James M. Wheeler

Moxon OF SERVICE James M. Wheeler

Naples, FL

James M. Wheeler was born August 11, 1942 in Hazard, Kentucky to the late Maurice and Helen Wheeler. He passed away peacefully with loved ones at his side after a sudden stroke in Naples, Florida February 11, 2016.

Jim grew up in Lexington, Kentucky with his sisters Jayne and Susan, playing baseball, basketball and developing a lifelong passion for fishing. Following high school Jim served in the US Army and attended the University of Kentucky, where he met the love of his life, Patricia Small. They were married soon after graduation and headed to the University of Minnesota where he earned a PhD in Chemical Engineering. The young couple moved to Rochester, NY where Jim enjoyed a successful career at Eastman Kodak Company, raised a family, and made many dear friends over the next 30 years.

Since moving to Naples 15 years ago, Jim and Pat have flourished in the Florida sun. He turned his love for fishing into a successful charter business while teaching children and adults a variety of subjects at local schools, from prekindergarten to college. In 2009 he co-founded Argotrak with his son, Jim, and helped build it into a thriving business. At the same time he has been the outreach director at Trinity by the Cove and organized countless charitable missions to support the local community.

First and foremost Jim was a loving husband, father and grandfather. Through his generosity, compassion, love, and amazing zest for life, he showed all of us how to live and how to serve others. He is survived by his best friend and devoted wife of 51 years, Patricia; 2 sons, Jim (Chris) and Coby (Sara); 5 grandchildren, Mike (Tiffany), Megan (Staton), Ben, Flora, and Neve; and his sister Jayne (Lionel).

A memorial service will be held at 11 AM on Tuesday, February 16 at Trinity by the Cove Episcopal Church.

Please feel free to make a donation in his memory to or to Trinity by the Cove Episcopal Church at www.trinitybythecove.com.

Published in Naples Daily News on Feb. 13, 2016