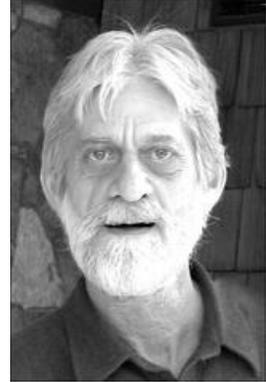


Dennis Edward Arft



January 15, 1948 - February 24, 2014

JOPLIN, Mo. - Dennis Edward Arft was born in Springfield, Mo., on Jan. 15, 1948, to Ruby Rudene and Edward Arft. He passed away from rapid complications associated with lung cancer on Feb. 24, 2014, at Mercy Hospital in Joplin, Mo.

He graduated from Joplin High School in 1966, and served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1973, honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant having received a Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal and serving as a member of the rifle team as an M-14 Marksman. Dennis was a talented machinist both for Evan Scheussler and Tubular Metals, and later at Schaeffler Technologies' FAG Bearing in Joplin. He also worked in Research and Development at Leggett & Platt, where he developed several patents as a project designer. Dennis loved to go fishing and camping, usually far down river. He was also an avid and long-time fan of the St. Louis Cardinals. He was also known for his ornery sense of humor, sharp intellect and master tree-house craftsmanship.

Dennis is immediately survived by a son, Justin Arft along with his wife, Elaine and their two sons, Henry and Benjamin; and his brother, Mike Arft and his wife, Rose and children. He was preceded in death by his sister, Vicky Arft Short and Scott Short, but is survived by their children. He is also survived by Linda Arft, who although being his ex-wife remained an ardent and loyal friend, along with Tim, Julie and Caleb Chicoine, Barbara Musgrave and his other brothers, Bob, David and Ricky Blank. Dennis loved his family dearly and will be missed.

Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at Mason Woodard Mortuary Chapel with pastor Larry Shumaker officiating. The family will receive friends following the service.

In lieu of flowers or contributions, please do something nice for someone in a way you see fit in Dennis' memory. Online Condolences may be made at www.masonwoodard.com

Death announcement: Joplin Globe, February 25, 2014