

## Jan Knupp

Dec. 9, 1944 – June 7, 2022

Jan Knupp was born on December 9, 1944 in Somerset, Pennsylvania. He was the 2<sup>nd</sup> of eight children (Kay, Cheryl, Greg, Keith, Linea, Alita and Karen). In 1951 the Knupp family moved to Jennerstown, PA. He attended a two-room school for his elementary years and in his class was Charlotte Wojnarowski, his future wife. During his school years he participated in 4-H and delivered the newspaper. He worked on a Christmas tree farm as part of 4-H.

He was the first in his immediate family to attend college. He graduated from California College, now California University of Pennsylvania, with a bachelor's degree in teaching. During summer breaks he worked at his uncle's hardware store. He had started dating our mother, Charlotte, during their senior year in high school and they were married on July 15th, 1966. The young Knupp family moved to Bradford, NY where they were both teachers. He briefly changed careers to construction prior to joining the Air Force in June of 1970.

Jan spent 20 years in the Air Force, retiring at the rank of Major in 1990. During this time the Knupp family lived in Georgia, upstate NY, Alaska, Colorado, Ontario Canada and then returned to Colorado Springs prior to his retirement. During this time the family grew with the birth of Kelly and Adam.

Jan had many hobbies during this time. Woodworking was a hobby since his high school days, so much so that he packed his long arm saw in his car during the move to Alaska. While in Alaska he learned to fly fish, gold pan, camp, and developed a love of photography and leather work. Jan also always had a dog by his side, most often an Irish Setter (or two). Throughout their marriage Charlotte and Jan cared for a total of eight dogs, six of whom were Irish Setters. Lily and Patrick (the current dogs) miss him greatly.

After his retirement from the Air Force, Jan turned his long-time woodworking hobby into a second career in cabinetry. He retired from his second career in time to care for Charlotte in her last month's battling pancreatic cancer. His retirement years were filled with family events, time spent with his six grandchildren (Matthew, Peter, Andy, Myla, Grant and Eli) and camping trips.

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