

Michael Coggiola

Michael John Coggiola

A true native son, Michael John Coggiola of Sunnyvale, was born on May 17, 1947 in Albany to Oakland-born parents Louis and Olga Coggiola. He passed away peacefully in his home on March 24, 2014. His early education included Albany schools, the University of California, Berkeley (BA Chemistry), California Institute of Technology, Pasadena (PhD Chemical Physics) and post-graduate studies (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory). He began his 33-year scientific career at SRI International, Menlo Park from which he retired in 2011. His best career move by far was his marriage to Jacquie Naegele of Mtn.View and his role as loving father and teacher to sons Alex and Andrew brought him tremendous joy and pride.

Being an active Boy Scout himself, Michael donated much of his free time and energy as a Scoutmaster, Eagle Scout advisor and Advancement Chairman for the Stanford District. He was awarded the "Silver Beaver" Award in 2011 in recognition of his leadership and mentoring skills to the Boy Scouts of America. Michael also served as President of the Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum and was a Board Member of Friends of Deer Hollow Farm.

While battling a debilitating neurological disease, Michael struggled to maintain an active and imaginative life, with his devoted wife Jacquie at his side.

Michael leaves wife Jacquie, sons Alex and wife Maria, and Andrew and fiancée Kenna as well as his loving sister, Elaine Gong, in-laws Valerie and Bob Naegele, Kathy and Bill Scott and Karl Naegele. Michael had a special place in his heart for his niece and goddaughter, Jessica Scott and nephews, Rob and Chris Naegele. He was blessed with the love of numerous family members and life-long friends.

The Coggiola Family is indebted to Michael's patient caregivers Solange Doviakon, Mariatu Sesay and Catherine Javier whose skillful and loving care allowed Michael to remain safe and happy in his own home. They also thank Heartland Hospice for providing comfort care in his last days.

Published in San Francisco Chronicle on Mar. 27, 2014