



James Perrian Hannah

September 3, 1946 - November 10, 2016

A kind, gentle and intelligent man died last week. J. Perry Hannah, 70, died on November 10, 2016, at his home in East Wenatchee, WA, with loved ones and friends caring for him. Perry had a strong faith in God, studying and then teaching scripture lessons for most of his life. He looked for and found some good in everyone he met. Many who knew him called him a peacemaker, and he was. His integrity and character were such good examples that his influence in many lives will continue.

Perry was born in Texas, but grew up in the Northwest, when his Baptist minister father moved the family to Bremerton, WA. After graduating from Olympic Community College in electronics, he attended the University of Washington. While a student at the university, he spent a year working in Antarctica conducting a National Science Foundation research project sponsored by the university. Geographic features are officially named to recognize researchers who spend a year working in Antarctica. Hannah Island was named for Perry, following his work there in 1968.

Perry met Eunice Thomas while they were both students at the University and they were married in 1970. After moving to the Wenatchee Valley, Perry owned his own business, Music Electronics, for several years before deciding to further his education. He graduated from WSU with a computer science degree and was actively recruited by Microsoft. His maturity and calm logic were valued as he worked with younger team members from diverse backgrounds and participated in a number of product releases. Following his retirement from Microsoft, he discovered mountain biking and it became a passion for him. The beauty of nature and the exhilaration of riding gave him such joy. When he had opportunities to travel, his mountain bike went with him. He enjoyed rides in Hawaii, England, the Great Smoky Mountains, Missouri, Montana, and Utah, as well as various areas in Washington. Despite hip and back problems that disabled him sometimes for years with little relief, he remained optimistic and uncomplaining. Four years ago, he was able to return to mountain biking and he enjoyed two years of exploring mountain trails in the valley before cancer stole his strength.

Perry enjoyed collecting and meticulously restoring antique radios and he became quite an expert. Always curious and eager to learn more, he continued studying and reading literature on his Kindle until his last days. He loved all animals and bonded with several cats who came into his life and heart. Perry was a quietly modest man who was loved, respected and admired by his family and his many friends. He will be greatly missed and never forgotten.

In the spring, when the wildflowers that he enjoyed so much are in bloom, those who loved him will gratefully celebrate his life. Arrangements are assisted by Telford's Chapel of the Valley, East Wenatchee, WA.