

Born in Brooklyn but raised in New Jersey, John H. Thatcher, Jr., attended the Englewood School before coming to Princeton where he majored in history and was a member of Charter Club. He served on the Undergraduate Schools and Scholarship Committee of the Orange Key Society. Struggles with what was eventually diagnosed as celiac disease shaped his first years after college and led to a career as an investment counselor and very active involvement with the Alumni Schools Committee, interviewing over a thousand potential Princetonians. Childhood summers on Fishers Island, New York, led to an increasing concern for the environment and the founding of the Fishers Island Conservancy. John was a tireless advocate for conservation of the island's clean water and ecosystems. He is remembered especially for working with the "mosquito girls" to lessen the island's mosquito population through non-toxic control measures. Unfortunately, John had a stroke twelve years ago while fishing that brought an end to his Fishers Island activities. He died at home in Hillsborough, New Jersey, on August 14, 2017. John is survived by his wife, Mary, their daughters Marisa and Monica, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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Christopher L. Webber