

Our great friend and neighbor, John Kinsman, was a man who knew no borders. He related to every farmer in every country in the world. (not to mention cheese makers and eaters). John brought visitors to our doorstep from everywhere and shared his excitement about making a new food system based on respect for people and the environment. He was our ambassador and our partner. I suppose he sometimes rested, but I can't imagine how someone could get more out of nearly 88 years of living than John did. It was our honor to work with him to help build Family Farm Defenders and to try to fairly reward our patrons for the hard, sometimes dangerous and always important work they do. May he be our beacon and may his legacy grow.

Bob Wills, Cedar Grive Cheese, Plain, WI

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John Kinsman will remain an inspiration to so many of us. He was such a loving, encouraging, and brave soul. I always looked for a comment of encouragement and a hug from John when I saw him at events, conferences, and rallies. He has been called, "a tenacious, native prickly-pear cactus in the foot of industrial agriculture. May his spirit inspire many more like him.

*Eddie Ehlert - Crawford Stewardship Network*

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J'ai peu de mot devant le départ de John, seulement un grand sourire et une profonde respiration. Qui était plus vivant que John? Il a profondément marqué ma vision de l'engagement et a incarné à mes yeux que la joie est la source première du bonheur. Il ne me manque pas, car il ne m'a pas quitté depuis que je l'ai rencontré.

I'm lost for words after the departure of John, always such a great smile and profound spirit. Who was more alive than John? He had huge impact on my vision and commitment and in my eyes he embodied the idea that joy is the primary source of happiness. I will never forget him, because he never left me once I met him.

Benoit Girouad  
President, Union paysanne, Quebec

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