

**Dr. Ralph F. Miles, Jr
1933- 2021**

Dr. Ralph F. Miles, Jr. passed away June 14, 2021 in Claremont, CA. Ralph was born in 1933 in Philadelphia, PA to Col. Ralph F. Miles, U.S. Army and Genevieve Angus.

His Army family traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Ralph graduated from Frankfurt am Main High School, Germany in 1951 where Col. Miles was 2nd in command of the northern half of the American/Russian border. He received his BA, MS and PhD from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. His PhD studies involved physics and the investigation of Cosmic-Ray Neutrons.

Ralph began his 28 year involvement with the Pasadena- based Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 1963. He was given a JPL award for outstanding spacecraft system and mission sequence design as Spacecraft System Engineer on the Mariner Mars 1969 Project. His innovative work touched every planet ventured to by JPL vehicles. NASA recognized his work for early mission design and spacecraft development. He was JPL's resident guru in risk analysis. Ralph edited several technical books in the fields of systems concepts and the advances of decision analysis.

His love of sports and nature meant skiing off the Cornice at Mammoth, scaling Mt. Whitney-all in one day...twice, playing On the Atheneum tennis courts or swimming in his own lap pool. He earned a badge in the "100 Peaks Club", a designation for those intrepid hikers who conquer the 100 highest peaks in Southern California.

Ralph's annual tradition of chartering a bus and taking his friends for an evening of dinner and dancing at the Buckhorn Lodge in Mt. Baldy was legendary. This treat included country music and

fine food in an exotic and rustic setting. Ralph loved wolves and at one party, his friends were introduced to Raven, an ambassador wolf from the Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary in NM.

Ralph enjoyed music and was a patron of the Pasadena Symphony. Late in life he studied piano and astounded friends with his seemingly overnight mastery of the instrument.

We had many great times with Dr. Ralph and will miss him very much.

Donations in memory of Ralph can be made to Pasadena Conservatory of Music, 100 N. Hill Ave, #105, Pasadena, CA 91106 or Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary, HC 61 Box 28, Ramah, NM 87321.