



Scott W. Crook

February 6, 1947 - June 10, 2019

Scott W. Crook, 72, departed this world for his next adventure June 10, 2019 at Willard Walker Hospice Home in Fayetteville, Arkansas surrounded by loved ones and family. Scott was born February 6, 1947 in Atlanta, Georgia to James and Mary Crook, who raised him, his brother and two sisters in an Air Force family moving all over the country during childhood. He was preceded in death by his parents, both sisters and his beloved pet squirrels throughout the years.

Scott earned a degree in Chemistry from Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, he moved to Fayetteville to pursue a post graduate degree in Organic Chemistry at the University of Arkansas, where he met and married the love of his life, Carolyn while she was pursuing post-doctoral research. They were married on September 30th, 1971 by Judge Cummings at the courthouse.

He loved the outdoors and animals. Scott's father started him fishing from the time he could hold a pole, and he pursued becoming an Eagle Scout to be outdoors as much as he could. Growing up, Scott's family always had small pets, including flying squirrels. Carolyn and Scott have kept up the Crook tradition of keeping flying squirrels as pets to this day. Barney and Simon are both about 10 years old.

After a backpacking trip with some friends in Wyoming, Scott and Carolyn realized the nearest outdoor outfitting store was over two hours away in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Wanting to bring outdoor supplies closer to home, they opened their Pack Rat Outdoor Center in 1973. The Pack Rat is a Fayetteville icon and has become one of the most influential and philanthropic local business in the Northwest Arkansas region.

Scott was one of the original members of the Ozark Highlands Trail Association and with Carolyn, he remained committed to the outdoors with his involvement in the Southern Utah Wilderness Association, the Nature Conservancy of Arkansas, National Audubon Society, Trout Unlimited, the Sierra Club and a life-long member of the Ozark Society. Scott made Northwest Arkansas and the world a better place because of his passion and devotions to the outdoors. His contributions will be remembered and missed.

He is survived by his devoted wife, friend and business partner Carolyn Jolley Crook; his brother Ronnie Crook, long time partners Chally Sims, Kevin Fendley and Rick Spicer, his friend and caretaker Samantha B. Mills and many friends.

Visitation will be held 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Thursday June 13, 2019 at Nelson-Berna Funeral Home.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Southern Utah Wilderness Society, the Arkansas Natural Conservancy River program or the Nature Conservancy the Central Appalachian whole system and West Virginian program focusing on flying squirrel habitat conservation.

The family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to the nursing staff at Washington Regional, Fayetteville Health and Rehab, Willard Walker Hospice Home and Ms. Kay Coley for their kind and compassionate care. We were truly touched by your words and actions.

Events

JUN **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

13

Nelson-Berna Funeral Home & Crematory
4520 N. Crossover Rd., Fayetteville, AR, US, 72703

Comments



“ Carolyn:

We are very sorry for the loss of Scott. We have many fond memories of our times together starting in the early 1970s. We did many canoeing trips on the Buffalo River and other rivers in Northwest Arkansas with both of you. We were part of the first order of Old Town ABS plastic canoes that you and Scott organized in 1973, and I still have my original Old Town canoe. My wife Eunice and I will miss Scott and his great stories about canoeing and hiking.

Sincerely yours, Frank and Eunice Millett.

Francis Millett - July 01 at 05:21 PM



“ Carolyn, I am so very sorry for your loss.
Love and prayers from Kyra Franz

Kyra Franz - June 16 at 08:57 PM



“ Carolyn,
Scott and I were chemistry "buddies" at Centenary college. I have so many fond memories of time spent with him in the lab and all the help he gave me. I will treasure the Pack Rat water bottles and T shirts he sent me when I found out about your store.
Peace and Blessings,
Diane (Hercher) Key

Diane Key - June 15 at 11:31 AM



“ Carolyn,
I am saddened to hear of Scott's passing. I have fond memories of you and Scott in the early days of OHTA. NWA is a better place due to your shared passion for the Ozarks.
My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Liz Cusack

Liz Cusack - June 15 at 08:12 AM



“ Crook, I am so sorry to hear about Scott. My thoughts are with you. Mesha Hall

Mesha Hall - June 14 at 01:20 PM



“ Thirty years ago, Scott sold me a Kelty Tioga. More than a backpack. It changed my world. Many miles have passed. I count myself lucky for having known Scott as an employer and friend. I will forever hold his easy humor and infectious, subtle laughter in my memory. With much love and admiration.

Joshua Gibbs - June 12 at 11:10 PM



“ Joshua and I loved our time as Pack Rat employees. Scott made us laugh and kept us on our toes! Babysitting the squirrel babies was so much fun, too. We felt special to be asked. I remember being so sad when it was time for me to move on to a new job, that I got a cake from Rick's Bakery and had them pipe on "I hate to leave, but I have to go" in icing... he opened the box up, read it, and put his hands in his pockets and reassured me that I would be missed. He was always kind to me, and I love you both very much. I'm glad I got to kiss his cheek at the anniversary party.

Sara Gibbs - June 12 at 10:04 PM



“ Condolences Carolyn,
The world will be a little smaller place without Scott. I have many fond memories of him from floating, to playing killer croquet in the backyard, to fish fries, to his unique sense of humor. When we both had to attend graduate seminars, which were often unpleasant, Scott and I would sit together on the very back row. One professor was real buffoon that neither of us cared much for. This professor made several gaffes, the kind that would get a grad student crucified. Well, Scott took to scoffing at each the professor's mistakes. Each time the professor would look at me and frown and Scott would giggle.

Jesse J Davis - June 12 at 04:56 PM



“ From Pat Walker Health Center purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White for the family of Scott W. Crook.



From Pat Walker Health Center - June 12 at 03:06 PM



“ Scott was an amazing friend, mentor, and employer. First job, first reference letter, first few real backpacking trips, first crawfish etouffee, so many firsts that he was a part of for me. He'll never be forgotten. Strong thoughts to Carolyn.

Steve Seckinger - June 12 at 01:00 PM



“ Deeply saddened with the news of Scott's passing. I fondly remember my years of working at the Pack Rat and personally knowing Scott and Carolyn. They were a second set of parents while I was at college and always loved me and all of the staff like their own, opening their home and hearts to us. My favorite memories of Scott include the parties at the Crook household (with guest appearances from Barney) and his weekly Braum's ice cream treats for the staff. Scott's quick wit and "colorful" stories always left us in stitches – unfortunately most of them can't be repeated here.... Scott, your legacy lives-on through us as we leave our bootprints along the trail.

Grant DuCote

Grant Ducote - June 12 at 11:11 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Scott W. Crook.



June 12 at 10:55 AM



“ We'll always remember Scott as being a unique individual, smart and funny. He always had a bag of limericks to share and he always made us laugh. Kathy and Dennis Miller

Kathy Miller - June 12 at 10:23 AM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Scott W. Crook.



June 12 at 06:10 AM



“ A best friend for over 45 years. Will always remember some of the best times, You, Howard, Carolyn and I had over the years. Love you, Caren

Caren - June 12 at 12:05 AM



“ I'll always remember Scott from the Pack Rat. Always a great guy. I got a lot of paddling supplies from him and Carolyn down through the years. RIP my friend. Dempsey Lewis.

Dempsey Lewis - June 11 at 09:12 PM



“ Carolyn,
I am heartbroken for your loss. Please know I am keeping you close in my thoughts. Sending hugs...! Ann

Ann Rosso - June 11 at 03:35 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, love Lynette and Peyton French Morris

Lynette Morris - June 11 at 01:36 PM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Scott W. Crook.



June 11 at 11:11 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Scott W. Crook.



June 11 at 09:43 AM