



Jack D. Breese

April 23, 1942 - January 14, 2018

Jack Breese, 75, passed away on January 14, 2018 at home in Arizona. Jack is survived by his wife, Debi; his daughter Jennifer and her husband Jake; his daughter Andrea and her husband Josh; his son Mike and his wife Star; his daughter Tracy and her husband Scott; his sister Virginia; his brothers Denny and Donald; his grandchildren and great grandchildren Mackenzie, Sterling, Carmen, Thea, Hazel, Derek, Kaylin, Braylei, Jaxson, Kai, Lauren, Jacob, Ashley, Peyton and Reagan; and many in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Jack grew up in San Diego county and was a long time resident of La Jolla and Chula Vista. He was part of the first graduating class from Hilltop High in 1960. Jack lived in many parts of the world. He met Debi in South Florida and they were married for 47 years.

Jack joined the Air Force September 1960 and served as a flight engineer until he left the military in September 1964.

He retired from Southwestern College in Chula Vista. Once retired, Jack and Debi moved to Sunsites, Arizona. Their house is on the local golf course so they started to learn the game. He was fascinated by the challenge. After moving to Sunsites, he became an avid birder. He was thrilled when he saw the Vermilion Flycatcher.

Jack's lifelong passion was the ocean. He was a true waterman; he never met a beach he didn't like. Jack worked as an abalone diver, oil rig diver, sport diver, submarine pilot, and collected exotic fish for the aquarium trade in Hawaii. He adored fly fishing in Florida. In his youth, Jack and his friend Eric started the Chula Vista Kelp Cats in the 7th grade and later joined the Bottom Scratchers. They belonged to a dive group called the La Jolla Addicts. The group of friends were interested in skin diving and spear fishing. He was a long time member of the Historical Dive Society.

Jack loved to surf and continued to take his family to Bird Rock to "check the swell." Some of his favorite surf spots were the TJ Sloughs and Lots in Imperial Beach. Boomers in La Jolla was a longtime favorite with Jack. He took his daughters and any friends they could find to snorkel at the La Jolla Cove.

Jack was the original adventurer. He loved secret spots, mornings, rocks, the desert and his girls.

A Celebration of Life will be held on February 18, 2018 from 1pm to 4pm at the family home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jack D. Breese*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *Dear Mrs. Breese,*

It is with great regret that a sympathy note was not sent earlier. My name is Grace and I worked with Jack for a few years before his retirement. My heart sunk when I learned of his passing. I am sorry for your great loss. Jack was one of the first individuals I met when I first started at Southwestern College. Your husband was surely a gem of a person! I will never forget the warmth of his smile, and his easy going personality. I enjoyed listening to his many stories! I'll be mourning his passing with you and celebrating the life of a good man.



May you treasure the wonderful times you had with Jack and my thoughts are with you and your whole family.

*My Condolences,
Grace Cruz*

Grace Cruz - February 26, 2018 at 12:16 PM

NN

“ Hello, Mrs. Breese,

I'm sorry that I didn't find this site earlier. I worked at Southwestern College at the same time that Jack was there. I loved his gruff manner, but he had a heart of gold. You and Jack actually lived not far from me; I live up the hill off of Paseo Ladera.

Anyway, Jack would share recipes that he had created with me and raved about how good his dish had turned out. He was insistent that I watch "Lilo and Stitch" because he said that it was such a good movie-- it must have been one of his all-time favorites! He also persuaded me to buy the book "Snow Falling on Cedars", which I still have kept in my library of books. I was one of Jack's fans! I will miss seeing Jack in all his many Aloha shirts.

I am truly sorry that he is gone. He holds a special place in my heart and memories. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Nancy Nakatani

Nancy Nakatani - February 19, 2018 at 05:27 PM

EM

“ Eric and Molly purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Basket for the family of Jack D. Breese.



Eric and Molly - February 11, 2018 at 07:32 PM

LY

“ *Debi our deepest sympathy to you and the family on Jack’s passing. We have the fondest memories of him with his big smile and laughter from our visits in San Diego. Lance and Aimee*

Lance Yoshimoto - February 06, 2018 at 10:03 PM



“ *Met Jack & Debi at our respective timeshares in FI. Spent many a lovely evening sharing stories of old FI. and different authors and books that we love. Debi my deepest sympathy to you and your family he will be sorely missed.*

Marilynn Stacey - January 30, 2018 at 04:05 PM

LL

“ I shall miss my great friend Jack and his insightful opinions on many things in the underwater world. Jack was the first old abalone diver to take time to mentor me, and teach me about the diving culture that he, and the others, had inherited from the Japanese. He helped me find the artifacts of the old helmet diver's trade and was a constant source of information on the colorful characters of that trade. We both shared a great love of books and unlike many in the field I was researching, he took the time to read them and once in a while found rare treasures he would share with me. The last was a French Navy diving manual written by the inventor of the new diving equipment in 1865. Always the willing educator, he donated to the Historical Diving Society (HDS) for their coming diving history archive at UC Santa Barbara. We did not get to dive much but I will always remember that it was Jack who showed me my first abalone under water diving off San Diego. Having been raised in England and diving the English channel, I had never seen a shell that big. I will miss his enthusiasm for our shared interest and his loyal friendship that has endured for over three decades. We all only go round once, and on my journey I had the great fortune to have Jack as my constant friend and sometime guide. My world will be a little bit lonelier with Jack gone, but my memories will always keep him with me on the rest of my journey. Fair winds and following sea my dear friend.

Leslie Leaney, Co Founder HDS USA.

Leslie Leaney - January 27, 2018 at 07:52 PM

NP

“ Jack and Debi have been much beloved members of the community of Sunsites for many years. Some years ago Jack kept insisting that I should read the Dalai Lama's Cat trilogy. Finally I did, and enjoyed it thoroughly... Brilliant! For awhile after, whenever I'd see him we'd share our enthusiasm for it and I got to know him much better. What a great guy, with deep insight and such a warm wit and personality! You will be sorely missed Jack.
Warmest regards, Nama Priya

Nama Priya - January 27, 2018 at 03:12 PM

DL

“ Hugs and lots of love, Debi, during this difficult time. You and Jack have had a pretty wonderful life together - especially the fourteen? years in Sunsites as golfers and birders. We're sure he's checking out the best surf spots heaven has to offer. Dennis and Barb

Dennis Lambell - January 27, 2018 at 01:42 PM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jack D. Breese.



January 25, 2018 at 07:10 PM

JB

“ Thank you Dad for teaching me how to be me. You were a great father and dear friend as I got older. I miss you.

Jennifer Breese-Kauth - January 25, 2018 at 06:51 PM

SG

“ We met Jack & Debi in the Bahamas on vacation. Such special people, we bonded and became friends. Jack was such a easy person to love, so interesting and full of knowledge. We looked forward to the Florida visits and spending time with them. We were looking forward to visiting in Arizona and Florida this year. We are so saddened by your loss Debi. God places people in our lives for a reason., Jack was such a person, very caring and a joy to be around. He has left very good memories with us, he will truly be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Debi and the rest of the family.
Love Cornel & Sonia

Sonia Gray - January 25, 2018 at 12:19 PM

EC

“ When Jack and I were in the 5th grade, Jack stood up and announced he was forming a diving club does anybody want to join? I raised my hand thus began my life-long love of diving.

Many of my diving adventures were with Jack such as the "great purple coral caper" where Jack (the captain), Steve and I were going to St. Nicolas island to harvest purple coral (legal in the 70's). We headed out of mission bay toward St. Nicolas (or so we thought) at a rapid 8 knots as fast as the boat could go. We were going to stop in Avalon for the night and estimated it would take about 8-hours to get there in the dark. Eight hours came and went; then 9; then 10. We finally decided the compass was off and headed east (hopefully) in hopes of finding California. Luckily we ran into the backside of Catalina and made it into Avalon about midnight.

The next day we decided going to St. Nicolas was out of the question. If we missed the island, next stop Hawaii. We decided to go to Clemente because we can see Catalina from there. We did not find much purple coral (I still have a piece in my shell case), so we went back to Avalon and drank beer in the Chi Chi club. We headed back to mission bay the next day and captured a sea turtle on the way back. We sold it to Sea World for \$20 and 11 free passes. We didn't make any money but had a lot of fun.

Eric Carlson - January 24, 2018 at 01:54 PM

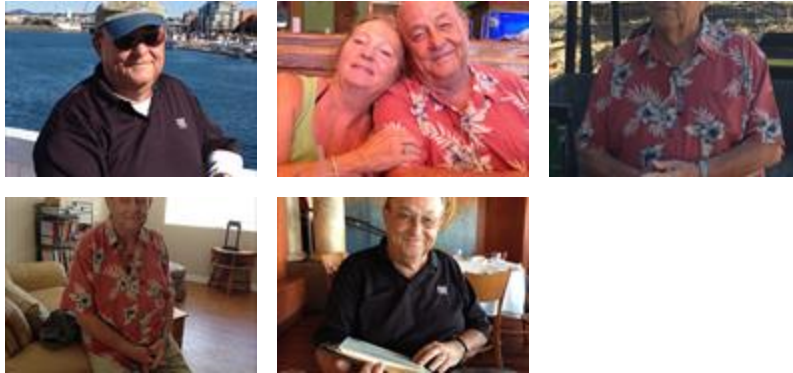
AN

“ Dad you are the best Dad Anyone could ask for. You were kind and patient and loving. I miss you.

Andrea - January 24, 2018 at 02:25 AM

DB

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Debi Breese - January 23, 2018 at 01:10 PM

DB

“ *Jack, I will love you forever. You made my life so special, besides being the love of my life, you are my best friend, and my beloved.*
Deb

Debi Breese - January 22, 2018 at 11:47 AM

DB

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Debi Breese - January 22, 2018 at 10:49 AM

BK

“ *Bob and I met Jack and Debi at Jen and Jacob's wedding. He was the consummate story - teller ! He and Bob spent a good deal of time comparing stories of adventure. His love for his family and his love of adventure were easy take aways of where his priorities lay.*

Hugs, Bob and Bonnie Kauth

Bonnie Kauth - January 21, 2018 at 03:32 PM

DT

“ *So sorry to hear about Jack, Deepest sympathy to the family!
What a nice man!*

Diane Tucker - January 15, 2018 at 06:17 PM

DT

“ *Diane Tucker sent a virtual gift in memory of
Jack D. Breese*



Diane Tucker - January 15, 2018 at 06:15 PM