



Michael Knight Green

December 26, 1935 - February 23, 2023

Michael Knight Green, born December 26, 1935, in Spokane, WA, passed away suddenly on February 23, 2023, at the age of 87. Born to Jean Knight Green and Lewis Green, Michael had two siblings, a younger brother, and sister who were raised in Northwest Spokane. Michael attended North Central High School; after graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served his country for 3 years as a helicopter mechanic. He then attended Eastern Washington University, receiving a BA in History. While attending college, he met the love of his life, Ivy Buell, whom he married in 1961. Continuing his education, he went to the University of Idaho, where he received his Doctorate in History.

Michael was then hired by Pacific University in Oregon, where he taught history for 3 years. He left Pacific University to join the faculty at EWU, where he had a long and distinguished career as a professor. He specialized in Pacific Northwest History and US Diplomatic History, was chair of the history department for many years, and was president of the faculty senate. He created the first Native American History course on campus and was one of the first to invite Native American guest speakers. He was one of the creators of the first American Black History course at EWU. A very popular professor and storyteller, Michael retired in 2001 after 30 years of teaching. He co-authored a Pacific Northwest History textbook widely adopted throughout Washington State.

Michael was married to his love, Ivy, for over 62 years. He and Ivy raised 2 daughters, Susan and Kathy, and lived for more than 54 years in Cheney WA, where they often adopted stray dogs and cats, courtesy of their children. Michael spent many hours adoring and talking about his wonderful grandchildren, Victoria and Rebecca. He built a second home overlooking his favorite fishing hole on Kootenay Lake in Canada, where he spent his summers with his family. His hobbies included fishing and hunting. He dearly loved deer and elk hunting with his best friend Dick Donnelly. Michael had a very close group of fishing and hunting buddies who were lifelong friends.

Michael K. Green is survived by his wife Ivy Green, daughters Susan Green (husband Bill Pickett), Kathryn Panwala (husband Ben Panwala), granddaughters Victoria Panwala and Rebecca Panwala, his sister Jennifer Blair and brother David W. Green. His legacy will live on through his family, friends, and students, who dearly miss him.