



Andrew Charles Hoder

January 3, 1956 - January 25, 2020

Andrew Charles Hoder, age 64, left us to be with the Lord, on January 25, 2020 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. Guided by his love of family, respect to all and appreciation of the outdoors, Andy became the respected and beloved husband, son, brother, uncle and friend to all who knew him.

Andy was born January 3, 1956 in Schenectady, New York. He attended Colonie Central High School and graduated from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Wanakena, N.Y. He traveled to the Pacific Northwest for employment with the Forest Service where he entered an outdoor career which he loved.

In his 42 years of dedicated public service he worked in many capacities. Initially hired on as a firefighter, he later developed leadership skills on the Redmond, Oregon Interagency Hotshot Crew which lead him back to the classroom in Pullman, WA to pursue a degree in Forest Management. For decades Andy could be found in the mountains he loved marking timber, dragging a drip torch, conducting botany surveys or leading fire crews. One of Andy's favorite jobs was serving as an aerial observer, spotting fire starts after a lightning storm. Andy's career followed the fire and land management needs of the region and at the same time he cultivated many strong relationships with his "Forest Service Family". As Den Leader for Tiger Cub Pack 16 and Assistant Scoutmaster for Scout Troop 16, he shared his passion for land stewardship by teaching outdoor skills to local youth. He rarely missed a meeting or special outdoor camping experience and continued to pay attention to the progress of each scout as they grew older.

He was a devoted member of Cornerstone Christian Church, where he attended midweek bible study sessions, volunteered as church bus driver and assisted with various outreach and team events.

He met the love of his life, Judy Murray, while they were both working for the Forest Service. They married in 1986 in a beautiful outdoor wedding held in Leavenworth, Washington. Andy never forgot the love of family that originally nurtured and guided him. He remained the respected and devoted son of Emma and John P Hoder. He returned to the New York region regularly to be with parents, siblings, cousins and friends.

He is predeceased by his father, John P. Hoder and brother, John J Hoder. Andrew is survived by his loving wife of 34 years Judy E Murray Hoder, mother Emma Hoder, sisters

Joan (Jim) Losee, Deen (Greg) Tetrault, father-in-law Allen E Murray, aunt Kay (Howard) Bumgarner, sister-in-law Debbie (Carl) Fritts, brothers-in-law Steven (Karen) Murray, Eddie(Jean) Murray, Monte(Christe) Murray, sister-in-law Jennifer(John) Hughes and many loving cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at the Cornerstone Christian Church, 12 N. Chelan Ave. Wenatchee, WA on Saturday, March 21 at 11:00 am with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Cornerstone Christian Church to the address above or Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Research, 415 Crossways Park Drive, Suite D , Woodbury, NY 11797

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home - February 21 at 05:30 PM



“ 77 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home - February 21 at 05:23 PM



“ I will miss Andy. He was the essence of what the Forest Service is all about...Dedication to the land and hard work. His name will always bring a smile to my face, as he was always fun to work with. As fire engine captains, we always embraced a healthy sense of competition, as we shared some memorable times together. Thank you Andy for being who you were. Until we meet again old friend, “Anchor and Flank”.



Mike Benefield - February 11 at 05:50 PM



“ Andy always made the effort to touch base with family on birthdays, holidays and random points in between. His smile and positive approach will be sorely missed.

Joan Losee - February 01 at 08:33 AM



“ I remember working with Andy at the Entiat Forest Service in 1979-1981. He was such a nice guy, unassuming and gentle in spirit. My prayers go to his family and friends.

Denise Foubert Mays - January 31 at 02:24 PM