



## Sanford Charles Klavano

August 20, 1944 - July 20, 2019

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East Wenatchee, Washington

Sanford Charles Klavano, age 74, died at Central Washington Hospital on July 20, 2019 after a courageous battle with lung cancer.

Born August 20, 1944 in Portland, Oregon to Gladys Faye Weaver, and later adopted by Clarence "Duke" Klavano, Charles attended Edison Elementary School and Walla Walla High School until he joined the Navy at age 17.

Charles served in the US Navy and then served his country in the US Merchant Marines for the rest of his career. He earned the nickname "Sandy the Sailor".

In 1966 he married Barbara Ellen Jones, and had two children, Patti and Jeff. He later married Carol Swanby.

Although his primary residence was in Walla Walla, Washington, he spent most of his life traveling the world by sea. He loved taking pictures all over the world and sharing his adventures with his family. One of the highlights of his career was being on the aircraft carrier crew that recovered the Mercury-Atlas 8 NASA astronaut Walter Schirra Jr. after he did 6 orbits in outer space in 1962.

Charles will be especially remembered for his love of camping and fishing, especially at Wallowa Lake, for taking summer road trips and adventures with his children, for arranging family reunions every year at the Walla Walla Fair,

his lovable grumpy nature, his love for air shows, and skydiving-having made hundreds of jumps.

Charles is survived by his children: Patti (Martin) Torres of Lewiston, Idaho, and Jeff (Amy) Klavano of East Wenatchee, Wa., two brothers, John (Sandy) Klavano, and Al "Pinky" Klavano, and grandchildren Jeffery, Catalina, Savanna, Faith, Brandon, and Angelica. Charles was preceded in death by his parents, Faye and Duke, and his beloved grandmother, Gladys.

At his request, no memorial service will be held.

A special thank you to the staff at Central Washington Hospital for the wonderful care he received while fighting his losing battle with cancer.

\*You are invited to view Charles' online tribute at [www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com](http://www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com) to share a memory or leave a condolence. Arrangements are in care of Heritage Memorial Chapel, East Wenatchee.

# Tribute Wall



“ *RIP Cousin Charles from Cousin Larry Klavano.*

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**Larry Klavano** - August 07, 2019 at 09:43 PM