



Paul Richard Kniestedt

June 28, 1946 - December 30, 2017

Paul Richard Wilhelm Kniestedt spoke five languages, played multiple musical instruments, and was a skilled wood worker and furniture maker, and a photographer. Those were just some of his hobbies. He was a world traveler who loved soccer, growing flowers and building model ships.

Paul was born in Den Hague, Netherlands on June 28, 1946 to Henrich and Alida Kniestedt. He was always proud of his Dutch heritage and roots. Paul was the oldest of five boys. After him came Leo, Robert, Johan and Albert. His stories of all seven family members growing up in one small two bedroom apartment in Den Hague, with the shortages of goods at the end of World War II, have fascinated subsequent generations. His school years in Den Hague were filled with soccer matches, Boy Scout trips and, later, the Beatlemania phenomenon that spread through Europe years before the U.S. Like many teens of that era, he formed a rock band. His classmates went on to fame in the well-known group Golden Earring.

Paul's family immigrated to the United States when he was 18 years old. His father was a Naval Architect, a profession in demand in the U.S. but not widely taught in universities. They settled in Washington State and prospered. Being 18 and a legal resident, Paul was subject to the U.S. military draft. He chose to join the Air Force where he served in the Vietnam conflict and was part of the mission to rescue the USS Pueblo from the North Koreans.

After his honorable discharge from the Air Force, Paul worked as a flight attendant for Continental Airlines, then entered college to study computer

programming. He married Sandra O'Neil in 1970. He and Sandi had two children, Paula Jean Evelyn Kniestedt and Erick William Alexander Kniestedt. The support of his family led him to a work in construction. To further his career in took multiple training opportunities including the Associated General Contractors' Superintendent Certification Program which facilitated promotion to project management responsibilities and to forming his own construction company in the Seattle area.

Paul's first marriage had ended when he began the construction project in Poulsbo, Washington designed by a newly licensed architect. He claimed to have met his future wife on his project; she claimed it was hers. Debra J. Dockery was a transplanted Texan living in Seattle.

While working as a construction manager in Washington and Alaska, Paul attended night courses to complete an associate degree as a paralegal with hopes of pursuing a law degree. This desire brought Paul to Texas in 1983 to finish his 4 year undergraduate studies. He graduated with a Bachelor of Administration and Political Science degree from Southwest Texas State University (now just Texas State University) in 1985. Debra rejoined him in San Antonio that year and they were married March 17, 1990.

In the years following, Paul pursued growing flowers on their 6-acre south Bexar County farm, dabbled in world trade, and assisted local attorneys as a paralegal and construction claims analyst. But a fortune cookie told his fate in "the road to success is always under construction" and it was in construction administration that he excelled.

Paul worked as the construction observer and administrator for local architects and the San Marcos CISD before coming to work for his wife. For the last 19 years he has been the valued construction administrator, technology guru, and marketing assistant for Debra J. Dockery, Architect, PC. Paul passed from this earth on December 30, 2017 after a valiant two week struggle to recover from a cardiac arrest. He is preceded in death by his father, Henrich Kniestedt. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Debra J. Dockery, his mother Alida Kniestedt, his daughter Paula Kniestedt, his son

Erick Kniestedt, his grandchildren Evan, Alyonna, Jessica and Joey Kniestedt, his great-granddaughter Hayden, his brothers Leo (Janice), Robert, Johan (Valerie), and Albert Kniestedt, numerous nephews and nieces, and aunts, uncles, and cousins in Holland, England, and Australia.

Paul will be remembered for his generosity, his many talents, his love of his Dutch homeland and the sea, his many world travels, and the fascinating stories of a well-lived life.

A remembrance service will be held beginning at 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at the restored Hangar 9 Event Center, 8081 Inner Circle Road (corner of south New Braunfels, and Inner Circle), San Antonio, Texas 78235. For those who wish to honor Paul, contributions may be made to the Animal Defense League, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, or a non-profit of your choice. A remembrance ceremony will be held Sunday, January 14, beginning at 2:00 PM at Hangar 9, 8081 Inner Circle Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78235.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hangar 9 Event Center
8081 Inner Circle Road
San Antonio, Texas 78235

Tribute Wall



“ *Chesney Morales Partners, Inc. purchased the Amazing Arboricola for the family of Paul Richard Kniestedt.* ”



Chesney Morales Partners, Inc. - January 11, 2018 at 01:41 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Paul Richard Kniestedt.* ”



January 08, 2018 at 12:25 PM



“ *CDS Muery purchased the Rainbow Reflections Basket for the family of Paul Richard Kniestedt.* ”



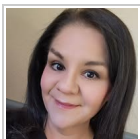
CDS Muery - January 03, 2018 at 03:37 PM

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“ *The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Paul Richard Kniestedt.*



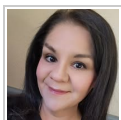
The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners - January 03, 2018 at 12:02 PM



“ *Julia Acosta-Kester lit a candle in memory of Paul Richard Kniestedt*



Julia Acosta-Kester - January 03, 2018 at 11:14 AM



Paul will be dearly missed. All of us at Bridgehead IT will miss speaking with you, and will keep your family close and dear to our hearts always. Bridgehead IT will be making a contribution to the ADL in your honor.

Julia Acosta-Kester - January 03, 2018 at 11:16 AM

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My deepest sympathy on your loss. Keeping you in prayer.

Eusebia, (Eubie) - January 04, 2018 at 11:19 AM

RL

Pamela and I will miss you, Paul...your wit, your warmth, your love for Debra...all that and more

Roy Lowey-Ball - January 15, 2018 at 10:07 AM