



John Knezevich

June 22, 1930 - February 5, 2016

Our beloved family member John Knezevich passed away on February 5, 2016 in San Francisco after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. John was born on June 22, 1930 in Napa, California. He grew up in Napa and graduated from Napa High School in 1948. John enlisted in the United States Army after graduation and served our country during the Korean War, and attained the rank of sergeant. After discharge, John moved to San Francisco where he attended San Francisco City College studying electronics. He worked in the telecommunications industry for over 30 years at various management positions including setting up and supervising production lines. John served for many years as president of IBEW Local 1969 and as the chief officer of its credit union. John cared deeply about his community. For many years, he served as a paralegal donating his time to help seniors and the poor in obtaining government benefits and providing assistance at court hearings. John participated twice in the United States census concentrating on the counting of the homeless. He also volunteered at numerous nonprofit organizations dedicating countless hours to helping others. John had a great passion for the circus. He was a long time member of the Circus Model Builders and built his own circus, the Kay Brothers Circus. John served for over 10 years as the Advertising Manager of the Circus Model Builders magazine, the Little Circus Wagon. He traveled across the United States attending the annual Circus Model Builders conventions and displaying his circus. John had his own printing company, Asterisk Press. He developed

promotional merchandise that included silk screen and embroidered hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts and keychains for the IBEW, the Circus Model Builders and several small businesses. John also designed numerous high volume t-shirts and had his own t-shirt press for small production runs. John enjoyed traveling and was a food and wine connoisseur, and subscribed to Gourmet magazine. In 1960 he attended the Summer Olympics in Rome. During this trip, John visited Yugoslavia, his family homeland, and met many family members. He was the first person in the family to return to Yugoslavia since his parents immigrated to America. John enjoyed cooking and fine dining, and shared many fine meals with his family and friends. John was an avid sports fan and loyal supporter of the Giants, 49ers and Warriors. He attended many games and when not in attendance he watched or listened to the games. John would frequently be seen wearing a cap of one of his teams and oftentimes would be wearing a t-shirt supporting his teams that he had designed and produced himself. John was devoted to his family. He always dutifully looked after the care of family members and took on the primary responsibility to handle their affairs. Even though John never married and did not have children, he treated his nephews and nieces like they were his own children. John was preceded in death by his parents Bozo and Julia, his brothers Mitchell, George, Chris and Robert, and his sisters Melena and Mary. He is survived by his brother Pete, his sister Rose Eid, his nephews Dennis Eid and Craig Eid, and his nieces Patricia Dillon and Sandra Dunn. John asked very little of others, but he was always there for family, friends or anyone who needed assistance. We will miss him deeply and cherish our memories of him.

Service:

Private Services

Napa, CA