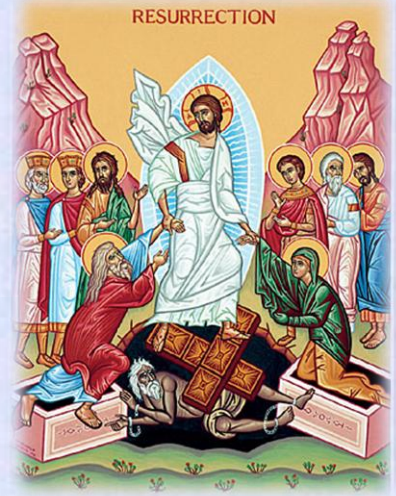




*The Servant of God*

# John Powell

July 22, 1952 ~ October 10, 2010



John Harry Powell, Sr. was born July 22, 1952. He is perhaps most noted for his love of history, specifically his great interest, knowledge, and expertise in the Civil War. For years he was involved in every aspect of Civil War reenactments, in many states, and had an impressive collection of historic artifacts and memorabilia. John was also an Air Force Reservist, serving in the Security Police during the 1970's where he had the honor of protecting Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. Because of his love of history, John's other passion was antiques. He spent many years searching, trading and selling them. In addition to Civil War items, his favorite antiques were old toys. John leaves behind his mother, Celia Powell; brother, Chuck (Faye) Powell; sisters, Marlene Powell & Pauline (Tom) Gardener; his beloved son Alan Powell; and his devoted friend, Marilyn Holthe.

John was a member of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church in his youth. He recalled fondly the many worship services, dinners, celebrations, and labors (like cleaning the Church) that he experienced as a boy. He was a "camper" at Saint Andrew's Camp in Jewell NY for several summer seasons. So, after the passage of time, growing-up, and the twists and turn of life, it was with great rejoicing that he recently returned to his spiritual home ~ his Church ~ to the welcome embrace of people he knew "long ago" and many others whom he would come to know and love in Christian fellowship. As if time had stood still, John entered the Church with the same enthusiasm and energy he exhibited in his youth. Always early on Sunday mornings (usually arriving an hour before the Divine Liturgy), he truly celebrated with thanksgiving in God's holy house. When it came time to do the annual Church cleaning in preparation for Pascha (Easter), John was the first to arrive and the last to leave ... working diligently ... and fervently encouraging others to do likewise. This past summer, he returned to Saint Andrew's Camp as a volunteer cook and, again, old friendships were renewed and many new ones were forged. However, perhaps the greatest gift and joy was the day that his beloved son, Alan, was baptized into the Body of Christ. On that day, there was an outpouring of grace and love that was not only evident in the sacrament, but equally manifest in the smiles and affection shared by Alan and his dad. Anyone present that day knows that they witnessed a father and son who loved one another with a devotion that is truly heavenly ... truly eternal.

Having endured with patience and faith the affliction and suffering of his body, John Powell "kept the faith" with hope in the saving grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The last words he spoke to Father Ken after receiving the Holy Eucharist for the last time on this earth were, "I'll see you in Church, God willing." Indeed he shall ... but the gathering will no longer be in the earthly temple; rather it will be in the Kingdom of God, where there is neither sickness, sorrow, nor sighing ~ but life everlasting! *May his memory be eternal!*