



John Clayton Timbers

April 20, 1945 - October 17, 2023

John Clayton Timbers of Tucson and Bisbee passed away in Tucson early Tuesday morning, October 17, 2023, at the age of 78. Private services were held Wednesday, afternoon November 1, 2023.

Cemetery Details

Riverfarm Cemetery

Benson, AZ 85602

Tribute Wall

“ In the early ‘70s, John and I got into road racing at about the same time. We routinely trained and raced together. A memorable training ride was a round trip from Tucson to Bisbee with an overnight stay at the Copper Queen Hotel. With nothing but the clothes on our back and some cash, it was great fun hammering out a business-like pace with Timbers. Halfway up the Mule Pass climb he took off like a rocket, only to be seen again waiting patiently at the top of the climb.

In those days, Arizona was known for its strong riders – especially our climbers. John had remarkable success and quickly rose to national prominence. In August 1971, John competed with Arizona’s team in the 8 day, 10 stage, 685 mile Tour of California. As a relatively new rider, John showed up at the starting line with a full beard and hairy legs. Looking like a lean, athletic hippy, John rode among North America’s best riders. Elite teams from the US, Mexico, Canada, and Germany competed. Finishing among the top riders, it’s the Tour of California where John’s potential became readily apparent. Later on, John was among a small, elite group of riders assembled for a multi-day competition to select the US Cycling Road Team for the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich.

In track & field events, Olympic Team selections are based upon the fastest times. In contrast, road cycling selections are more subjective and biased toward well-known riders. With more tenure and longer-term visibility, I expect John would have made the ‘72 Olympic Team.

A few weeks after the final Olympic Team selection, John entered southern California’s prestigious Manhattan Beach Criterium. With the full US Olympic Cycling Team competing, John broke away with one other rider and lapped the field, including the Olympic Team. John won Manhattan Beach.

I’ll always remember John Timbers as a great athlete. Most importantly, he was a good man and a dear friend.

Chuck McHugh - April 14, 2024 at 07:18 PM

JT

*Thank you for the fond memories and comments.
Joy Timbers*

Joy K Timbers - January 26, 2025 at 06:34 PM

JJ

“ *Julia Johnson lit a candle in memory of John
Timbers*



Julia Ann Johnson - November 02, 2023 at 06:48 PM

JL

“ *Janet, & Wayne Lemon lit a candle in memory
of John Timbers*



Janet, Lloyd & Wayne Lemon - October 31, 2023 at 06:12 PM