

James "Jim" David Avey, Jr. Obituary

January 8, 2021

James "Jim" David Avey, Jr., 74 died from vascular dementia and complications of stroke on January 6th, 2021 at home in Anchorage surrounded by family. Jim was born August 9, 1946 in Berkeley, Calif. His family drove to Anchorage in 1951, settling in Bootlegger's Cove.

Jim graduated from West High in '64, trade school as a carpet layer, and drafted into the Army in '68. Once discharged, he wandered the world. He lived on a houseboat in Amsterdam, in a cave in the Canary Islands, and in a treehouse at Taylor Camp on Kauai. He eventually came home to Alaska, where he built a cabin in Hope.

In 1976, he joined the Unification Church and met his beloved wife, Donna in 1979. Through church mission work Jim supported the Joshua House Children's Centre, an orphanage in Guyana. He continued to work as a carpet layer until developing kidney failure. In between dialysis treatments he delivered for Hummel's Flowers. After receiving a transplant, he spent time with his grandkids, served free coffee outside his downtown home, and travelled with Donna.

He is survived by wife of 38 years, Donna; son, Jaedon Avey (Adrian); daughter, Jaena Tranberg (David Kojin), all of Anchorage; his daughter Ursula Rochté of Costa Rica; his grandchildren, Michael, Martha, Kona, Sarah, Jeffery, Aaron, David, and Steven; his great grandson, Kai; his sister Andrea McGovern of Hawaii; nephews, Joshua, Christopher, and Nathan; his step-daughter Heather Lewis (John) of Texas; grandsons, David, Hilton, and Lyle; and his cousin Kay (Mike) of Kansas. He is preceded in death by his parents, James David, Sr. and Bettye Lou Avey (née Wentworth).

A private visitation and funeral will be held at Janssen's Evergreen on Sunday, January 10 at 10am. Please attend via ZOOM. A recording will be available through Janssen's website. Internment, larger celebration, and BBQ are planned for Summer 2021. Memorial donations can be made to the Aviaros Sloth Sanctuary (gofundme.org) or the Alaska Kidney Patients Association (alaskakidney.org).

ZOOM Meeting ID: 312 677 5852

Password: funeral