



happy  
sobriety  
**BirthDay**  
C E L E B R A T I N G Y O U !

### Celebrating The MIRACLE

#### Nicholasville Group

4 yrs

Carolyn B. 6/25

3 yrs

Kellie L. 6/10

2 yrs

Randall M. 6/6

Rhonda K. 6/19

#### Belles of the Bar

9 yrs

Emily L 5/29

#### Inspiration for Women

5 yrs

Leslie M 5/23

#### UPCOMING EVENTS...

Virtual ZOOM ~ July

**"Traditions 5 Through 8"**  
WORKSHOP Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup>  
11am - 1pm CST (12pm - 2pm EST)

Bowling Green ~ July

Area 26 July Meeting—July 24-25, 2021

*In Person with a Virtual Option*  
Holiday Inn / Sloan Convention Center  
Bowling Green, KY

Owensboro ~ November

**"SAVE THE DATE"**

Tri-State Convention  
November 12 – 14, 2021  
Owensboro Convention Center  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Owensboro/Waterfront

Cincinnati ~ November

The Twenty-Eighth Annual  
**BUCKEYE ROUNDUP**  
November 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport  
Hebron, KY

Cincinnati ~ February 2022

**"A DESIGN FOR LIVING THAT REALLY WORKS"**

Kentucky State AA Convention  
February 18 – 20, 2022  
Cincinnati Airport Marriott – Hebron, KY  
Northern Kentucky Host Committee



#### John G

I first met John G. at the K club meeting on Alumni Drive. I was hiding behind balls of yarn and a crochet hook, trying to be invisible. He sat down, smiled and patted my afghan. Quiet, gentle and unassuming, he seemed to understand my need for disappearing into the meeting, my shyness and insecurity. What a gift he had for seeking out newcomers and drawing us in with a soft-spoken welcome, until we could feel the sense of belonging! His gift to us was his silent consistency, rendering so much strength to us simply by being there.

John G. was one of the founding members of True Tolerance, the group that many others of us choose to call home. His welcoming words were a beacon to many in the humble, cozy Christ the King basement meeting room. To John, the most important individuals in the room were the newcomers, those desperate for sobriety and clueless as to how to start. We heard his story over and again, as he welcomed us into the group. He never neglected to remind us of the ever-present nature of AA, advising all, especially newcomers, never to spend Holidays alone. There was one

occasion he loved to recount, when on a cold Holiday morning, much against his desire to stay warm at home, he ventured out to a meeting where only one other attended, a newly sobered up drunk, who desperately needed that companionship. He always announced the Holiday meetings, frequently and clearly.

Over the past few months, memories of John have been shared, how he gave one her very first token and how much that meant to her. He always said he had a fondness for relapsers, because he said that they were the true face of the disease that we shared. He spoke of the illness as his "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" malady. Quiet, supportive, generous during the day and cruel, sarcastic and irresponsible as the vodka kicked in. We never saw that side of John.

John frequently spoke of loneliness and how alcoholism is a lonely disease. He stressed the importance of distinguishing it from being solitary and the fullness that educated isolation can engender in a sober life. He spoke fondly of his weeks spent in an Abbey communing

with himself, his higher power and the entirety of the universe.

He would preface a reading of the twelve traditions saying "You have learned of How it Works and now here is Why it Works. He loved to speak of the history of AA and how it evolved. He spoke of life and the promises: "It is great to be sober, but so much more rewarding to live sober". Emotional sobriety was a topic he broached frequently, much to the advantage of all of us. He taught us that we can all do service simply by being present and sharing at meetings, that this is a "We program". One of our members speaks for all of us:

*"The first time I heard "welcome home" I just knew somehow that it was true. One of the voices I heard was an elderly man with glasses. His voice was like a soft, spring day. He spoke with kindness, compassion, wisdom, humility and understanding. I would hang on his every word. When he was quiet and in deep contemplation or meditation, I would watch with wonder and awe. He really had something I wanted. I would find out later it was peace and serenity."*

-Rachel N.

John could take any topic and breathe life into it. While he is much missed, we in True Tolerance are grateful for the time he spent with us and cherish his memory. We are all better people for knowing him. We continue to pass it on as he did for so many of us. Rest in sober peace, John.

-- True Tolerance Home Group.