

## In Memorium Jon G. Schuhart

Andrew Love  
October 25, 2015



Jon Gordon Schuhart, who was Blessed in 1969 as part of the 43 Couple Blessing, passed away Oct. 9, 2015, after a lengthy illness. He was 76 years old.

He passed peacefully, lovingly surrounded by two of his daughters and his wife of 55 years, Sandra Lee Schuhart (nee Lamore), in a hospice care center in Fredericksburg, VA.

In 1965, after a series of setbacks and a soul-searching quest drove him far from his wife and two children in Wisconsin, Jon met the sole member of the Unified Family who was witnessing in Phoenix.

As an intellectual and atheist, he did not expect to be impressed with the teachings of the “Divine Principle.” But as the young woman taught the contents, a strange event occurred -- her words took shape and painted pictures of the stories of Creation and the Fall and other parts of the teachings before Jon’s eyes. He couldn’t ignore the powerful spiritual experiences, and returned to hear all the teachings.

He later went to Los Angeles and joined the center there, and convinced Sandy, a devout Catholic, to bring the two children and join him. Together, they

had more spiritual experiences that persuaded them that there was a great purpose associated with the movement, which was then called The Unified Family.

In the mid-1960s, Jon and Sandy laid a new foundation for the Los Angeles Unified Family, upon which the Family grew and flourished. They later pioneered the movement in Michigan, starting with the Detroit Unification Church, which at one time included a school and dorm large enough to accommodate the large teams that came through Michigan, as well as a ranch on a property in Northern Michigan.

A charismatic lecturer, Jon also led one of the One World Crusade teams in the early 1970s. Together, Jon and Sandy brought in and raised hundreds of members.

The Schuharts were blessed Feb. 28, 1969, as part of 13 American couples, representing the original 13 U.S. colonies. Their group was combined with couples in Europe and Japan into the 43 Blessed Couples. These couples were the first outside Korea to participate in the ceremony.

Jon wrote many early Unification songs, including “Gonna Build a Kingdom,” “Precious Light,” “Everybody Listen,” “Find Your Dream,” “Gonna Build a New World,” “Let’s Move, America,” “What

is Your Reason?," "Song of Reassurance," "Marching Forward," and "On Top of the Mountain," which he wrote on the Holy Ground in Los Angeles during a prayer and fasting condition.

Later in life, Jon returned to his deep love of art, and as a professional artist, worked many long hours on huge murals and portraiture. Throughout his final decades, he produced numerous canvases encompassing a variety of styles and techniques, often working from photographs and composite images. He achieved local success in regional art shows.

A passionate golfer, Jon was also known for having a creative and dynamic mind, being a visionary and a poet, and a songwriter who would often regale family gatherings with his compositions.

Jon Gordon Schuhart was born on August 17, 1939, in Oshkosh, Wisc., one of 10 children of John and Vivian Schuhart.

Jon -- who was also known as "Jack" -- was raised with his four brothers and five sisters, and graduated from Oshkosh High School in 1957.

He traveled the country and lived in Arizona, California, New York, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia. In recent years, he and Sandy greatly enjoyed staying with their children and grandchildren in New Jersey, Michigan and Virginia.

Jon is the father of six children, (Jonna Lee Schuhart, Arthur Louis Schuhart, Thelord Louis Schuhart, Maralisa Alexandrienne Gabbert, Marith Zaccarelli Edrica Zaccarelli, and Jon-Nathan Louis Schuhart), and grandfather of seven.

Cards and letters can be sent to Sandy Schuhart at the following address:

Mrs. Sandy Schuhart  
c/o Mrs. Maralisa Gabbert  
487 Shore Drive  
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