

Patrick Cunningham – BS 1974 Pharmacy

Resident of Meridian, ID

Patrick W. Cunningham, 73, passed away Saturday, July 10, 2021, in a Nampa, Idaho hospital. Patrick died peacefully with his beloved wife Vangie and his son by his side. A celebration of life for Patrick will be held 12 p.m. Friday, July 30 at the Bismarck Funeral Home. Burial will be at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan.

Patrick was born in Washburn on March 30, 1948, to Philip and Juleen (Hanson) Cunningham. The second oldest of four sons, a native North Dakotan, raised in Steele, later moving to Bismarck and in 1964 graduating from St. Mary's High School "Class of 1966." Although Patrick did not graduate from Steele High School, he had many fond memories of the great little town to have spent his growing up years in. After high school, Patrick served two years in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in the European Theatre of Operations, officially discharged June 2, 1972. During his time in the Army led to his decision to become a pharmacist. After returning from the Army, Patrick enrolled at Bismarck Junior College; later transferring to North Dakota State University, School of Pharmacy where he received his degree in 1974.

Upon graduation Patrick was offered a managerial position with Dilworth Drug, Dilworth, Minnesota. In 1978, Patrick purchased McClusky Drug in McClusky - he later sold in 1985. In 1984 Patrick was a candidate for the ND state legislature from District 31; he had also served on the North Dakota Easter Seal board, was appointed to the Governor's Committee of the handicapped, and was president of the McClusky Park Board.

In 1986 Patrick embarked on a new adventure moving to Ketchikan, Alaska to work for Race Ave Drug until 1991 where he moved to Washington state and managed Holland Drug in "Beautiful downtown Sedro-Woolley" as he would often exclaim. After a long successful career, Patrick retired and relocated to Meridian, Idaho to be close to his grandchildren who he cherished dearly.

The loss of Patrick will be felt by many but hope that the strength, courage, and positivity through adversity he had shown throughout his life will be used as a guide for all to follow.

He is survived by his wife Vangie (Graff) Cunningham; son, Thad and wife Sarah (Anderson) Cunningham; grandchildren, Leah, Gabriel "Gabe" and Alexander "Zander"; brothers, Michael (Dorothy), Mark (Debbie), and Steven (Deanne) as well as many extended family and friends.

Patrick was preceded in death by his parents, Phil and Juleen.