

WARREN I. COKER

April 12, 1941 - July 25, 2024

Warren Coker, a unique and special man, passed away on July 25, 2024, at the age of 83. Born on April 12, 1941, to Bill and Eithel Coker, Warren grew up in Bakersfield, California. His love for road trips and to see the amazing nature the creator has made, was inherited from his parents, who introduced him to the joy of travel from a young age.

After attending community college, Warren enlisted in the Air Force, which brought him to Adair Air Force Station in Oregon. There, he met the love of his life, Margery Harman. Warren often visited her parents' farm, helping with various tasks, including cleaning up and re-roofing the barn after the storm in October 1962. Despite trying his hand at strawberry picking, he soon realized it wasn't for him.

Warren and Margery married in May 1966, and he whisked her off to a station in Washington, D.C. The following years were filled with new experiences, including the birth of their three sons and active-duty assignments in Vietnam, California, Hawaii, Florida, and Colorado. After retiring from the Air Force, Warren and Margery moved back to Oregon.

Back in Oregon, Warren became deeply involved with Cub Scout Troop 331 and Boy Scout Troop 322, eventually becoming a Scoutmaster. His dedication to the Scouts, along with the help of many Assistant Scoutmasters and other leaders, helped many develop skills and fostering confidence and personal advancement along the scouting trail. His encouragement developed many Eagle Scouts, including his three sons, Michael, Matt, and Mark Coker. Warren served as Scoutmaster for ten years, making a lasting impact on the community.

Warren found joy in many hobbies, including genealogy, photography, trains, and Lego. In March 2011, he retired a little early from his over 20-year career as a bus driver for the Corvallis and Albany school districts to pursue his love for wildflowers, driving to Death Valley with Margery to witness a noteworthy bloom, marking the start of their wildflower adventures.

In 1995, Warren and Margery joined The Albany Vineyard, later known as Jesus Pursuit, where they were blessed to find a supportive community. Warren led a prayer meeting for several years, focusing on Israel, First Nations, and the concerns of their hearts. They later joined a small home group, further enriching their spiritual journey.

Warren is survived by his beloved wife Margery Coker, his sons Michael, Mark (Tonya), Matthew, and his cherished grandchildren Gillian, Ariel, and Harrison. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Eithel (Spurgeon) Coker, his brother Charles Coker (Doris), and his sister Nadine Weis (Klaas).

The funeral service will be held on August 12 at 11 a.m., with the committal at 1 p.m., at Palestine Cemetery. In honor of Warren's vibrant spirit, attendees are invited to wear Hawaiian shirts. Donations are encouraged to Willamette Valley Adult and Teen Challenge or Love Inc. of Linn County.

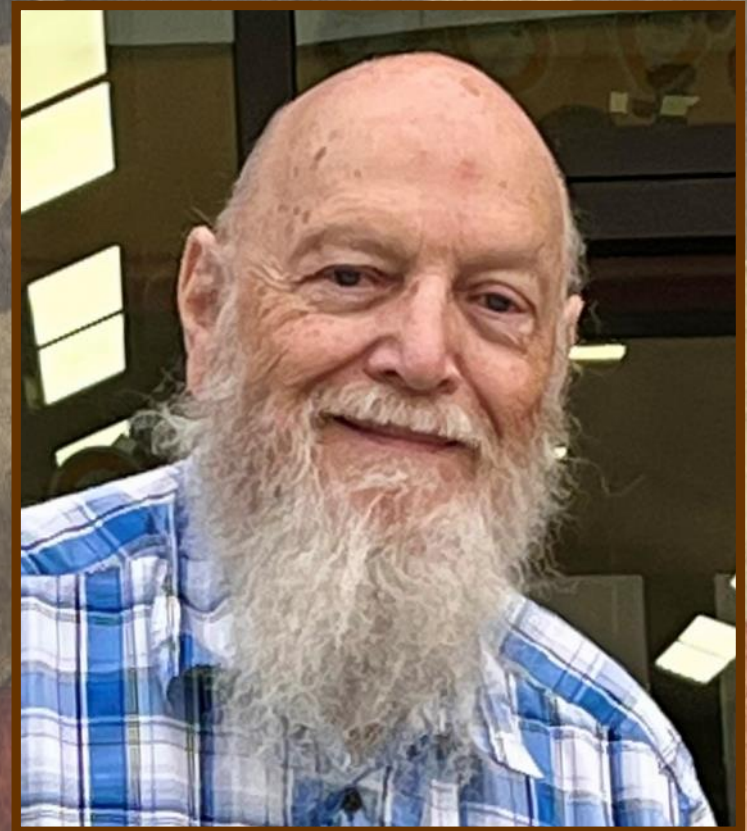
Warren will be remembered as a devoted husband, proud father, and doting grandfather whose legacy of love, service, and adventure will continue to inspire those who knew him.

Psalm 118-24:

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.



HONORING



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THE DASH

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on the tombstone
From the beginning to the end.

He noted first came the date of the birth
And spoke the following date with tears.
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between the years.

For that dash represents all the time
That they spent life on Earth.
And now only those who loved them
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not how much we own,
The cars, the house, the cash.
What matters is how we live and love,
And how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.

Be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more,
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
And more often wear a smile,
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read
With your life's actions to rehash,
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent your dash?

In Honored Memory of

WARREN I. COKER

Funeral Service

Monday, April 12, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
AAsum-Dufour Funeral Home, Albany, Oregon

Welcome & Remarks Bob & Cathy Williams

Opening Prayer Bob & Cathy Williams

Reading of Tribute Michael Coker

Open Sharing

Special Song Scott Nelson & Skye Olsen
"How Great Thou Art"
"Everything Cries Holy"

Closing Prayer Bob & Cathy Williams

Active Casket Bearers
McChord Field Honor Guard

Honorary Casket Bearers
Michael Coker ~ Matthew Coker ~ Harrison Coker
Dan Kraemer ~ Paul Austin ~ Greg Austin

Military Honors
McChord Field Honor Guard
Supported by American Legion of Albany

Committal Service
Monday, April 12, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.
Palestine Cemetery, Albany, Oregon