



## Dr. Dyke Saunders

May 22, 2012

Dr. John Van Dyke Saunders, 82, passed away, on Friday, May 18, 2012 at OCH Regional Hospital, in Starkville. John Van Dyke Saunders was born February 25, 1930 in Porto Alegre, Brazil to the late Sara Van Dyke Stout and John Rouze Saunders. Dr. Saunders was Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Mississippi State University for 33 years. He was recipient of five Fulbright Scholarships, a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and a published author as well. He was a devoted Husband, Father and Grandfather. He was an avid bridge player, and was a member of Starkville First United Methodist. Dr. John Van Dyke Saunders was married to Julia Vissotto Saunders, she preceded him on May 24, 2009 Graveside Funeral Services will be Friday, May 25, 2012, 11:00 a.m. with the Reverend Ed Saunders officiating. Burial will follow in Oddfellows Cemetery-Starkville, Mississippi. Calvert Funeral Home of West Point is in charge of arrangements. Survivors include his three sons, Dr. Thomas Saunders (Susan Allen) of Ann Arbor, MI, Rev. Ed Saunders (Angelene) of Newton, MS, and Andrew Saunders of Dallas, TX; four grandchildren; Grace Saunders, Michael Saunders, Marielle Saunders and Elizabeth Saunders Memorials may be made to Hickory United Methodist, P. O. Box 34, Hickory, MS 39332, Newton United Methodist Church, 600 Decatur Street, Newton, MS 39345. or to the First United Methodist Church, 200 West Lampkin Street, Starkville, MS 39759 Visitation will begin at 10:15 a.m. at Oddfellow Cemetery in Starkville, MS



# Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Dr. Saunders was my friend and adviser as I earned my Masters and PhD at Mississippi State University from 1976 until 1993. Along with Julia, his wife, I spent one of the best periods of my life. God have mercy on his soul, in the same way that Dona Julia, to this day, July 13, 2012, I am saddened by his death.*

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**Juacy da Silva** - July 12, 2012 at 10:24 PM

TH

“ *John was a delightful colleague who shared his love of sociology with me in the Southern Sociological Society. He made many lasting contributions to that group. I remember a strong contribution he made as Program Chair for the Annual meeting. His love of "words" and demography linger in my thoughts. May you be comforted in knowing the many pleasant memories he created.*

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**Thomas C. Hood** - May 30, 2012 at 01:29 PM

SE

“ *Dear Tom, Ed, and Andrew, I simply cannot express how sad it was for me to learn of Dr. Saunders' death. Your entire family is deeply etched my childhood memories of our visits to your home; those were the good ole days! Your father, your parents were amazing people. They don't make them like that anymore. My mother is overseas and she will be deeply saddened when she hears the news. My father passed away on February 28, 2012 and your father sent my mother an email with his words of condolence. I hope they are all together now: your mother, your father, and my dad. His journey has ended and may he rest peacefully. From God we belong and to Him is our return -- Surah 2, The Holy Koran.  
with love, Sarah El-Attar*

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**Sarah El-Attar** - May 29, 2012 at 07:39 PM

OR

“ *Dr. Saunders was one of my favorite customers. He was always very nice and really enjoyed working on his computer. We tried to keep it running for him. We will miss him. Please accept our condolences you will be in our prayers.*

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**Oscar and Regina Dean Reed** - May 26, 2012 at 10:17 PM

FD

“ *Dear Thomas Lee, Babe, and Tuly: I am very sad with John's passing; he, and Julia, were such good friends; it is always painfull to let it go ... Please accept my condolences; he will always be in my heart.  
Hugs, Fabio*

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**Fabio B. Dasilva** - May 25, 2012 at 04:26 PM

JS

“ *We have lost a great scholar and true gentleman. John was always supportive of scholars at other institutions besides MSU.*

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**J. Kenneth Davidson, Sr.** - May 25, 2012 at 03:30 PM

RP

“ *John Saunders' presence in the Starkville community will be missed. John and Julia, among their many contributions, kept the Starkville Symphony operating during some very lean years.*

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**Robert Phillips** - May 24, 2012 at 07:58 AM

SG

“ *John and Julia Saunders were special people who gave us a better community and world. We will always miss them.*

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**Stanly & Jeannie Godbold** - May 23, 2012 at 03:57 PM

PH

“ *With our deepest Sympathy. Priscilla and Bob Harper*

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**Priscilla Allen Harper** - May 23, 2012 at 02:19 PM

AC

“ *We send our family's sincerest condolences and deep sympathy to Tom and his family, Edward and his family, and to Andrew. The memory of John, and Julia, will be long remembered by us because of the friendship that our families shared for many years in Starkville, in the MSU campus, and the First United Methodist Church.*

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**Armando and Ruth de la Cruz** - May 23, 2012 at 11:57 AM

JS

“ *Sincere condolences with fond memories of a good colleague and friend.*

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**Joe D. Seger** - May 23, 2012 at 11:38 AM

PL

“ *I just want to express my deepest condolences for Dr. John Saunders. He was a great professor in the sociology department! Everyone loved him so much! He will be missed a great deal!!*

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**Pam Davis Linley** - May 23, 2012 at 08:24 AM