

OBITUARIES



John Ahlin, Jr.
1939-2012

John Ahlin, Jr., 73 of Boise died December 23, 2012 at home, just as he wished, after a tenacious battle with lung cancer.

John was born in Boise, Idaho, November 25, 1939 to John Ahlin and Agnes "Aggie" Rozinka Ahlin. Before school age the family lived above Grimes Creek in Boise County at the Comeback Mine, the work that brought his father to Idaho from Minnesota. John was a first generation American and enjoyed the richness of his parents' old-world traditions and his mother's cooking. Like many first generation children, he didn't learn much of their native Slovenian language except for a few "gems" (cuss words.)

The family moved to Boise when it was time for John to attend grade school. He graduated from Borah High School in 1959, the first graduating class. He attended BJC, BSU and the University of Idaho.

John excelled at many sports and played at fullback for the Borah Lions on their Southern Idaho Conference 1959 Football Championship team.

While in school, John helped his parents' with their business, Alpine Custom Meat Processing and Packing, especially during the Fall and hunting season. Many of Aggie and John's mouthwatering specialties emerged from the smoke house including kielbasa, salmon, duck, holiday ham, chorizos and venison salami.

His adventuresome zest for life included motorcycle racing

and riding horses at a full gallop.

He was preceded in death by his parents and older sister, Marjorie Franks.

John worked as a Forest Fire Crew Boss just as the Boise Interagency Fire Center was being organized.

The work he enjoyed the most included owning and operating construction equipment (Tonka Toys for big boys) and used those skills to the fullest while working for various contracting companies like Hinkles & McCoy, Owyhee Construction, Idaho Sand & Gravel, Volt, and Gilbert Western.

John was a co-founding partner in Das-co of Idaho and Northwest Construction in Phoenix, both utility installation companies.

He is survived by his son, Justin Ahlin, of Boise; daughter, Stacy Ahlin Laird (Robert), Brentwood, Calif.; brother, Jerry Ahlin (Susan), Rancho Cordova, Calif.; three nieces and four nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Idaho Humane Society or a charitable contribution of your choice.

Arrangements are with Relyea Funeral Home. According to John's wishes there will be no formal services.

A gathering of John's friends and celebration of his life will be held Sunday, January 6, at 1 p.m. at Gil's K9. All who knew him are invited to attend. Bring your photos and stories for everyone's enjoyment.