



Roger L. Knigge

March 12, 1944 - January 6, 2021

Roger Lewis Knigge, 76, passed away on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 in Chicago, Illinois. He was born March 12, 1944 and grew up in various small towns throughout Illinois including Kildeer, Monmouth and Rankin. As an adult he lived in Park Forest before settling down in Frankfort where he raised his family and resided for 22 years. Roger has lived in Orland Park for the past 20 years.

Surviving are his two children, Daniel Lloyd (Sara) and Kimberly Jane Knigge; two grandchildren, Julia Elizabeth and Evan Roger; and his loving partner of 20 years, Linda Gurak. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Pearl Knigge.

Roger was a graduate of Southern Illinois University and received his Masters Degree from the University of Illinois. His early real estate career included working for the Illinois Central Railroad and CNA Insurance Company. Roger was co-founder of Real Estate Consultants where he worked for over 30 years. After selling Real Estate Consultants, Roger worked for HSA Commercial Real Estate until retirement. Roger was a US Airforce veteran; a member of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and Junior Vice Commander of General Sheridan Camp #2.

Roger's life was well lived. He had many interests and a never-ending thirst for knowledge. His interests included archeology, history, politics, old western movies (a big John Wayne fan), travel and nature. He went on many archeological digs in the Illinois area. Linda and he were able to travel to

many countries including Egypt, Jordan, England, Germany and Greece. He researched his family ancestry and documented his findings in a book he authored titled, Johann Heinrich Phillip Knigge, The Life of a German Immigrant, 1808-1881. This book sits in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Research Library, Springfield, Illinois.

Above all, Roger loved being a Dad, Grandparent and loving partner to Linda. He inspired his kids to be curious about the world, to enjoy nature, appreciate world history and pay attention to current events. He loved spending time with his grandchildren which was often a good conversation over ice cream. He made the time spent with him special. He loved family and family traditions. He will be remembered by many for his great sense of humor, his intelligence, and his kindness.

Visitation will be Saturday, June 26, 2021 from 10 a.m. until the service at 11:30 a.m. at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Avenue, Libertyville, IL 60048. Inurnment with military honors will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Libertyville, Illinois.

Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville, Illinois.

Information: 847-362-3009 or please share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

A memorial gift can be made to the National Wildlife Federation mwf.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JUN **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home
120 West Park Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-3009

Funeral Service

JUN **26**. 11:30 AM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home
120 West Park Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-3009

Military Honors

JUN **26**. 12:30 PM (CT)

Lakeside Cemetery
500 W. Lake Street
Libertyville, IL 60048

Tribute Wall

PB

“ I am so sorry to have just found out yesterday about the visitation and Lakeside Cementary service that was held Saturday. I would have been there. We are still thinking about your loss and what a very nice man Roger was.
Pat Schar Bartholomew

Patricia Schar Bartholomew - June 28, 2021 at 11:50 AM

PB

“ So sorry to just hear this. Roger was such a nice man, a sometime rare occurrence. Our Grandmothers were sisters. Please to know when the ceremony occurs. Thank you and you are in our prayers.
Sincerely, Pat Schar Bartholomew

Patricia Bartholomew - February 02, 2021 at 12:39 PM

JR

“ I am sorry for your loss. We are at that age... I have to ask. I am a native of Mason City IL (30 miles north of Springfield) and it seems that there was a Roger Knigge who briefly attended school with our class. Is it possible???

John Rutledge - January 24, 2021 at 08:54 AM

DL

“ My friendship with Roger began at age six in Monmouth, Illinois. Our houses were a block apart and we enjoyed playing with our pets, riding bikes, climbing trees and exploring the world around us. Our interests in science and constant experiments helped set the course of my career. We couldn't have grown up in a better place or time. His parents treated me like a member of the family. *Denny Lawson*

Denny Lawson - January 21, 2021 at 12:16 PM

BD

“ Roger was a wonderful neighbor. He was a kind, gentle and educated man. I enjoyed many days talking to him about history and current events in our world. My grandchildren always went over to talk to him, when he would be outside. They loved to visit with him. God bless his soul. Bob Davis.

Bob Davis - January 20, 2021 at 08:54 PM

SC

“ Roger was a best friend to my father during their childhood in Monmouth, IL. Back in 2019, Roger came back to Monmouth for one last visit and decided to see if any of my father's kids were in the area. I was. Roger popped in my office and we chatted for over an hour. A few months later my siblings and I met with Roger for a long lunch in a location near him. We had a great time.

My siblings and I were honored that our father's great friend thought enough to seek us out and to tell us about their wonderful childhood together.

Rest in peace, Roger. You are a great man who proved to be a great friend.

-Sean Cavanaugh

Sean Cavanaugh - January 20, 2021 at 05:00 PM