

# MARK FOREST NEILSON



Mark Forest Neilson, age 70, passed away on May 20, 2023. Born November 18, 1952, in Sewickley. The son of John, Sarah, and Virginia Neilson- deceased. He was the beloved husband of Nellie (Simmons) Neilson. He is survived by brothers, William Eaton, John, Neilson, Jr.; and sisters, Margery Moehring and Nancy Riesmeyer; daughter, Connie, and many nieces and nephews.

He attended Quaker Valley until he entered Linsly Military Institute and finished school with a short stint at Pitt. He then decided he needed some adventure!

Alone, he went off to Kenya settling in Lamu on the Indian Ocean. Here he bought an Arab Dhow christening it "The Brown Jenkin" and started a fishing business. He was spearfishing off of the boat and speared a 5-foot-long Moray Eel and took it to the surface horrifying the crew. After very carefully getting it on board they enjoyed this very special treat! After some months in Lamu, he decided to go to Poona (Pune) India, and live in an Ashram for many months.

After returning home it wasn't long before he was off to South America where he hiked on Cotopaxi and other mountains in Ecuador.

When he returned home, he worked for his good Buddy Jerry Freeble improving the Landscapes of many homes in Sewickley. He worked at Giant Eagle and at Peoples of Oakland where he removed snow from the parking lot and walks and in the spring, he planted flowers. He battled a stroke and lung cancer and won! One Tough Guy!

Friends will be received at Bellefield Presbyterian Church at 4001 5th Avenue, in Oakland across the street from the Pitt Book Store. Time 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 17, 2023.

Memorial Contributions may be made in his memory to "Peoples Oakland. Arrangements by **BALL FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.**

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