



ROBERT JOHN KUHTA **NOVEMBER 29, 1939—JANUARY 12, 2024**

Bob Kuhta, 84, passed away on January 12, 2024, in Kennewick, Washington. He was born on November 28, 1939, in Iron Mountain, Michigan, lived in Salt Lake City, Utah, and then moved to Palo Alto, California when he was twelve. Bob graduated from Palo Alto High School and played two years of baseball for Menlo College, transferring to Washington State University in 1959 where he met the love of his life, Karen Jo Miller. Bob and Karen were longtime residents of Prosser, Washington, before moving to Richland, Washington in 2014.

Graduating from Washington State University in 1962 with a degree in Civil Engineering, Bob and Karen were married in Prosser in 1963 and welcomed their first child in 1964. After numerous transfers and the birth of two more sons, the couple moved from Mica Creek, British Columbia, Canada to settle down in Prosser in 1969.

Bob started his career with Guy F. Atkinson Construction before joining the Benton County Washington planning department as an Engineer/Planner. In the 1980s, he went to work on the Hanford Reservation as an Engineering Manager at N-Reactor and K-East/K-West. In retirement Bob certified as an agent for Medicare insurance policies, helping numerous friends and neighbors navigate their choices for over a decade.

In addition to his love for Karen, Bob's second great passion was Babe Ruth Baseball. He was a volunteer coach and umpire, and served as League President, District, State and Assistant Regional commissioner for Babe Ruth League for over 30 years.

In recognition for his years of dedicated service to Babe Ruth League, Bob was inducted into the South Washington Babe Ruth League Hall of Fame in 2000, and the Pacific Northwest Babe Ruth League Roll of Honor in 2012.

Bob was also active in his community throughout his life, as a Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 643, a volunteer for the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Building Committee, and a keen supporter of cross country, wrestling, basketball, and other youth activities.

In later years Bob was a long-suffering Mariners fan, he loved camping and fishing with his family, travelling with Karen, playing craps and blackjack, following Gonzaga basketball, and reading John Grisham novels.

Bob is survived by his brother Richard (Candace) Kuhta of Toano, Virginia, and his sons Brian (Patty) Kuhta of Camas, Washington, Scott (Kjersten) Kuhta of Spokane, Washington, and Rob (Laura) Kuhta of Denver, Colorado. He is also survived by eight beloved grandchildren: Sonja, Eric, Kelsey, Daniel, Colin, Noah, Nathan, and Connor. He was preceded in death by his wife Karen Jo Kuhta (Miller), Father John C. Kuhta, Mother Dorothy Kuhta (Madjeski), and brother Ken (Denise) Kuhta.

