



## Victor Barcroft Kieffer

March 23, 1953 - July 8, 2022

Victor Barcroft Kieffer III of Palm Beach Gardens, FL passed away on July 8, 2022 at the age of 69. He is survived by his loving wife, Donna Raney, their daughters, Katharine and Elizabeth, his brother and sister-in-law, Timothy and Kristi Kieffer, his sister, Janet Kieffer, his mother-in-law, Dorothy Raney, and brothers and sisters-in-law, Pat and Chuck Rendo, Sally Raney and Carl Fraik, Michael and Sue Raney and several nieces and nephews.

Vic was born on March 23, 1953 to Victor B. Kieffer Jr. and Judith J. (née Williamson) Kieffer in Columbia, MO, and grew up in Kirkwood, MO. He attended John Burroughs School for several years but ultimately transferred to and graduated from Kirkwood High School in 1971.

Vic received a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Missouri – Columbia in 1975 where he was a member of the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. He pursued graduate coursework in Electrical Engineering and French at Mizzou, and Marine Biology at Farleigh Dickson University in St. Croix, USVI, before moving to South Florida in 1984 with Donna, his future wife. He later attended Florida Atlantic University where he took several courses in Biology, Genetics and Chemistry.

Vic's family and friends thought him to be a Renaissance Man. He was an intelligent, gifted and talented man with a variety of interests and a wide base

of knowledge. He rarely encountered a problem he couldn't solve, and his assistance was frequently sought by family, friends, clients and neighbors. Vic believed that one of the purposes of his life was to help others and enjoyed spending his time fulfilling that purpose.

Vic had a lifelong love of amateur radio that began at the age of eleven. He enjoyed talking to people all over the world including (he claims) King Hussein of Jordan, who helped him with his math homework. He received his first FCC General Amateur Radio License at the age of fifteen, his Advanced Amateur Radio License at the age of 18 and his Amateur Extra Class Radio Operator License at the age of 28 and thereafter, his 1st, 2nd and 3rd Radiotelephone Operator Licenses and Radio Telegraph Licenses and several additional FCC endorsements, along with a Radio Operator/Maintainer GMDSS License. Vic loved Morse Code and could copy up to 55 words a minute.

An avid scuba diver, Vic enjoyed the oceans' reefs and waters eventually becoming a Master Instructor with many diving specialty certifications such as Night Diver, Search and Recovery Diver, Cave Diver, Deep Diver, etc. After college, he spent a year working as a Dive Master on Cat Island, Bahamas; an experience that he would fondly recall all of his life.

Vic earned his pilot's license in 1984, and in 1986 bought his first and only airplane, a Cessna 172. In 1989, he replaced the plane's original engine with a Penn Yan Aero 180 hp engine turning his Skyhawk into a Superhawk. Vic enjoyed flying and restoring his Cessna, which too became a lifelong long. Vic began practicing martial arts in his forties. He loved the discipline of the practice and the sense of community that existed among the black belts and other students, and eventually went on to earn a 2nd Dan (2nd Degree Blackbelt) in Tae Kwon Do.

Vic spent most of his life working in marine electronics, designing, installing and repairing electronics for navigation, communications, and safety for life at

sea for yachts in the 30' to 90' class, and became a certified Furuno ECDIS engineer. He loved his work and could often be found studying a complex circuit diagram or designing his own circuit. He treasured his clients and was treasured by them in return.

Vic was generous with his time, talents and spirit. He was a caring father and husband, and a lover of dogs. As a young father he mastered the art of creative storytelling, entertaining his children with nighttime stories about Horace, Edward and Phillip, three watermelon loving little pigs, until either he or the kids fell asleep. He picked his children up from school many days and took pleasure in helping them with their homework. Later, Vic helped them move into their college dorms and apartments, and continued to assist them with the practical problems and difficulties that life throws at you. In short, he was always there for his children and wife. Vic was a great guy and a good person, who loved to talk and visit with others. He is greatly missed.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 1:30 pm, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 3395 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. The original service scheduled for October 1, 2022 at 11:30 am, was canceled due to Hurricane Ian.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Mark's Episcopal Church's Hearts of Palm ministry. Vic was a volunteer for this ministry and helped to rehabilitate a home that is used to provide transitional housing to families in need.

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# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

DEC 10. 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
3395 Burns Road  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Victor Barcroft Kieffer*

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October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM