



John Knaphus

John Harold Knaphus fought a valiant battle with Alzheimer's and passed away in the early hours on Friday September 26th, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones.

John was born February 16th, 1951, to John Hafen "Jack" Knaphus and Joyce Lawana Roberts. His parents were as proud as they could be of their first-born son from day one. They showed him off every chance they got as they traveled with the army shortly after he was born. His childhood was filled with all the things that little boys dream of – a loving family, friends all around, working with dad, sports, pinewood derbies, and all things outdoors.

The courtship between John and his childhood sweetheart, Peggy, began as young freshman in high school. Their love grew up with them, and they were married June 3rd, 1969. Their union was sealed for eternity one year later in The Salt Lake Temple. They spent 56 years building their legacy together. Their 6 children, 23 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren are a testament to the love and happiness they shared.

To know John meant you knew his love for cars. His enthusiasm began in his early youth when he would go visit his grandpa's office at the car lot. Even as a little boy, he could name all the different makes and models. His interests never wavered, and it led him to selling cars after he graduated and later working in the parts department at Wagstaff Toyota.

John was always ambitious and gave 100% to whatever task was before him. His dedication to hard work began as a boy with an egg route and followed him throughout all his business endeavors. After being in a bad car accident in 1972 that resulted in him wearing a full body cast, he started working with his father and thus began his love for the art of tile work. He went on to start his own business, Mountain America Tile, where their motto was, "Quality is a Way of Life." John always took pride not just in a job done, but a job done well. His devoted work ethic was instilled in all his children through his example and guidance. His eye for detail shown through in his personal life as well. From the two family homes he built to the way he always mowed his lawn - twice for good measure.

He contributed to his community in many different ways, one of which was serving as the President of the Associated Builders and Contractors in 1994.

Working hard was a passion of his but there was always time for fun. Some of the most joyous times of his life were spent camping in the great outdoors, hunting with his boys, boating in Flaming Gorge, and watching his grandkids ride the four wheelers. The countless family get-togethers and holiday celebrations were also a highlight – all beginning with a prayer of thanks and ending with jokes and laughter thrown around the room.

He appreciated a master of any trade – sports included. Cheering on the Jazz was a favorite pastime of his. He also treasured his time spent serving in the Salt Lake Temple.

John was inspiring during this last stretch of his earthly mission. As his disease bombarded his mind, he expressed nothing but gratitude and wonder for the world around him. He continuously proclaimed his love for his family, especially his overwhelming endearment for the love of his life, his precious Peggy. His perspective enlightened us all and we have been blessed because of it. He will be greatly missed, and we eagerly look forward to the day when we are reunited with him.

We would like to offer our heartfelt vote of thanks to Ella Kelly and Arturo Martinez, along with all of those at Inspiration Health and Hospice for their exemplary care.

John is survived by his wife Peggy and children; Jim (Ammie), Ned (Audrey), Russ (Paula), Heidi Glenn (Jayson), Geri Bohn (Chris) and Brady Knaphus; 23 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren; Siblings Carrie Reid (Bruce), Bruce Knaphus, Chris Knaphus (Leslie), Mark Knaphus (Julie), Peggy Duke (Kevin). John was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Joyce Knaphus.

Viewing will be held Thursday, October 2nd, 2025, from 6-8pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meeting house at 2125 E Evergreen Avenue, [Salt Lake City, UT](#), 84109. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, October 3rd, 2025, at 11am in the same location with a viewing to be held prior from 9-10:45am. Interment will take place at The Salt Lake City Cemetery.