

## **John Kinsman Mentor**

What can one say about John Kinsman? I spent many hours with John over the past years, doing everything from mending fences to loading hay to protesting, to spending time in a "Free Speech Zone".

John was certainly a mentor and a very good one, but he was also my friend and a very good one. We spent many late nights talking about the way things ought to be in the world and what we could try to do to make it so.

John had the ideas and the history, he knew how to advocate for those that society had left behind, he felt at home amongst the oppressed and the poor.

John always mentioned those he had met and worked with on his travels, strong women and men who fought for the rights of indigenous farmers, people who worked for a fair and just food system, advocates for racial justice and gender equality, environmentalists, and advocates for the disabled and incarcerated. John knew them all of them, he was all of them.

No matter where he was or what battle he was fighting at the time, John's thoughts and discussion always came back to his farm in Lime Ridge and his family. His pride and love of his sons and daughters, his grandchildren and of course his wife Jean were what made him who he was and helped motivate him to be the outspoken citizen of the world that everyone knew.

Jim Goodman



John and Jean at a Goodman BBQ