



## John Franklin McGeorge Jr.

August 16, 1949 - December 27, 2021

John Franklin McGeorge, Jr. passed away on December 27, 2021, at the age of 72, in Richmond, Virginia.

John was born in Richmond, Virginia, to the late John F. McGeorge, Sr. and Mary Isabelle McGeorge on August 16, 1949. He was one of 7 children, and as a child he loved to playing backyard sports, spending time at the river house, going to church and reading. He gave his life to Christ in 1978 and thereafter, his life became instrumental in bringing many others to the Lord. He was smart beyond his years and was the first in his family to not only graduate from college but receive two higher-level degrees.

John was a life-long learner and earned two doctorates, one in law and the other in theology. After graduating from Seminary, he met the love of his life, Valerija Radnic, while teaching overseas in Croatia. John established two international missions, Ministry to Eastern Europe (MTEE) and Servant Leadership Ministries (SLM) which focus on the equipping and training of national leaders. He also wrote numerous books and magazine articles, planted dozens of local-church Bible schools on 5 continents, and built strong leadership teams to spread the message of building the Kingdom of God throughout the earth. John and Valerija were missionaries together for many years. In 1995, John and Valerija settled down in Richmond, VA to raise their two wonderful daughters, Hanna and Sara.

In his later years, he enjoyed spending time with his two grandchildren, Raegan and Hudson, and writing books for Bible colleges. He also enjoyed bowling, fishing, reading, going to the beach, all things Christmas, and, most of all, spending time with his beloved family. His battle with serious medical issues in recent years showed his courage in facing life's challenges with a smile. Despite the pain, John was our hero and fought strong until the end.

He is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Valerija McGeorge; daughter, Hanna Ellenberger; daughter, Sara McGeorge; sisters Nancy, Kathie, Susan, and Kim; brothers Edward and Todd; stepmother, Ann McGeorge; two grandchildren, Raegan and Hudson Ellenberger; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

John will be honored in a celebration of life ceremony at 1:00 pm on Saturday, January 8th, 2022, at New Kent Christian Center, 9660 Tunstall Rd., New Kent, VA 23134. The family will receive friends from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, just prior to the service at the church. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Servant Leadership Ministries, PO Box 2609, Greenville, NC 27836.

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

JAN 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

New Kent Christian Center  
9660 Tunstall Rd  
New Kent, VA 23124  
(804) 557-3323

## Celebration of Life

JAN 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

New Kent Christian Center  
9660 Tunstall Rd  
New Kent, VA 23124  
(804) 557-3323

# Tribute Wall

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“ As Pastor at Harvest Church in Washington, NC, John impacted both myself and the congregation with his teachings on Servant Leadership, giving us an opportunity to invest in the Kingdom of God by supporting the training of Pastors and Leaders around the world.

Serving on the Board of SLM we got to know John and his wife on a deeper level and appreciate and honor the work he started and invested in. We have seen fruit from his labors and honor him for being a faithful servant.

Our prayers are with the family now and pray that much fruit may continue.

*Pastor Tad Tankard*

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**Tad Tankard** - January 04, 2022 at 03:26 PM

DJ

“ I don't know Bro. John, just heard about his great work internationally through Bro. Deena. Seems as if he has left indelible imprints across the world in fulfilling the Great Commission. Our condolences to all the family and associates at such a sad loss at this time. Rejoice in the Lord knowing that he has kept the faith and finished the course.- Dr. Jerry and Dr. Julie Jailall, Clayton, North Carolina, USA

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**Dr. Jerry Jailall** - January 03, 2022 at 03:56 PM

“For us Romanians, John McGeorge’s passing is a great loss. He was a wonderful servant of the Lord and of the Romanian believers. John and I first met in 1989 while the communist regime was still strong in Romania. We instantly became friends as our hearts were bound by the same vision in regards to God’s calling on our lives. He was a great visionary who spoke of the possibility of opening a theological school that would equip those who serve in the church. John was an answer to my prayers and God blessed the project as we started our first Bible Collage in Sibiu which later replicated itself to almost all South Eastern European countries.

John visited us many times and brought joy and encouragement in the work the Lord has called us to do. My wife, Helen, and I together with our two children, Debora and Timothy, regret John’s premature departure but we are convinced that he is home with the Lord whom he loved and served with passion and joy. John taught us to be people of character and to serve the Lord with gladness. Hundreds of young people in Romania and later in the Republic of Moldova were equipped to teach and serve the Lord through the colleges started in collaboration with John McGeorge and later overseen by John Daigel and Ernie Camp through MTEE (Ministry to Eastern Europe).

A few years ago John communicated that due to health issues, he would not be able to travel overseas anymore but he assured me that he would continue to support the Bible College in Sibiu. Although I could not understand why God would stop John from coming to Romania, this created an opportunity for me to study and teach John’s course on Praise and Worship. I later chose this topic of study for my PHD in Theology. I owe this achievement to my friend John and his wife Valerie. We share in your grief and pray that the Lord will encourage you in your time of loss. May God’s peace and blessings fill your hearts during this hard time.

*Benjamin and Helen Poplacean*

*Sibiu - România*  
*29th of December 2021*

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**Beniamin Poplacean** - December 31, 2021 at 04:21 AM