



George Underwood

July 18, 1949 - July 28, 2020

George Edward Underwood III, 71, longtime resident and business owner in Traverse City passed away suddenly at home on Tuesday July 28, 2020 in the arms of his beloved wife Jan.

George was born in Detroit in 1949 to the late George Edward and Lyleth Jane (Turner) Underwood Jr. He was raised and graduated high school in Royal Oak, and went on to college at Ferris State University where he earned his bachelor's degree in Chemistry and Business. In 1969, George married his beautiful wife and high-school sweetheart Janice Jean Little, and together they raised two wonderful children Erin and Chad.

Prior to moving to Traverse City, George owned Diack, Inc., a medical controls company based in Beulah, MI. In the early 1980's George sold that business and started Picture Quik, a popular photo lab on Garfield Road that George and Jan owned for 23 years until George retired in 2005. In retirement, George went on to work part-time at the photo lab at his local Sam's Club.

George loved being outdoors, and in his spare time he enjoyed photography, boating, gardening, fishing, and golf. Most importantly he was a man that loved his family above all else. His favorite times were those spent with his six grandchildren, now ages six to 21. George was a wonderful, kind, loving and gentle man. He was a committed husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle; and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Sadly, in March of 2019 George had to endure losing his daughter, Erin Banton, to Metastatic Breast Cancer. George was devastated by the loss, but kept Erin's memory alive everyday through his love for his three grandsons, which he lived for after Erin's passing.

Surviving George is his wife Janice of 51 devoted years; son Chad (Kim) Underwood of OH; son-in-law Travis Banton; six grandchildren, Carter, Nolan, and Griffin Banton, and Avery, Marin, and Linley Underwood; siblings, Karen (Loren) Wolfe of Indiantown, FL,

Beth Parkinson of Saline, MI; siblings-in-law, Paul Little of Traverse City, Doug (Jen Straus) Little of Traverse City, Don (Julie) Little of Sarasota, FL, Jackie (Mark) Benson of Clarkston, MI, Jill (Brian Riggs) Little of Traverse City, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, a private memorial service will be held for family-only at 11am on Wednesday August 5, 2020 in the Gardens of the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Friends and others are encouraged to attend virtually by logging on to <http://www.rjfh.tv> at that time where a live stream of the service will be broadcast.

The family is also asking everyone to share their condolences, memories, and stories about George in writing by sending cards or notes to The Underwood Family c/o Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 6th Street, Traverse City, MI 49684. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Cowell Family Cancer Center.

The family is being cared for by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

Events

AUG **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

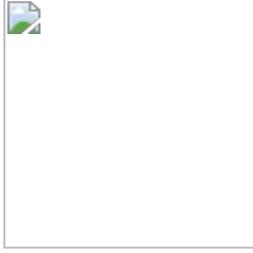
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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ Memorial Service



Reynolds Jonkhoff - August 07, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ Thank u for sharing this beautiful memorial service of this dear man. I will miss him dearly. He will be forever in my heart.

Nurse Lynn - August 07, 2020 at 10:04 PM



“ Jan, I am so sorry for your loss. I can not even imagine what you are going through. I always enjoyed your family dinner visits to LaSenorita. I know your world is completely turned upside down again with this tragic loss. Stay strong and I will continue to pray for your family.

Lura Ruede - August 08, 2020 at 12:33 AM



“ Dear Jan and Chad,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this to you. I'm sorry for the death of your dear husband and father. Please know you have been in my thoughts and prayers upon reading of George's passing. I just couldn't write immediately due to the surprise his death took me, just as Erin's had.

It was a pleasure meeting and having many photos developed by George while our daughter was growing up. How I recall when Jan would drop off the pictures while picking up Erin at our home. Saved us from going to do so. And, then when we picked up our pictures from George, many smiles in the photos and our thoughts were preserved. We delighted in knowing your family business and being able to have a personal connection with you as well.

I still have Erin's picture with the words, "Love always wins" in my office and think of her so often. She was a beautiful little girl in my Day Care with the bright smile and personality that I treasure, taken in life far too soon. What a wonderful woman she became, doing so much for others, and especially her husband and sons. George and yes you Jan were terrific examples and backups in her young family, that I just know.

Kids grow up (thankfully) as do we, but I have to recall Chad, the drummer being in the car when Jan picked up Erin. You were all so happy, and so was I. Erin delighted in saying good bye and going to be with her family. I'm sure that was the way she was throughout her life being with with you and her beloved dad too. So, I try to understand another absence in this family of four, but the only way I can is by realizing we are all called to be with our Lord, and George and Erin are with HIM now. Their work on earth was over.....and bountiful rewards awaited them in eternity with HIM who knows all things. I believe and hope and pray they are with you, but in a different way as you continue through life until the day when you are united with them and other loved ones in the place I too hope we'll all meet, heaven.

I am terribly sorry for your losses and extend my condolences to all of your family. May Jesus help you walk the journey ahead without George and Erin until that time when you are once again with them forever and ever.

Sincerely,
Mary Orth

Mary Orth - August 07, 2020 at 12:24 AM



“ I'm so sorry to read about your husband, Jan! I spent a lot of time at your shop on Garfield during the 90s. Both of you always treated me with kindness. I enjoyed both of you so much. I was surprised to read that your daughter, Erin, had passed as well. I know Kathy Banton well and knew about Erin's tragedy. I live in Florida now, but I'll never forget your family. I'm so very sorry. Jackie Monigold

Jacqueline Monigold - August 05, 2020 at 05:33 AM



“ Jan and Chad,

I am heartbroken on so many levels. I am sorry time and distance did not allow more time with each other, but please know, you, Erin and George are forever in our hearts. Let's work on time and distance thing... Love you both,

Kelly & Gerry

Kelly Parkinson - August 03, 2020 at 09:56 AM



“ This was such sad news. We have many fond memories of the times the four of us spent together at FSU. The best one was the time George and Bob made the infamous cooling fans. We are keeping the family in our prayers and wish you peace and healing.

Robert and Karen Phillips

Karen Phillips - August 02, 2020 at 10:08 PM



“ Jan and Family,

I did see see this. I'm absolutely heartbroken for you and your family. I've really struggled with what u can say and I'm so sad to hear this news. George was incredibly funny, charismatic, charming and thoughtful person. I'm so very sad for all that you have endured over the coarse of the last few years. You've certainly had some very challenging paths to navigate with the losses of so many loves ones. I guess the comfort that I see is that he's with your beautiful daughter. I'm so very sorry for your loss. George was definitely one of kind and I'm so glad I as well as my family had the opportunity to know such wonderful people.

The Groleau Family - August 02, 2020 at 03:05 PM



“ Jan, know that you are in my prayers. I cannot begin to imagine your pain. While I did not really know George, I knew his devotion to Erin, and the rest of his family. I pray that you will feel our loving God's arms around you. My deepest sympathies to you and your family. Peace and love, Wendy

Wendy Warren - August 01, 2020 at 06:20 PM



“ Jan and family,
May our loving Lord wrap His arms of comfort, peace, love, and strength around you. So very sorry for the loss of George. He was a such a wonderful man to his wife, son, daughter and whomever he came in contact with. My deepest sympathy to you. I believe he is in heaven with his lovely daughter, Erin. RIP George.

Darlene Miller



Darlene A. Miller - August 01, 2020 at 01:34 PM



“ I always knew losing you would be hard but I am glad you are not suffering anymore. You were the best brother/brother-in-law anyone could have had. Thank you for always being there for me. I will miss our conversations and your goofy sense of humor.
Love you so much, George!

Jackie

Jackie Benson - July 31, 2020 at 01:05 PM



“ George and Jan came into Mables often. We were always so happy to see them. He was the best of the best

DOROTHY DUNVILLE - July 31, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ I met George as a customer, but he became a friend. He was that kinda guy. Always interesting and a caring guy. He loved his wife and children, and was very proud of them. I am sorry to hear of his passing. My prayers and condolences for his family.

Darryl Nelson - July 31, 2020 at 09:36 AM