

## IN MEMORIAM

Fans of recreational mathematics will mourn the recent death of John H. Conway. While many of his important discoveries in geometry and group theory can't be explained without many hours of lead-in, (even the grand antiprism is fairly mindboggling) and even the many of our readers will have experimented with Conway's "Game of Life." Maybe you have read "On Numbers and Games", or the more popular "Winning Ways" which he coauthored with Elwyn Berlekamp and Richard Guy (by sad coincidence, all three authors of this tour de force have died within a little over a year of each other.) Maybe at some point you learned his "Doomsday Rule" for finding the day of the week of any day in history, or how to win at Nim or Hackenbush. However it happened, whatever it was: so many of us are the richer for John's time among us, and if you aren't yet - it's not too late!

Randall Munroe's XKCD webcomic gave John the rare tribute of a memorial cartoon. Here are some snapshots by Mr. Munroe's generous permission. For the full animation, see [https://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/rip\\_john\\_conway.gif](https://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/rip_john_conway.gif)

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