



Mark Daniel Dickinson

October 30, 1946 - September 21, 2013

Mark Daniel Dickinson, (66), of Albuquerque, died on Saturday, September 21, 2013, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Surrounded by his family, he died peacefully at home. Born October 30, 1946, in Spokane, Washington, Mark was the son of Ralph and Alice Dickinson. He was a graduate of Gonzaga Preparatory High School in Spokane, WA; Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman, WA; Troy State University at Ramstein Air Base, Germany; and a US Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam. In 1970, he received a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from WSU; in 1972, he received a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from WSU; and a Master's Degree in Business Management from Troy State University in 1981. While serving in the USAF, he was a Project Engineer, an Air Staff Training Officer, a NW Compatibility Engineer, and a Staff Officer to the US Dept. of Energy. During his military career, he was stationed in Washington DC, was an advisor to NATO, and deployed to Vietnam. After serving in the USAF, Mark worked as a Senior Electrical Engineer at Analytic Services Inc. in Arlington, VA. In 1986, he began a career at Sandia National Laboratories which he continued until his passing. While at Sandia, Mark worked in staff and management positions in several departments including Nuclear Emergency Response; Systems Integration Technical Support; NWC Requirements Integration and Management Standards; Design Quality; Stockpile Management Planning and Operations; Military Liaison; Special Command and Control; Laboratory Program Development; and Advanced

Weapon Development. He made important and enduring contributions to signal intelligence, counter intelligence, nuclear weapon command and control, emergency response, and nuclear weapon research and development.

Mark was known to his colleagues, friends, and relatives as a compassionate, caring gentleman who always had a smile on his face. Sharing his enthusiasm and zest for life, he never hesitated to put others' needs and feelings above his own. He was a devoted and loving husband and father. He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him. Survivors include his wife, Patty; two daughters, Megan Raedel and husband Michael of Vancouver, Washington, and Chelsea Dickinson of Albuquerque; 2 brothers, David Dickinson of Waimea, Hawaii, and Matthew Dickinson of Kirkland, Washington; and 1 sister, Carollee Kraut, of Camas, Washington; and many extended family members.

Mark lived and loved out loud. He ALWAYS put family first. He LOVED being a dad. He chose to see the good in people. He never met a stranger (when his daughters were younger, they often asked him "dad, do you know everybody?"). He had an awesome sense of humor and loved pulling pranks on people. Laughter was a part of every day for him. Mark was always willing to help – with friends and neighbors, he was the "go to" guy. He loved all things technical and IT related (especially his Apple Iphone and Ipad), always up on the latest, and loved to talk about it with anyone who would listen! He was a voracious reader, making sure he had another book at the ready when finishing one. Mark loved the water, growing up water skiing, boating, and fishing. He got hooked on hot air ballooning and made sure his calendar was clear for that all important first week of October when the Albuquerque International Hot Air Balloon Festival rolled around, making sure his crazy balloon hat was ready to go. Mark loved doing projects around the house and enjoyed taking care of his beautiful backyard. Other things that remind us of Mark are Starbucks, Costco polish sausages, the Rolling Stones, and, of course, that yellow Corvette.

Of all his accomplishments, the one most important to Mark was his care of and unconditional love for Patty, Megan, and Chelsea. It was what he truly excelled at. How blessed we are. Incredible love, incredible man.

“Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” Psalm 23:6

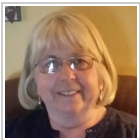
Memorial contributions towards pancreatic cancer research may be made to: www.lustgarten.org/welovemarkdickinson. A gathering in Mark’s honor will be held on Friday, October 18, 2013.

Tribute Wall

LG

“Mark was such a wonderful man. He had such a great heart. Working with him in the wee hours of the morning was such a blessing. He always knew when to tell us one of his wonderful vacations or something exciting about his family. He will be greatly missed. God bless you Mark. -Liz Gallegos

Liz Gallegos - October 08, 2013 at 06:20 PM



“Mark was one of the kindest men I've known and he will be sorely missed. He was such an asset to the ARG Home Team. I had the opportunity to work the ARG Home Team with Mark many times. Evenings were the most fun, as he always had stories to tell—mostly about his lovely daughters or some adventure he had been on. I feel honored to have had the opportunity to know such a wonderful man. I pray that the Lord will give the family comfort during this time of loss and always be thankful that you had him in your life.

Cheryl Huppertz - October 01, 2013 at 12:06 PM

HB

“I only worked with Mark for a short time at Sandia, and I liked him instantly! Reading the many messages here makes me wish I had gotten the opportunity to really get to know him. He definitely is missed. My condolences and prayers to you during this difficult time.

Helen A. Bailey - October 01, 2013 at 11:31 AM

GN

“ I led the group from Savannah River that worked with Mark for 20 years and I thank God for our time together. He had the ability to take a difficult task and lead us on a path to success while making sure the environment fostered cooperation and friendship rather than confrontation. Thanks to Mark, there are many people across the nation that I consider friends, and that includes Mark. I will miss him.

Geoff Netzley - October 01, 2013 at 04:10 AM

PM

“ I met Mark while working at SNL and I no of no one who enjoyed life more than he did. No one who ever walked in his office could help but know that he loved his family very much and I like to picture him sitting on a cloud watching of his ladies. He was a kind, gentle man who will be sorely missed.

Pat McCutcheon - October 01, 2013 at 12:09 AM

BO

“ I am convinced there are tons of people whose lives Mark touched in such a positive way. I know we are all better for having known Mark. The world has lost another great one, and there are so few to begin with. Mark will live on in our memories and inspire us to be better.

Bev Ortiz - September 30, 2013 at 02:42 PM

LI

“ Mark was a joy to work with and took such great pride sharing stories about his wife and girls. Everything in his obituary are what I remember of him and was saddened to hear of his illness and passing. Linda R.

Linda - September 30, 2013 at 12:51 PM

PS

“ Mark was one of those people that you meet in life that leaves a lasting impression of what is good and right about humanity. He was an example to all of what a kind word and thoughtful deed can do to change any situation. Looking at his picture on this page I know that he may be gone from this physical plane but his legacy lives on.
Patti Sanchez

Patti Sanchez - September 30, 2013 at 12:15 PM

BS

“ Although I only knew Mark professionally, he was one of the kindest, most sincere people I've ever worked with. He was always laughing and joking about his iPhone or iPad...In fact I can't remember a time that Mark wasn't smiling. I will truly miss his presence out here as I know many others will. Rest in peace my friend.

My condolences to his family and loved ones.

Brandon Showers - September 30, 2013 at 12:15 PM



“ Clear Memory Frame was purchased for the family of Mark Daniel Dickinson.



September 30, 2013 at 12:14 PM

AS

“ Mark was a very strong man. One day the pain in his head was so excruciating that he though about giving up. But he decided to keep on fighting. His strenght is an inspiration. So are his kindness and joy. Rest in peace, Mark. Your inspiration lives on.

Anton Sumali - September 30, 2013 at 10:34 AM

SR

“ Everything I have read here and in Mark's obituary is absolutely true. Mark was my colleague at Sandia, but in knowing Mark at work, his love for life and his family is just as I imagined it would be. Mark was truly a kindred spirit and the world is certainly a better place because of Mark. He always took the time to share a story and took a geniune interest in the work that my department and staff were engaged in. He will be sorely missed by all of his colleagues at Sandia, and his loving family. My deepest condolences to his family.

Scott Rogers - September 30, 2013 at 10:02 AM

AN

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Mark's illness and of his passing. I met Mark early in my career at Sandia and found him to be all that the obit described and more. He was always helpful and had great insights into the larger picture. Whenever we would meet, he would have a smile and a great story to tell. I hope the memories of his caring, humor, smile, and goodness will sustain you.

Anna Nusbaum - September 29, 2013 at 07:34 PM

CK

“ Mark will always be in my heart. He was the best big Brother -- he always looked out for us. Such a sweet gentle, kind and positive man. My Love, Carollee

Carollee Kraut - September 29, 2013 at 01:35 PM

CK

“ 18 files added to the album *Early Years of Mark*



Carollee Kraut - September 29, 2013 at 01:33 PM

KA

“ *I know I am just one of many who extend condolences and share in the sorrow of Mark's passing. May you all find comfort in knowing Mark left a lasting impression on everyone he met and are better for having crossed paths with him. My prayers are with you.*

Karen Armstrong - September 29, 2013 at 09:34 AM

MS

“ *My heart goes out to all of you especially my Megan. May you find peace in this time of sorrow. You are blessed with all the wonderful memories my friend. Stay strong and know there is another angel watching over you.....Marianne*

Marianne Sena - September 28, 2013 at 09:33 AM

CH

“ 9 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Chelsea - September 28, 2013 at 12:41 AM

CH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Chelsea - September 28, 2013 at 12:29 AM

MR

“ 17 files added to the tribute wall



Megan Raedel - September 27, 2013 at 10:32 PM

MR

I love and miss you so much my sweet daddy! You were always my hero and the man that taught me to appreciate the small things and our family. I will always carry you with me and always love you.

Megan Raedel - September 27, 2013 at 10:34 PM

BJ

“ *To the family, we send our love & support. To Mark, we will celebrate your life & always remember what an amazing person you were.*

Brittany & Joseph - September 27, 2013 at 10:26 PM

CH

“ *20 files added to the album New Album Name*



Chelsea - September 27, 2013 at 09:26 PM

LT

I am so thankful that your mom and dad found each other. I have never seen your mom happier than when she met your dad. And when you and your sister came along, her life was complete! Life has many twist and turns, and many questions that will never be answered...but know that you were very lucky little girls to have had such a wonderful father, not that I have to remind you of that, and you will be united with your dad again. Hopefully knowing that... will help you girls and your mom in some way get through this. We love you! Aunt Linda, Uncle Wayne, Jimmy and Junie.

Linda Taylor - September 28, 2013 at 06:35 PM

“ Precious Daddy-

I love you so very much. You truly were the best daddy out there, never did you miss anything in my life, never did you judge me for anything I did, ALWAYS did you love me so very much. Your love was so powerful, your smile so wonderful, and your laugh so funny and yet so comforting. Ill always remember the times you held me in your arms and told me everything would be ok. You always made all of my problems seem so small. You never left my side during all the rough times I put you through. You taught me the best of the best about life dad. Every friend always wanted you to be their daddy, but how lucky are megan and I to have such an incredible man as our father. God blessed us with you daddy. You are our angle now flying high looking over your three girls. I will always make you proud, I will never give up. You always taught me to never give up and fight for what I want. I finally see myself through your eyes daddy. I was so lucky to have such a strong and unbreakable love from you. You made me so happy, always wiped my tears, always knew how to make me laugh, and always just knew when I needed you the most. I miss everything about you, but you will never be forgotten daddy, forever you will be in my heart. Every beat of my heart and every breath I take I feel you, you will always be with your three girls, your treasures. Love you so much daddy I will never let you down. Thank you so much for a lifetime full of love, laughter and happiness. Love you my hero, Love you Po :), Love you Daddy, Love you Gas man :), love you silly balloon hat daddy, Love you DeDe, Love you with all my heart Dad.

Forever with you.

"The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord FOREVER."

Love you my PERFECT Daddy :)

Chelsea - September 27, 2013 at 09:07 PM

CH

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Chelsea - September 27, 2013 at 08:48 PM

JC

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Joel Chavez - September 27, 2013 at 12:56 PM