



William Gerhard Doepken

March 3, 1944 - December 21, 2019

William Gerhard Doepken, 75, Camas resident, died Saturday, Dec. 21 in Vancouver, Washington.

He was preceded in death by his parents Herb and Betty. He is survived by his wife, Terry, children Kendra and Charlie, his acquired children Jason and Amy, and grandkids Channing, Cooper, Emerson and Loden.

Will was born March 3, 1944 in Wheeling, West Virginia to Herb and Betty Doepken. Will grew up in Narberth, Pennsylvania with his older brother Tony. His college years took him to Colorado, with a brief aside to Memphis, Tennessee, for naval boot camp. In 1966, in Boulder, CO, Will met the love of his life, Terry Walther! They were married in 1969 and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2019.

Will and Terry lived in Leadville, CO before moving to Evergreen, CO and starting a family. His two children, Kendra and Charlie, grew up in the woods of Colorado. A promotion took Will, Terry and Charlie to Gilbert, AZ in 1995. After a career in executive management in the mining industry, Will retired in 1998. Retirement settled Will and Terry in the Pacific Northwest, first Oregon then southwest Washington.

In the ensuing years, grandkids Channing, Cooper, Emerson and Loden and

their adventures, became Will's entire world. Will loved his family and the outdoors. He was enthusiastic but not sentimental or romantic in his view of either. He found optimism and peace in both.

At his request, no service will be held. He would want you to go for a walk in the woods or sit by a waterfall instead. In lieu of flowers, Will supported the Humane Society for SW Washington (1100 NE 192nd Ave. Vancouver, WA) and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (501 St Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105.)

Tribute Wall

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“ Terry, it's Linda Simon from Evergreen. I hope somehow this reaches you. I've been thinking of you and Evergreen and the kids and the connection we had. I came across Will's obituary. I am so sorry for the loss of your life partner. If this reaches you and you feel like it, please reach out. My name is Linda Strait now, email lindastrait@gmail.com or you can find me on Facebook.

Linda Strait - June 07, 2025 at 12:00 AM