

John Frederick Pyle

December 5, 1956 - December 4, 2023



Portland — John Pyle died on December 4th in Borrego Springs, California after an accidental fall at his home. Born in La Grande, Oregon, John moved with his family to Eugene where he attended school. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Stanford University.

John loved real estate and the art of negotiation. He and his business partner, Tim Gray, founded Apartmentsnorthwest in the mid '90s and they built a successful company specializing in brokering and managing apartment buildings in Oregon and Washington. John's affable personality, wit and focused analytical style attracted lots of business friends and partners during his career. He was an easy guy to have at the table and a "lunch out" together was a required part of the negotiation.

John was an exceptional athlete, but understated, and it took some prodding to get him to talk about his athletic career. From the fields and gyms at Sheldon High School to the Stanford varsity teams, John was a star. He was highly recruited during his senior year and chose Stanford to pursue his education and compete at a preeminent collegiate level. He lettered in football and baseball at Stanford. Despite being a "walk-on" for the baseball team, John ended up a multi-year starter. A headline in the Palo Alto Times in 1978 read "Stanford Pyles' it on USF" after a particularly good day at the plate. After graduation from Stanford, John was pursued by The Los Angeles Dodgers organization before deciding to play professional baseball in Perth, Australia for 3 years. He loved baseball as well as the sun, beach, scuba diving and great friends he made Down Under. John returned to Oregon to play for the Salem Senators before sustaining a career-ending knee injury.

John's wide posse of friends came from his avid pursuit of golf at Portland, Astoria and De Anza Golf Clubs, steelhead fishing in the rivers of Oregon and British Columbia and bird hunting in South Dakota and on Sauvie Island. His athleticism, competitiveness and passion of sport were infused in these pastimes and he was forever grateful to his grandfather Goddard for teaching him to hunt and fish. John also loved the camaraderie of pubs, cards (especially pitch) and all forms of games. He enjoyed a friendly tease and was fond of providing his friends and family nicknames that often stuck.

John and his wife, Suzanne, shared a loving and robust life together and traveled if they weren't at their favorite spots in Borrego, Mercer lake, Gearhart and Portland. John was an active father and loved his Indian Princess times with this daughter Hannah or coaching sports with his son Jackson. As a husband, father or friend, John could always be counted on for listening, thoughtful advice, not taking himself too seriously and maybe a dash of humor added into the mix.

His beloved parents Jack and Diane Pyle preceded him in death and he is survived by his wife, Suzanne, daughter Hannah, son Jackson, sister Sally Kootnekoff (JC), brother Robert (Barry) nieces Molly (Kevin) and Emily (Zach), nephews Benjamin and David and many extended family, including nieces Laura and Meagan, nephews, Evan, Davey and Will and his good dog friend Smitty.

A party and remembrance for John will take place, Wednesday January 31, 2024, 12-3pm. A contribution in John's honor may be made to the Evans Scholarship Fund at Portland Golf Club, Stanford University baseball program or The Boys and Girls Club of Borrego Springs, California.