



Niels Ancher Hoy January, 28, 1947 - July 5, 2017

A remarkable man has lived life most fully and, as husband, father, and Friend, left the world a better place behind him upon his peaceful passing. Niels Hoy started his journey as a clever and somewhat mischievous boy in the fjord-lined town of Kolding, Denmark. After serving in the Danish Navy, he apprenticed as a shipping broker elsewhere in Denmark as well as London.

To sharpen his English language skills and seek out a bit of adventure before returning to his native land, he set off for a year in San Francisco; a year that turned into 47! Arriving in the Bay Area in the dynamic year of 1970 with merely a suitcase in hand, a lovely young lady at Overseas Shipping, the company Niels worked for until his retirement 39 years later, caught his attention.

He and Sheryl married in spontaneous and romantic fashion in 1972. The years that followed were spent enjoying his marriage, establishing his career, and reveling in the natural beauty of Marin County, where he and Sheryl resided happily and permanently thereafter. A daughter, Jessica, was added into the fun.

From here, Niels became the epitome of the American dream, transforming that one suitcase into a contented and successful life as a shrewd "shipping tycoon," loyal friend, devoted husband, and loving father and grandfather. Furthermore, it would be an understatement to describe Niels as the life of any party he attended; he had a gift for making merriment of extremes, as well as for making any person in sight feel comfortable, important, and celebrated.

He served as faithful member of the Richardson Bay Yacht Club, the Clampers organization, Danish Soldiers Club, and the Danish Club. Niels leaves behind many beloved family members in Denmark, wife Sheryl, daughter Jessica, son-in-law Karsten and 3 grandsons, Aksel, Erik, and Kristian. One of Niels' ardent beliefs was that "Mother Nature always wins." It was this force that reclaimed his body after 70 wonderful years on Earth, yet which also gave the gift of allowing those who knew and loved him to bask in his humor, warmth, and all-around goodness while he was here.

An informal celebration of Niels' life will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 2 PM to 5 PM at the Marinwood Community Center, located at 775 Miller Creek Road, San Rafael. No flowers, but kindly consider a donation in his memory to an animal rescue organization, as he had a tremendously large place in his sweet heart for our furry friends.

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