

**Kelman Maxwell "Max" Giffin Jr.**  
**1935 - 2021**



**January 30, 1935 - April 15, 2021**

Max passed away peacefully in the company of family on Thursday, April 15, 2021, in Mesa, Ariz. He was born to Kelman Maxwell Giffin, Sr. and Doris Irene Heffner Giffin in Grand Junction, Colo., where he grew up and graduated from High School.

As a young man, he worked briefly and proudly as a lineman for Mountain Bell Telephone Company until it was discovered that he was color blind and therefore, regrettably, could not do the job.

He joined the Army, serving three years in Alaska at which time he met his first wife, Leah, via pen pal correspondence. Upon his discharge, they married, moved to Denver, Colo., and had two children before they divorced after ten years. During that time, he worked for Denver Burglar Alarm Company while attending Colorado State University. Upon graduation he got a job in the accounting department of Frontier Airlines, where he worked for many years, and enjoyed the perks of traveling, which were extended to family members.

He converted to Catholicism as a result of his second marriage to Nancy Beyer.

In the late 1970's he moved third wife, Jan, and family to Coeur d'Alene, ID, where he worked in the County Assessor's Office before becoming a self-employed real estate appraiser. During that time, he also worked as a tax preparer and accepted a position as Interim Director for Hospice of North Idaho.

Max was a big football fan, holding season tickets to the Denver Broncos for a time. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, traveling, cooking and social gatherings with friends and family. He belonged to many clubs and civic organizations including The Knights of Columbus. For years he served as an enthusiastic volunteer photographer and assistant for his dear friend, Bart Templeman's world-renowned Ironwood Thrower Development Camp.

He remodeled, then sold his Coeur d'Alene home after divorcing Jan, returning to CO to care for his parents. He reconnected with Mary Rene Hull at a class reunion. While visiting her home in AZ, a fortuitous car accident led to a prolonged stay, resulting in marriage. Mary's family affectionately joke that Max was kidnapped by her, but it was clearly a mutually blessed encounter.

Max was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Darlene Gardner, and brother-in-law, Arden Cheeseman.

He is survived by sister, Claudia, and her family; wife, Mary; children and step-children, Rhea Giffin (Jim Mathey), Tim Giffin (Nancy Hagen), Eric (Beverly) Royer, David (Patti Jo) Royer, Bruce (Peggy) Royer, Curtis (DeeAnn) Royer, Nancy (Eric) Platt, Julie Meeks, Dean Beyer, Steve Beyer, and Julie Beyer; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and their families, including Rhonda VanDruff and Gary Cheeseman.

The family wishes to thank Premier Hospice and Home Health of AZ, and encourages donations in his name to them, and/or Hospice of North Idaho.

Max's wish was to donate his body to science via Science Care Inc. His final resting place will be at Grand Junction Memorial Gardens in Grand Junction, Colo. A celebration of Max's life is planned for a later date to be determined.