



James G. Burba

November 25, 1936 - April 8, 2015

Bend, Oregon James Griffin Burba (78) died on April 8, 2015 at St Charles Medical Center. He was born November 25, 1936 in McAlester, Oklahoma. He earned a BA from Benedictine Heights College and a MA from the University of Missouri. Jim joined the USAF shortly after graduating college, and served the country as a "Missileer" during his 26 year career. He retired as a Colonel but was extremely proud to be inducted as an honorary Chief Master Sargent at the time of his retirement. Jim was married to Joan Claudia Gill for 58 years. They married in Oklahoma, and moved through the United States on active duty assignments with the growing family of 5 children in tow. Jim and Joan moved to Bend in 1993, happy to have found their own personal paradise. Jim's careers after the Air Force included 10 years as an executive with Hughes Space and Communications and 4 years with LionHeart Consulting. After retiring for the third time, he worked for the state court system as a court-connected mediator. Jim was a member of the Association of Air Force Missileers, was active in the Central Oregon chapter of the Military Officers Association (COMOA), and served the Sunriver Music Festival as a development consultant. He was active with Volunteers in Action up to his death. He loved motorhome travel with Joan and dog Maggie, especially exploring and fishing the Oregon coast with close friends. Jim is survived by his wife, Joan of Bend, and his sister, Judy (Dale) Roth of Boise. He was preceded in death by his parents Cranston and Gwendolyn Burba of McAlester, Oklahoma, and his daughter, Karen Bortz. Surviving children are

Cheryl (Jack) Reutemann and Lynn (Gregory) Jones of Virginia, and Michael (Marian) Burba, and Robert Burba of California. His thirteen grandchildren are Wendy Furuuchi, James David Bailey, Andrew Bortz, Michael Bortz, Aaron Jones, Amy Jones, Hailey Smith, Galen Smith, Claudia Reutemann, Justin Burba, Trevor Burba, Nick Reutemann, and Joi Morgan. He was also loved by his two nieces Elaine Copperi and Lisa Young. His four great-grandchildren are Devon Furuuchi, Sherriann Furuuchi, Willa Bailey, and Baby girl Bailey. A Memorial Service is scheduled for Monday, April 13 at 2:00 p.m. at Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home, 105 NW Irvine Avenue in Bend. Interment will be private. Memorial donations may be made in Jims name to Volunteers in Action, PO Box 7856, Bend, Oregon 97708, or the Humane Society of Central Oregon in Bend.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home New
105 NW Irving Ave
Bend, OR
US 97701

Tribute Wall

WS

“ Please express our regrets to the Burba family. We knew and admired Jim and Joan Burba during our Air Force career and periodically met them at the AAFM national meetings. They were an exemplary couple and Jim was a superb and unique Air Force officer. His spirit will continue to inspire many of our current and retired AAFM members. God Bless.

walt and phyllis skrainy - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ I am heartbroken to hear this. In the brief time it has been my privilege to know Jim, I have grown very fond of this kind, sweet man. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Kathleen Donohue - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

FZ

“ We are saddened to know of Jim's death. Our thoughts and prayers go to his family and many friends. He served his country with distinction and the community of Bend will miss the many ways he contributed his time and energies. Love, Frank and Lorraine

Frank and Lorraine Zachary - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Gone is one of the finest examples of the Gentle Warrior I have ever known. He served his country well; he served his community well; he served his friends well. One of the things I looked forward to most as we slowly make our way home from two years on the road was meeting up with Jim at a COMOAA event. That light has now dimmed, but I'm the better for having known him. Rest in peace, Jim.

Leonard Knott - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM