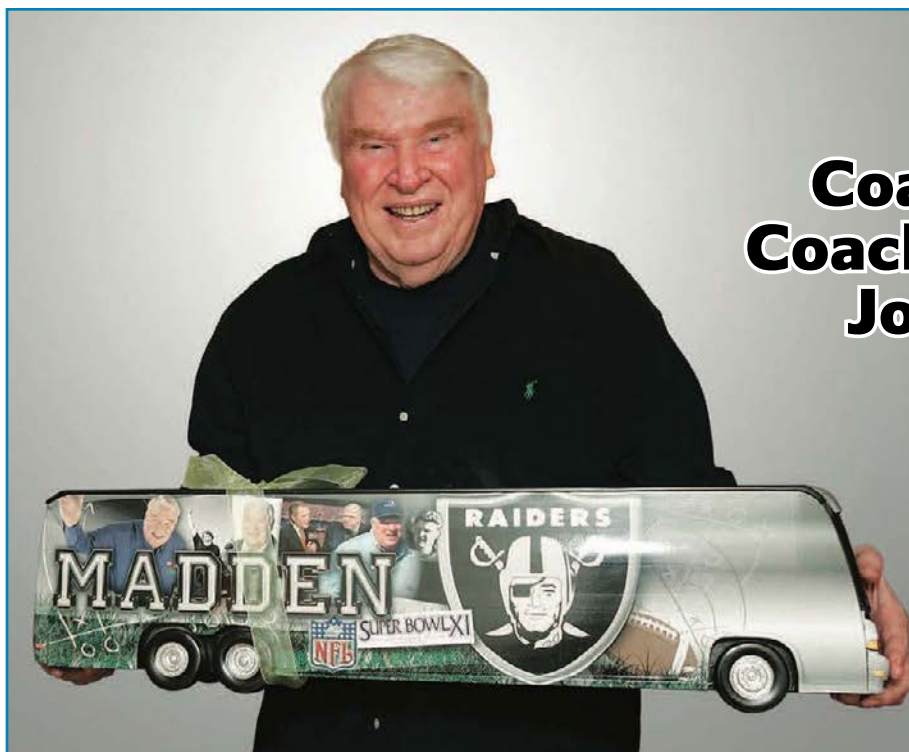




Coaches for the Coach - A Tribute to John Madden



By Larry Plachno

Editor's Note: This article was originally published in the February 2022 issue of *National Bus Trader*.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of John Madden on December 28, 2021. Those who knew him and worked with him remember him fondly as being a good guy who often helped others. While most people connect John with football, he really had four careers. These included playing football, coaching football, announcing football and as an unofficial spokesman for the bus industry. It is this fourth vocation of his that interests us bus people. As a tribute to John, we can cover some of his football background and then relate his years involved with the bus industry.

College, Coaching and Commentator

John Madden was born in Austin, Minnesota, a community of about 20,000 population just a few miles east of Albert Lea and southwest of Rochester, not far from the Iowa state line. Later, his family moved to Daly City, California on the south edge of San Francisco. His parents were not involved with football or any other professional sports. John's father, Earl, was an auto mechanic while his mother Mary was a homemaker. John's education included both

a B.S. and an M.S. from California Polytechnic College in San Luis Obispo, California.

John was involved with football at Cal Poly where he played both offensive and defensive

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