

Roark Schwanenberg



Roark David Schwanenberg came by flying honestly. He shared the passion of flying with his father. Roark was born in Long Beach, California on January 19th, 1954 to Don and Joyce Schwanenberg. He spent his later childhood years in Klamath Falls, Oregon where he graduated from high school.

From 1974 to 1978, Roark served his country in the U.S. Army. During that time, he completed flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. He loved flying helicopters and had over 40,000 hours logged. He was certified in at least six helicopters.

Roark was preceded in death by his mother, Joyce and his brother, Jon. He is survived by his wife, Christine; daughter Margo Schwanenberg; son Chris Tsiatsos; and daughter and husband Deena and Darron Hahn, with a baby on the way. He was also survived by father, Don and wife LaVerne Schwanenberg; and brother Kip; and loving in-laws, Kenneth and Irene Barklow.

He found refuge with his family in the Wallowa Mountains embracing its quiet beauty and solitude.

A veteran firefighting helicopter and heavy lift pilot, Roark Schwanenberg died the way he would have wanted to enter heaven.