

Our family remembers how fortunate we were to have Ralph E. Gaeke as a husband, brother and uncle. We are grief stricken that we lost him all too soon on May 6, 2025, as a result of heart failure.

Ralph was born in Cleveland, Ohio, to Ruth and Edward Gaeke. Ralph's family moved many times, with the majority of his school years being spent in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He graduated from Centerville High School in Centerville, Ohio in 1971. Ralph attended Ohio University in Athens where he participated in the ROTC program and graduated from the College of Engineering and Technology.

He served in the United States Army from 1972 to 1992 reaching the rank of Major. His primary combat experience was in Desert Storm for which he earned a Bronze Star. Shortly after combat operations ended, he retired with 20 years of service and settled in Colorado where he married Janet Romero.

He enjoyed skiing with friends, traveling especially to Hawaii, and being active as a member of the First Presbyterian Church. He did many mission projects organized by the church that included work in Mexico, New Orleans, and Mississippi. He also joined in on projects sponsored by the Emergency and Disaster Relief World Wide Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. He was currently volunteering at Get Set.

Ralph is survived by his loving wife, Janet; his sister, June; his nephew, Adam Jacobson; his niece Adrienne Jacobson (Adam Marblestone) and his grandniece Josephine.

Ralph was known for his ability to fix and construct just about anything which he generously shared with family, friends, and anyone who needed help. He was gifted in analyzing the problem and finding the best solution.

Please remember Ralph by doing a good deed for another. Donations in Ralph's name can be made to First Presbyterian Church: Get Set.