

Oh this is sad news indeed- I can't imagine how hard it has to be for those of you really close to him. I feel so lucky to have known him and you too. Thinking about all of our friends in FFD.

Love and solidarity.  
Heather Day

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I am so sorry to hear this news. We are all the better for knowing John and having him grace our lives. His family doesn't know me, but please extend my sorrow to them.

Sincerely,  
Melinda Hemmelgarn

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Jim Hightower and John at the 2012 Food Sovereignty Dinner

Thank you for sending around the notice of John Kinsman's death. I knew John when I worked at Farm Aid, and we collaborated on a number of efforts. He was a wonderful man, always with a smile on his face and truth on his lips. He will be sorely missed. Best to you and all of Family Farm Defenders during this time of loss.

Mark Smith

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Thank you for sending on this very sad news. My heart goes out to all of you at Family Farm Defenders and his family. John made such a long lasting impact on the movement toward food sovereignty within his community, the country and the world.

I am going to pull up his interview from my book, "Food Voices: Stories of the Food Sovereignty Movement."

All my best,  
Andrianna Natsoulas  
[www.foodvoices.org](http://www.foodvoices.org)

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I am so sorry to learn this news. As you well know, John has been a terrific fighter. You are likely to miss him more than any of us, and you will be in my thoughts.

Let me know if I can assist in any way,  
Ken Meter

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Very sorry to hear of John's passing, he was such a great force for the kind of food and farming we truly need. Please accept and share my condolences, I'm sorry for your and our loss.

Below if it's helpful at all is a short comment I posted on Facebook just sharing brief thoughts.

Saddened to hear of John Kinsman's death today. I didn't get to know him personally, wish I had. A farmer and founder of Family Farm Defenders, Kinsman was a great leader for sustainable organic farming, and small/medium scale agriculture. He had a profound impact on American farming in a time of economic evisceration of small family farms by corporate agribusiness. RIP. May there be more farmers and leaders like him.

Again, my condolences and deepest respect.

Best, Christopher Cook

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To the family of John Kinsman,

I am so sorry to hear of John's death. The strange thing this is that I was just talking about his amazing life this week with colleagues and was thinking of him.

John's lifelong commitment to social justice and ecological stewardship affected the lives of thousands of people. John and I worked together more than 20 years ago in opposing the introduction of Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH) in cows, and in challenging Monsanto and the life science companies claims to patents on genetically contrived seeds. I have been privileged over the last 40 years to meet many of the great social and environmental activists of the 20th century and, I must say, that John Kinsman deserves an honoured place at the very top of the list. His organization, the Family Farm Defenders, helped educate a generation of farm and environmental activists in the struggle against the coporatization of agriculture. John was also one of the kindest, most empathic, and thoughtful individuals I've ever had the opportunity to know. He was a great teacher and even though we didn't see each other often, he was in my thoughts when we were up against the likes of Monsanto et al. Above all, John was a good friend and a truly special human being. I suspect that like myself, everyone whose lives he touched, share similar reminiscences. John will be sorely missed.

My deep condolences to all of his family even as we celebrate his life.

Warm Regards,  
Jeremy Rifkin

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