



Allen (Crabber) Peter Crabb

February 25, 2022

Allen Peter Crabb Jr., “Crabber”, age 78, of Fort Collins Colorado passed away Friday, February 25, 2022.

Peter was born October 30, 1943, in Johnstown, Pennsylvania to Allen Peter Crabb and Eliza Marie Waters.

Peter’s Father, “Pete”, was Born in Canada, and moved to the United States when he was 4 years old.

After graduating from Akron University Pete married Eliza. He worked for the Goodyear Corporation. Prevented from entering the U.S. forces, Pete enlisted with the Canadian Military, and was one of 300 specially picked Airborne Infantry soldiers to assist the British Airborne Infantry in the assault across the channel proceeding D-Day. The small group was selected due to their “invasion experience”. Lieutenant Pete was the first known casualty of D-Day as the result of an exchange of cannon fire and bombings that preceded the invasion, by a few hours on June 6, 1944.

Peter was 7 months old when his father was killed. Eliza later remarried a service man which led the family to Fort Benning in Georgia. He attended Fort Benning Children's School Junior High where he played baseball and football. As a freshman, Peter attended Columbus High School in Columbus, Georgia.

He moved back to his hometown of Johnstown and graduated from Westmont Hilltop Senior High School. Peter played baseball and was an all-state running back for the Westmont Hilltop Phoenicians football team.

After graduating from high school, Peter moved with Eliza and his stepfather to Colorado Springs, Colorado. Peter attended Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado for a short time before transferring to Colorado State University. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega in 1963 and 1964.

Peter married twice but had no children. Both marriages ended in divorce.

In the early 60's Peter tended bar at Joesepes, a pizza restaurant and bar, located in Colorado Springs and then again when the restaurant expanded to Fort Collins. While he was attending college he also worked at the Stag Shop and Briar Limited, as well as other high end men's clothing stores in Fort Collins. Peter modeled for local businesses, and his image was seen in the local newspaper, the Coloradoan, and the campus newspaper the Collegian. Peter acquired his real estate license, working for Realty Executives, F&M Realty, and other firms, while he tended bar for nearly 50 years. The majority of those years he worked at the Charco Broiler in Fort Collins and the Black Steer in Loveland. It was at the Charco Broiler where Pete interacted regularly with friends and acquaintances. He was a fixture there for decades. In his last few years Peter worked private parties, putting his bartending skills to work.

One of Peter's greatest accomplishments was his triumph over alcoholism. He confronted his problem in the late 70's and remained sober for decades in a job centered around alcohol. This is a testament to his strength and perseverance.

Peter loved river rafting and spent many seasons as a white-water raft guide. He was also an avid dog trainer and competed in, and judged field trials. He

took great pride in his dogs' successes in field trials, especially when Peter showed up in his old Volvo wagon and competed against some of the best trainers in the business. Peter was never without a Labrador retriever.

Peter's children were his dogs, Wally, Duffy, and Murphy to name a few. Waterfowl and upland bird hunting were some of his passions as well. In the 80's he spent time as a volunteer and organizer for Colorado Ducks Unlimited Fort Collins. His interest in hunting extended to the children of some of his closest friends passing on his knowledge and advice. Peter was great with kids and was a father figure to many of them whom he spent time with.

Peter is preceded in death by his parents, Allen Peter Crabb and Eliza Marie Waters.

Peter is survived by his many friends whom he impacted in so many ways, evidenced by the 1000+ plus contacts in his phone.

A celebration of Peter's life will be held in the North Forty of the Charco Broiler, 1716 E Mulberry Street, Fort Collins, April 30, 2022 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **30**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (MT)

Charco Broiler
1716 E Mulberry St.
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall



“ *Allen (Crabber) Peter Crabb*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Always a friend to us. My husband Nick thought so much of Peter and valued their friendship. God Speed Peter.*

Linda LoRusso and family xoxo

Linda McConnellogue-LoRusso - April 17, 2022 at 12:05 PM

AC

“ Still have vivid memories how Crabber held Court around the big round oak table at Briar Ltd., corner of College and Laurel, where we would gather in between CSU classes. It was always like a little town hall.

Okay, it just needs to be admitted that we always called Crabber the best BSer ever.

That described his ability to entertain when tending bar, his way of always having the best stories when getting together with his friends, his artful embellishment of plain facts to amuse his audience, etc. And he was great at it!

In the last messages I exchanged with him in November last year, I had told him how he was still good at BS and his response was "Ah Shit - busted again!"

I'm so sorry though that with all the kidding in our messages back and forth at that time, I didn't tune in to the real meaning of his last paragraph:

"This is not a dress rehearsal - and when the curtain closes - it's over. There ain't no curtain call. It's toast time!"

He knew...

Thanks for all the great memories Pete.

Annemarie Chenoweth

Annemarie Chenoweth - April 15, 2022 at 09:32 PM

KH

I saw him just before he passed riding his bike almost didn't recognize him. Pete always held court at the Broiler where he worked. Always had some very shocking words for people sitting across from him

Kenny Hines - April 16, 2022 at 05:02 PM

AH

A great Bar Tender, Co-Worker, Friend, And person. Always fun to be around. Fly high with the Angels.

Arlys Hardy - April 18, 2022 at 10:23 AM

BJ

Pete had this wonderful gift for making both the Broiler and Steer fun places to work for me and many of my teammates. I was shocked and saddened at first to hear of his passing but now I find myself smiling, snickering and even laughing out loud thinking about some of his comments and antics. He set a great example of how to work hard and well and have a lot of fun doing it. Pete will remain the author of many of the smiles I will carry with me for the rest of my days and I will always be grateful for the many, many shifts I worked with him.

Bradley Johnson - April 20, 2022 at 11:56 AM