



## Johnny Lee Lawrence

July 10, 1945 - November 26, 2025

Johnny Lee Lawrence, 80, of LaFontaine, passed away, Wednesday, November 26, 2025, peacefully after a life marked by hard work, devotion, and love. Born July 10, 1945, in Strong City, Kansas, Johnny grew up learning the values of dedication, humility, and honesty, qualities that guided him throughout his life.

Johnny proudly served his country in the United States Army, stationed in Germany, carrying his love for his nation with quiet pride and honor. Upon returning home, he married his childhood sweetheart, Gail, on March 1, 1968. Together, they shared 56 years of love, laughter, and faith, a bond unbroken even by the passing of time.

A man who loved working with his hands, Johnny restored John Deere tractors and eventually opened his own shop, LaFontaine Auto, where he worked diligently for decades. His craftsmanship, integrity, and willingness to help others earned him respect throughout the community.

Johnny's greatest joy was his family. He is survived by his daughters, Gayla and husband Rick Ratzlaff, and Leah and husband Jeremiah Hoesli, both of Fredonia; grandchildren Tyler (Faith), Jordon (Callie), Chase, Brandon (Sage), Kaden (Lily), Ashlynn, Logan, Bella, and Bristol; and great-grandchildren Kolt, Weston, Liv, Jamison, and Onyx. Each brought him immeasurable pride, love,

and laughter.

A devoted member of LaFontaine Christian Church, Johnny's faith guided him through life's challenges and blessings.

Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Gail, his son Kevin, his parents, and his siblings, Johnny now rests in the joyful embrace of those he loved most. "Gone to rest high on that mountain; his work on earth is done," he leaves behind a legacy of love, faith, and devotion that will echo in the hearts of all who knew him.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 10:00 am at Countryside Funeral Home in Fredonia, burial to follow at Fredonia City Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday, December 3, 2025, from 4-6 pm at the funeral home. Memorials in his memory have been suggested to the Old Iron Club and can be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at [www.countrysidefh.com](http://www.countrysidefh.com). Services are under the direction of Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

# Cemetery Details

## Fredonia City Cemetery

S Cement Rd  
Fredonia, KS 66736  
(620) 378-2213

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia  
420 S. 20th St.  
P.O. Box 247  
Fredonia, KS 66736  
(620) 378-2882

## Service

DEC 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia  
420 S. 20th St.  
P.O. Box 247  
Fredonia, KS 66736  
(620) 378-2882

# Tribute Wall



“ Johnny was a long time friend of mine rest in peace

Rocky Metzger - December 04, 2025 at 03:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Video Tribute



Countryside Funeral Home - December 03, 2025 at 05:10 PM

BR

“ John was a great man. He restored 5 John Deere tractors if I remember correctly. He purchased a late Model B from Grandpa Seery and restored it.  
He worked on rebuilding my John Deere 60 and 70. He kept my vehicles and other machinery running.  
I have lots of fond memories in his Lafontaine Auto shop. He will be missed.  
I won't be able to be at his service, which I regret. Thinking of family and friends at this time. You are in my prayers. Sincerely, Brian Rothgeb

Brian Rothgeb - December 03, 2025 at 12:39 PM