

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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## Ann Stearns Ramseyer Kapelke

March 13, 1935 – July 13, 2022



nn Stearns Ramseyer Kapelke died of Alzheimer's disease at the age of 87 in Moraga, California on July 13.

Ann was born at home in Prineville, Oregon on March 13, 1935, the youngest of three daughters of Harry and Crystal (White) Stearns. She grew up on her family's cattle ranch surrounded by a large and loving extended family and by childhood friends - the "Octagon Snots" - to whom she would remain bonded for life.

Ann was an exceptionally talented musician with a beautiful soprano voice. After graduating from the University of Oregon, she moved to San Francisco where she taught music at Marina Middle School. She later lived in Honolulu,

where she toured with the USO and met her first husband, Joseph Ramseyer. After their marriage, Ann and Joe moved to Seattle and later built a house on Clyde Hill in Bellevue, where they raised their family. Once her children were older, Ann became a travel agent, a job that allowed her to travel the world and which she enjoyed until her retirement in the early 2000s.

In 1981 Ann moved to Moraga, where she lived for most of the rest of her life. In 1989, she married Hugo Kapelke. Ann and Hugo were married for 33 years and had a beautiful life together. They lived in Belgium for four years, traveled all over Europe and the world, loved to entertain family and friends and above all loved spending time with their 10 grandchildren. They were exceptionally devoted to each other through good times and bad.

Ann was a natural, instinctive cook who rarely used recipes. She loved dinner parties and entertained often, including the large spontaneous family dinners that were so familiar to her from childhood. She always rushed to put other people first, she had a delightful and charming smile, and she was likely to brighten every room she entered. Her family will miss her forever.

She is survived by her husband Hugo, children Sara Ramseyer Klein (Tom) and John Ramseyer (Heather); stepchildren Mark Kapelke (Maki), Erik Kapelke (Susan), Ghila Kapelke (Deborah) and Kevin Kapelke (Patti); grandchildren Julia Klein, William Klein, Scott Ramseyer, Jessica Ramseyer, Marie Biethan (Mike), Julie Kapelke, Lara Kapelke, Lia Kapelke, Anthony Kapelke, and Lukas Carbone; and great-granddaughter Kiki Biethan.



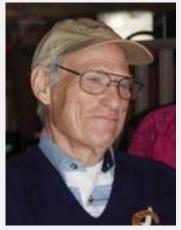
# Donovan Lloyd (Don) Jenkins



oving husband, father and ∠philanthropist, Donovan Lloyd

# John William Creech, Jr.

Feb. 16, 1929 – July 12, 2022



The Life of John W. Creech Jr. John William Creech, Jr. was born Feb. 16, 1929 and died after 93 years on July 12, 2022. His death was preceded by his loving wife of 62 years, Nancy Claxton Creech, in July of 2017. He has been an amazing father to his daughter Debby Day (John) of Pleasanton, Calif., son John Creech (Linda) of Clinton, NJ along with being a "second" dad to Tom Dewing (Carole) of Walnut Creek, Calif. He is blessed to have 4 grandchildren: Jennifer Day (Vince Donatini), Heather Day Niehues (Jeff), Michael Creech (Kate) and Kevin Creech (Hannah) and six, soon to be seven great grandchildren: Cameron, Colin, Levi, Parker, Cal and Jonathan.

John was beloved by many and his accomplishments were great. The impact he had on numerous lives is incredible and he will be remembered forever. He was a graduate of Berkeley High School, University of California Berkeley and the California Maritime Academy. From the Maritime Academy he went into the Merchant Marine then onto the U.S. Navy during the Korean War on the USS Los Angeles. He rose to the rank of Lt. Commander in active duty then served in the reserve for many years. He loved snow skiing, water skiing (attempted this at 92!), camping, traveling and so much more. He was an Eagle Scout and the little known part was an ice skater in his younger years. He loved Chautauqua, New York among many places.

His business career took him from delivering RC Cola in Southern California to selling glass containers at Glass Container Corp, onto LSI as its first employee then President of its Specialty Products Division, then onto starting Sigma Marketing consulting. He volunteered his time over the years to Mercy Ships, Orinda Community Church, California Maritime Academy (serving as Board Chairman of its Foundation) and many more. We are deeply saddened by his death and will miss him dearly. In lieu of flowers please send donations to: The Chautauqua Foundation, PO Box 28, Chautauqua, NY 14722. Or a charity of your choice in his memory.

### **CELEBRATION OF LIFE** for Angelena J. Sakalay February 28, 1923 – September 1, 2020



Angelena J. Sakalay (formally of Moraga, CA and Camden, ME) passed away on September 1, 2020. Because of COVID-19 concerns, a Memorial Service was not conducted.

Jenkins died suddenly on Aug. 4, 2022 at the age of 81. Born in Berkeley, Don attended elementary school there, graduated from high school in Newport, RI, attended UC Berkeley and joined Sigma Chi fraternity. Don graduated in 1962. He married his beloved Linda "Becky" (Beckett) that same year. After settling in Lafayette, they created their home, raising two daughters with Don coaching each one of their sports teams. Their lives together began devoted to family, service and community.

Partners in Jenkins, Reeves & Shaw Insurance, then later Lafayette Square Insurance Services, he treasured his clients and received the Lafayette Business Person of the Year award in 1996, served as the Chamber of Commerce President in 1995 and was awarded the Lafayette Citizen of the Year in 2018.

Through Don's strong faith and belief to always live with purpose, his volunteerism became a major influence on many community organizations over his lifetime. A consummate fundraiser, Don was a founding member and past president of the Lafayette Community Foundation which led to his involvement with the financial planning of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. He was also a founding board member and original fundraiser of Cal Shakes. A Trustee for the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church Foundation, he proudly served as an Elder. Always looking for the next opportunity to make an impact, he committed his time and fundraising energy as a founding board member of Lamorinda Village, a nonprofit helping seniors live in their home as long as it is safe to do so. The Cancer Support Community also benefited from his fundraising efforts. Past president of Orinda Rotary, a dedicated member of Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, national advisor to the Rotary Foundation, he epitomized their motto of "Service above Self."

Don enjoyed swimming, skiing, golfing and sailing, serving as past Commodore of the Berkeley Yacht Club. Together, Don and Becky relished time with good friends and traveling with a purpose. He loved Becky and his family deeply and was uniquely blessed with the foresight to craft his own legacy. A gentleman always, he will be remembered by those who knew him for his warmth and faith filled life, his selflessness, generosity, good humor and citizenship. Because of his dedication to philanthropy, our community will benefit for years to come.

Don is survived by his wife Linda "Becky," his daughter Renee Culbertson, husband Dr. Bruce Culbertson, grandchildren Mikayla and Jack and Nick Culbertson of Phoenix, Ariz., daughter Diana Jenkins and grandson Elijah Jenkins Taylor of Oakland, Calif., and sister Robin Okano, husband Isao, nephews Gou, Tetsu, Ryu, Keu and niece Ai of Japan.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church Sept. 15, 2022 at 3 p.m.

The family requests those who wish to express their sympathy in honor of Don's legacy, to consider making a donation to Lamorinda Village, the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church Foundation, Rotary International or Cancer Support Community in his name.

We will miss his gracious heart and kind presence throughout our community.

The family has now decided to move forward with a formal Service. In accordance with Angie's wishes, a Celebration of Life Service is planned for Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 10 to 11 am at Saint Mary's Chapel, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, CA. Family, Friends and

Associates are invited to attend. This will be an Episcopalian Service since Angie was a member of Saint Giles which held their services at Saint Mary's Chapel. Attendees will be required to follow current COVID-19 Episcopalian guidelines which includes wearing a mask while in the Chapel and showing proof that their COVID vaccinations are current before entering the Chapel. Following the Service all are welcome to join the Family for a Reception in the Chapel Plaza (in front of the Chapel).

If you are unable to attend, the Service will also be Live Streamed from 10 to 11 am. Following are instructions to log into the Live Stream:

- To log into the Live Stream enter https://zoom.us/join
- and when prompted enter for Webinar/Meeting ID: • 917 7991 1105 and Passcode: 651794

If you are able to attend, please let us know by contacting Tony Nuccio @ 512-294-7792 (phone or text) or by email @ tnuccio@earthlink.net. This will allow us to finalize our planning.

**Community Service:** We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

#### Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

> Submit stories or story ideas to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com