Jay Forest Anderson(1951 - 2015)



JAY FORREST ANDERSON 4/21/1951 - 11/6/2015 Jay Forrest Anderson lost his fearless battle with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia on Friday, November 6th, 2015 at home surrounded by his family and friends. He was born April 21st, 1951 in Montebello, California to Alvin and Arleen Anderson. He was the oldest of three siblings. The family including Jay and his two younger brothers, Wayne and Gard moved from Southern California to Northern California in 1963. He graduated from Chico Senior High in 1969. He was a standout athlete in football, basketball, and baseball. At the end of his senior year, he was selected by the Balitmore Orioles, in the amateur baseball draft. He elected to stay in school, and attended Butte College where he excelled in football and baseball. After Butte College, he accepted a

football scholarship to San Diego State University. While at San Diego State, he continued to excel as a 2 sport division 1 athlete. He was later inducted into the Butte College and Chico Athletic Hall of fames. In 1972 he married his high school sweetheart, Karen Richmond. He graduated in 1973 with a BS in Business Administration and started his career in San Diego. Jay and Karen started their family in 1976 with their first son, Aaron, followed by Travis. The family moved back to Chico in 1983 and later welcomed their daughter Megan. While in Chico, Jay completed his teaching credentials and subsequently taught at Marigold Elementary School for nearly 20 years. He also coached in various programs around the community including Chico State, Westside Little League, Chico High School, Chico Pony League, and Chico American Legion. In his busy 64 years, Jay was a precious son, competitive brother, caring husband, loving father, playful grandfather, inspirational coach, and extraordinary teacher to hundreds of children in the community who were lucky enough to have Mr. A. To those who knew Jay, it was obvious that there was nothing he couldn't accomplish. From building his own house, planting his own orchard, fixing cars, catching fish, and raising kids. He did it all!! And while doing everything, he always managed to take time to help anyone that asked. Jay had a giant heart and the innate ability to touch the lives of those he crossed paths with. To his own family, he embodied the term, "Dad." He was fun, loving, educational, strict, and accepted no excuses for subpar effort. Sadly, he lost Karen in 2008 from breast cancer. After her passing, he never really settled back into life. He continued to support his children, and loved the role of PaPa for his grandchildren. After getting diagnosed with ALL, he fought an incredible battle. He underwent a bone marrow transplant in 2011 and spent over 7 months at Stanford Hospital. The entire time, he was resilient and steadfast in his will to survive. It was an epic battle. Though modern medicine gave him an additional 5 years, it ultimately, let him down and could offer no further treatment options. He had handled and conquered every known treatment available. Jay is survived by his 2 parents Alvin and Arleen, his 2 brothers Wayne and Gard, 3 children, Aaron, Travis (Jenni), and Megan (Josh). His 4 grandchildren, Mason, Reese, Camryn, and Hailey. He will remain in hearts forever. A graveside service will take place at Glenn Oaks Memorial Park on Saturday, Nov 14th at 10:00, followed by a celebration of life service at 12 p.m. at the Bidwell Presbyterian Church. You may share your thoughts and memories of Jay online at newtonbracewell.com.

Funeral Home Newton-Bracewell 680 Camellia Way Chico, CA 95926 (530) 342-9003

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