



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SENATOR BEN ALBRITTON
President

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators
FROM: Ben Albritton
SUBJECT: Former Senator John E. Thrasher
DATE: May 30, 2025

The Senate was just notified by the Thrasher family that our beloved friend and former colleague, Senator John Thrasher, has gone home to be with the Lord.

John was a tremendous person, and he lived a big life with many accomplishments and successes. Chief among these was his marriage to Jean. Their lifelong love and devotion to one another was evident to anyone who saw them together. As I reflect on the impact John had on so many, my thoughts and prayers are with Jean who supported John in every endeavor over a marriage that spanned six decades. John was so proud of his family and always excited to share updates and stories about their children and grandchildren. I know they are devastated and heartbroken by this loss. My prayer is that the Lord will provide peace and comfort in the difficult days ahead.

Integrity, perseverance, and strength propelled John to success at every level of public service and private industry. His life was rooted in devotion to public service, patriotism, a love of the law, and a passion for education. From the battlefields of Vietnam where he returned as a highly decorated officer, to years of honorable service as Speaker of the House, Rules Chair of the Senate, and President of Florida State University, John was regarded by all as a strong, fair leader with unquestionable judgment, timeless principles of honor, and a gentleman all the way through.

I know John's passing will be difficult for our Senate family. He was a friend and mentor to so many of us. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 states, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day." I hope we can all take comfort in the truth that John loved the Lord and is at this moment rejoicing with him in paradise.

John's family will lay him to rest in a private ceremony. A public celebration of his life will be held later this summer. We will share those details as plans are finalized.