

Obituaries

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Andrew Kushner

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Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Andrew K. Kushner, 72, of Leavenworth, passed away July 7, 2007, after battling a very aggressive cancer. Andy was a loving husband and father, best friend; grandfather, brother, uncle and cousin ... and always a soldier.

Andy was a country boy, born and raised in Haines City, Fla. After graduating from high school, he was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and graduated from there in 1959. A Special Forces Green Beret, he was stationed in Korea and Germany, and served two tours in Vietnam. Following his second tour to Vietnam, he attended the University of Southern California, earning his master's degree in mechanical engineering. From there he returned to West Point as an instructor for the next four years. It was there that he met Jan and her children,Carolynn and Scott. Andy and Jan married the following year in June of 1971, residing at West Point for their first two years as a family. The family then moved to Fort Leavenworth in 1973, where Andy attended CGSC, and remained to teach for three additional years. In 1977, he was assigned to Fort Greely, Alaska, as head of the Cold Regions Test Center. After two years in Alaska, the family returned to Kansas, where Andy was the head of ROTC at Wichita State University from 1979 to 1981.

Upon retiring from the Army in 1981, Andy and his family returned to Alaska. The Last Frontier had taken hold of them and was too hard to resist. During the next 12 years in Anchorage, he worked as a chief engineer in the field of power systems design and fabrication. He also worked briefly as a commercial Realtor. Andy and Jan relocated to Olympia, Wash., in 1993 prior to their return to Leavenworth in 1998, where Andy took a full-time position with Northrop Grumman Technical Services as an instructor. No one could convince him to retire because he loved to work. Andy had a passion for military history, music, art and literature.

Andy leaves his wife, Jan, and son, Scott, of their home; and daughter, Carolyn, and grandchildren, Jannah, Jacob, Wesley, Kyle and Jessica of Wasilla, Alaska. He also leaves two very special kitties, Miss Tibby and her companion, Daisy.

A service with full military honors will be at 10 a.m. Monday, July 23, at the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to www.livestrong.org/grassroots/scottmatthews to honor those who battle cancer, or to a charity of their choosing.

Davis Funeral Chapel, 531 Shawnee St., Leavenworth, is in charge of arrangements.

