was in Marine Corps and I was in the Air Force. He was admired by everyone for his intelligence, his wit, and his charm. Rest in peace, Johnny Good members of you will endure forever.*

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**Herschel J. Watts** - September 24, 2021 at 09:05 PM

JP

“ *When I began to spend real time in New Kent County, Virginia around 2013, John and Jeanine were among the attractive couples whom mutual friends urged us to meet. And how right they were as John and I developed a fast friendship that deepened by the year as we discovered more and more in common. Unfailingly thoughtful, he was diligent in supporting a foreigner from Texas, me, in social and business settings and hosting us on his boat and in his elegant home. When the Covid 19 plague afflicted us, John and I planned repeatedly to get together until finally we were happily reunited, with Jeanine of course, in the pursuits that pals enjoy. Our happiness in each other's company, accentuated by the similarity in our ages and outlooks, was finding a new and higher plane when he was tragically taken from us. Life in Virginia does not quite feel the same without my admired and charming friend, and I wonder if it ever will.*

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**John Poindexter** - September 23, 2021 at 08:31 PM

BB

“ I will miss John, very much. My wife Cindy and I met John and Jeanine when they were searching for a retirement home. Little did we know when first working with them how much fun they would bring to our lives.

*John enjoyed being tough as nails, but his softer side came out time and again with children, cats and dogs.*

*His wit, business instincts, and playful side expanded our lives.*

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**Bill Barnett** - September 23, 2021 at 11:22 AM

PA

“ Pamela Ault lit a candle in memory of John A. Hinson



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**Pamela Ault** - September 23, 2021 at 09:10 AM

KA

“ Kathryn Daniels Anderson lit a candle in memory of John A. Hinson



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**Kathryn Daniels Anderson** - September 23, 2021 at 09:00 AM

AK

“ Alan Kahn sent a virtual gift in memory of John A. Hinson



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**alan kahn** - September 22, 2021 at 11:41 PM

AK

“ Alan Kahn sent a virtual gift in memory of John A. Hinson



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alan kahn - September 22, 2021 at 11:40 PM

TE

“ Teresa lit a candle in memory of John A. Hinson



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Teresa - September 22, 2021 at 10:20 AM

BT

“ Belinda Turner sent a virtual gift in memory of John A. Hinson



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Belinda Turner - September 22, 2021 at 05:32 AM

AK

*Jeanine and the Hinson family,  
Please accept my deep condolences on your great loss.*

*From the moment I met John Hinson I knew I was in the presence of someone very special. He had definite ideas but was one of the best listeners I have encountered. He was open, expansive, generous, and extremely engaging. He really knew how to relate to people.*

*We talked about many subjects and I never heard him say an unkind word about anyone.*

*We read, he particularly liked biographies. We shared and discussed them. He exhibited many of the characteristics of the admirable outstanding subjects of the biographies.*

*That is, a love of life, a positive can do spirit, a sense of what is important, and an enthusiastic approach to business backed up by great acumen. He left his ego at the door. One knew that he would be a true friend. He believed two people can disagree on politics and still be friends.*

*He was open, interested, and interesting, and pursued his activities with a sense of purpose. He obviously lived life to the fullest.*

*We will all be much better for having known him. I know he will be greatly missed*

*Sincerely, Alan Kahn*

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**Alan Kahn** - September 22, 2021 at 11:30 AM

PT

*I have had the pleasure of knowing John since the mid 90's. We began with the design of his new residence at the Ocean Club. John was a to the point person and never shot from the hip. John was always clear on what needed to be achieved. I had earned his trust and confidence early on which enabled me to assist him to achieve design goals and objectives for a number of his projects. He was also a great influence in molding my career. Over time, our mutual respect and admiration evolved into a friendship that lasted over 24 years.*

*Tony joins me in sending Jeanine and his family our deepest condolences at this time of personal grief. We will always cherish the times we had together.*

*May he rest in peace.*

*"Philbob" and Tony*

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**Phil and Tony** - September 22, 2021 at 04:07 PM

KD

*Jeanine, I was so sorry and shocked to hear of John's passing. I only met him once but he was such a kind gentleman and was a joy to be around. I offer you prayers of strength and healing. I know he will be greatly missed by so many people.*

*Love to you,  
Kathryn Daniels Anderson*

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**Kathryn Daniels-Anderson** - September 23, 2021 at 09:22 AM