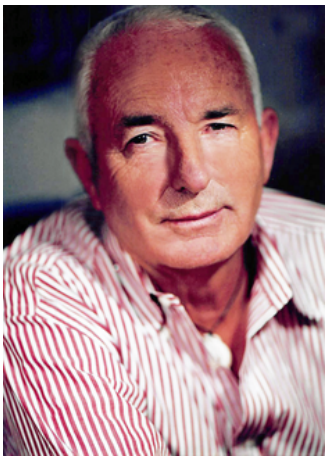

Jan Willem van der Beek

October 14, 1936 ~ March 27, 2024

Jan Willem “John” van der Beek was born in Oldebroek, the Netherlands, on October 14, 1936, to Hendrik Jan and Willemina, John returned home to our Heavenly Father on March 27, 2024. He was the second of eight children (Andries, Anton, Jan, Elbertus, Betsy, Tony and Gerry).

John had an adventurous spirit and at the tender age of 18 he left the Netherlands to travel the world. He eventually ended up in New Zealand where he married Carol Skipps, his eternal companion of almost 60 years. While in New Zealand, they had seven children before moving to Utah where he began working as a long-haul trucker for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was so proud of his work because he was able to deliver goods all over the country to those in need.

John had the gift of making everyone he met feel incredibly loved, most especially those who were less fortunate. He truly lived his life to serve others. He raised his children to love the Gospel as much as he did and left no doubt that his greatest desire was to be with his family for time and all eternity.

John was a loving husband and father and will be remembered for his generous spirit, sense of humor, love for the Polynesian culture, motorcycles, and his dogs and homing pigeons. He had a special place in his heart for music, and just as he did with the Gospel, music was instilled into his family’s lives. John’s unique talent was the accordion, on which he was self-taught. It was a happy day when his family would hear him play.

John’s love for his family, friends and above all the Savior, is his legacy.

John is survived by his wife, Carol, his children Willemina Yospe (Jordan), Ralph van der Beek (Rebecca), Arlene Hawkins (Greg), Susette Afu (Kava), Jan Willem van der Beek (Danielle), Elbertus van der Beek (Rachel), Pauline Mili (Itula), along with 37 grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and five of his siblings.

The celebration of John’s life will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints chapel located at 2535 East Newcastle Drive, Sandy. A viewing will be held from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., followed by funeral services from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. The graveside service will be held at Larkin Sunset Gardens located at 1950 East 10600 South, Sandy.

Funeral services will be livestreamed via Zoom and can be accessed at the following link
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/JahISj7NvbkSbB64sNuzCUpbG3XTalSkPpoD_n60ruHTf55MLdkyfbHsoal1rrWT.rWq5

Those wishing to view the graveside portion of the service can follow the link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88244052771