

Jerry Klein

1939 - 2023

Jerry was born at home on Queen Anne in Seattle, WA to Rush & Ruth Klein, March 28th, 1939, in the home his grandfather had built. At age 12, Jerry built his first dark room in the attic of their home and bought the best camera on the market. This began his life-long passion for capturing God's beauty, first on film and later digitally, resulting in a collection of a million plus photos. Jerry's photos have graced the walls of many businesses, art collectors and homes of family and friends. He never met a flower, night skies, or mountain scenes that weren't camera-worthy in his eyes.

Jerry graduated from Queen Anne High in '56, Seattle Pacific University in '60, and Yale in '65 with a PhD in Chemistry. By age 26, he was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wyoming. At 30, he joined the Kodak Research Labs in Rochester, NY, where he had a very fulfilling and rewarding career with many people he loved and respected. He and his childhood sweetheart wife, Anne, raised three sons in their home in Pittsford, NY. Through these years, Jerry became deeply engaged in Rhododendron hybridizing, wine collecting and tasting with his friends, and winter mountaineering in the Adirondack mountains with the Rochester Winter Mountaineering Society, also known as RWMS. He and fellow climbers shared endless wonderful experiences and winter fun, all the way to camping in minus 25 degrees.

An "extremely good scientist" and having a "penchant to look around corners and see what others don't" was a description offered by a fellow scientist who had the pleasure of working for him. From 1982 - 1995, Jerry was named on nine patents concerning different aspects of photographic methods contributing to making film.

After the sad loss of his wife, Ann, in 1988, Jerry married Cindy Pernsteiner from Mt. Hood, OR. They married at the 7000' level of Mt. Hood, in a snowstorm, with 40 friends present. Five years later, with an early retirement offer from Kodak, Jerry and Cindy moved back to his home turf just outside of Seattle. For the next 30 years, they continued doing all that he and she loved: mountains, photography, hiking, gardening, their church, and reuniting with childhood friends. Jerry was abundantly blessed with an amazing life, as he acknowledged. With the same positive attitude and grace, he lived life, he met his health challenges. Jerry's joy was complete in returning to the Lord from his home, in the arms of his wife, in comfort and peace, knowing where he was going. As he would often say, especially the last years of his life, "To God be the Glory!"