

Richard Clarke Gazlay

Richard C. Gazlay, Jr., 75 of Westminster, Colorado passed away on July 12th, 2013 surrounded by three generations of family.

He was born in San Diego, California on April, 19, 1938 to Richard C. Gazlay and Mary Louise (Baker) Gazlay.

He attended 18 different schools by time he graduated high school and received an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. He left after 2 ½ years and joined the US Army serving in Germany when the Berlin Wall was erected in 1961. There he met his first wife Joyce Falconer.

They returned to the US where he attended mortuary school in San Francisco. After school he accepted a job at Macy's Mortuary in Greeley, CO. He finished his degree in Mathematics and Physics at Colorado State College in Greeley, later renamed the University of Northern Colorado. While at Macy's he fell in love with the ambulance business and started the Greeley Ambulance Company with his partner Dale Shaffer. This later became the Weld County Ambulance Service.

In 1976 he and all of his ambulance crew spent days in the Big Thompson Canyon rescuing survivors from the flood and weeks helping to recover bodies.

He was an entrepreneur starting Greeley Medical Supply and worked as a successful real estate agent, owning his own Realty World Franchise. He was known as a sharp dresser always seen in a three piece suit. After ruining a pair of suit pants he even painted part of his house wearing that suit as a prank on one of his neighbors. He also worked in construction development, manufacturing, and owned a medical billing company.

In 1994 he met Terry Kay Cook and they married in 1995. They enjoyed 18 years of marriage together and had fun traveling and spoiling their grandchildren.

He was active in the Masonic Temple and Shrine raising money for sick children and showing his sports cars and motorcycle in various parades and events.

In his later years he went back into the mortuary business working at Highland Hills and Crown Hill Cemetery as a funeral director and wherever else they needed him.

He is survived by his wife Terry, brother Stephen and wife Virginia Gazlay, ex-wife Joyce Falconer, son Peter and wife Linda Gazlay, daughter Becky and husband Chris Kamoske, daughter Julie Read, and son Gary Cook. Dick and Terry have ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was buried with military honors at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery