



John Dale Long

December 14, 1949 - May 31, 2020

John D. Long, of Corvallis, an extraordinary Brother, Son, Uncle, Great Uncle, and friend of so many, died Sunday, May 31, at age 70 in the Willamette Springs Memory Care Facility, Corvallis. John retired from Good Samaritan Hospital in December, 2015 as a Registered Polysomnographic Technologist working in the field of health care professionals who clinically assess patients with sleep disorders. At John's retirement he was physically and financially fit to enjoy a long and fruitful post work life of all things he loved. John was sadly diagnosed with Frontal Temporal Dementia just a few years into his retirement.

John was unique and contagious, if you weren't careful you would find yourself climbing a rock, kayaking the Rogue River or riding your bike 100+ miles. All the while feeling a little uncomfortable about the risks involved, but John would instill a level of confidence in you that you didn't know was there. Everyone trusted John as the consummate pro and just went along because it would be okay.

John lead an adventurous life and one few could compare. He climbed Yosemite's El Capitan and Half Dome, as well as everything one can climb in Oregon. He kayaked the entire Grand Canyon and frequented the Rogue River. He made beer and wine, was a mountain biker and road cyclist, a cross country and telemark skier, a fly fisherman, an amateur chef, an environmentalist, a supporter of too many non-profits to list, an ardent reader of everything, a bird watcher, a recycler well before it was the "in" thing to do.

John savored the good things in life. Cooking great food paired with Oregon Pinot, coffee at The Beanery, movies, books and was always up for a thought provoking conversation. He was a cool guy that will live on in our memories and in the daily experiences of things he taught us along the way.

John is survived by, Step father, Orville Gerhardt, sister Diane Carey, brother Scott Rooks, brother in law Richard Carey, sister in law Laney Rooks, nephews John and Tyson Velkinburg, great niece and nephew Mckenna and Blake Velkinburg.

Way to live a life John! We love you and miss you so bad.

Comments



“ John , Barid DruOregon backcountry hard guy climb...early 80's ? My son commented on this photo ...” I know Johnshortest shorts ever” ! Welcome to the 70-80's.... RIP John miss you.



Chris - June 24, 2020 at 11:02 PM



“ In 1989 when I began to work in the hospital, John was nearby and we interacted alot. His availability and kind spirit was always evident. Our conversations ranged from the clinical to the personal. His interest in the outdoors, in the Oregon we all wanted to see and know, was easily shared and was inspiring. John was so capable, so sincere, kind, deliberate, and focused. I wanted to see him when we came across one another. I looked forward to seeing and consulting with him. And he always made it easy. We last ran into each other at the Saturday market. I would also see him at community events. We each retired and he had plans to enjoy more and more of "Oregon's treasures". My heartfelt wishes go to his family and friends as those who traveled the route of fronto-temporal dementia with him faced many difficult times together. It's gradual replacement of "John" with his bodily needs and quick decline must have been tough. For John and his love ones.

Bryce Downey MD

Bryce Downey MD - June 08, 2020 at 11:39 PM



“ I referred a lot of patients to the Sleep Lab that John managed. John was pleasant, kind and smart. He took great care of patients and his co-workers alike. We are so lucky to have had him in our lives.

John Gotchall - June 07, 2020 at 04:33 PM



“ In the late 1960s I hired John at the old Good Samaritan Hospital. I trained him to to work in a department I started, special Services, that treated Pulmonary and EKG patients. He knew nothing about all of that but what a fast learner and the patients loved him as did the other hospital staff. He was very conscientious and I cannot remember any complaints or any time I had to council him. What a great guy. After I left the hospital, he continued to be an example of one who you would want to have in patient care.

He certainly will be missed.

Lanny Zoeller

Lantes Zoeller - June 07, 2020 at 01:01 PM



“ John was one of the most caring men. He would do anything for you and loved his family so much. He was very close to his sister Diane and brother Scott. John will be missed for ever on this earth. God bless you John for being the man you were. My dad got to meet you one time and always asked about. He said that you were a very kind man and enjoyed talking with you. Love and well miss you my friend. Rest in peace!

NOLA Dunn - June 04, 2020 at 01:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Larry - June 02, 2020 at 02:18 PM