

Gerry Hunt June 29, 1952 - May 5, 2015

Gerry Hunt, 62, of Morgan, Vermont, passed away May 5th, 2015 at Columbia Medical Center in New York City, from pancreatic cancer discovered just two weeks earlier while traveling in Spain and Portugal. His beloved wife Elaine Lockwood, brothers, sons and their partners were at his side.

Known for his uncommon kindness, warm smile, and joie-de-vivre, Gerry was a man of great intelligence, accomplishment, humility and wide-ranging interests. He was blessed with charisma and the simple gift of making everyone around him feel important and loved. It was always easy for his children, his wife and brothers to look to him for guidance.

The son of Pat Hunt and the late Paul Hunt, Gerry was born in Burlington, Vermont in 1952. He grew up in Island Pond and later Morgan, with his brothers Don and Andy; he enjoyed skiing at Burke Mountain, fishing in Island Pond and Lake Seymour, biking, and camping trips with the family. As a teenager, he met and fell in love with Elaine during summers at the Orleans Country Club. Although they slowly lost contact when he went off to university, he would speak of her as his first real love.

In 1970 he graduated from St. Paul's and continued on to serve as an intern for Vermont Senator Winston Prouty in Washington DC. After the internship, Gerry enrolled at the University of Vermont as a film major and was heavily involved in UVM theater as both cast and crew, a passion he later shared with his eldest son, Eli. During the 1980's he directed a number of plays in Woodstock, Vermont. When UVM celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their Royal Tyler Theater in 2014, he helped organize the event including restoring the 1974 recordings of *The Contrast*, the first show performed in the theater, in which he had acted.

Gerry met the mother of his children, Faith Gaskell Hunt at Vietnam War demonstrations in Washington DC. After graduation from UVM, they married and moved to Hartford, Vermont to start a family where he worked at the Veterans Administration in White River Junction, Vermont, and earned his MA in Public Administration from Antioch University.

He later redirected his career, entering the software industry, working for Houghton Mifflin and then Computer Microsystems Incorporated. There he discovered his entrepreneurial spirit, and along with two partners, founded his first company, Netrights.

Netrights was eventually purchased by an Oregon based company causing him to uproot and move to Portland, Oregon for several years before once again settling back in the Northeast Kingdom. Back home in Vermont, Gerry started working with his brother, Don, on the financial services offerings tied to his mother's business, Pat Hunt Incorporated. Along with his wife Debra Hardy Hunt, they also started Northeast Kingdom Homecare, a business allowing their elderly clients to stay in their own homes, while still receiving the personalized care and companionship they need. Over time NEKHC added an adult daycare offering and currently maintains over 60 employees.

In 2010, after forty long years apart, Gerry reconnected with his high school sweetheart, Elaine Lockwood. Elaine introduced him to the sport of diving and her love of African wildlife. Gerry

shared a love of good food and his rather large family. Together they shared their joys in experiencing the world. He had shared these passions with his sons as they grew up, by taking each of them on travels of their own. He always enjoyed telling the stories of his adventures.

An avid reader, he also enjoyed writing, genealogy, and playing games. Gerry was an amazing chef and loved to share foods inspired by the many places he had traveled. He enjoyed playing the guitar and was a wonderful singer who loved to play for family and friends. His children have fond memories of being sung to sleep.

Passionate about public service and citizens' obligations to serve and shape our government and the local community, he had become focused on conservation and environmental issues. Gerry recently created a non-profit, Vermont Students to Africa, which plans to send 6 students to Africa to study conservation in 2016.

Gerry's parting words to his friends and family were: "Work hard, reach farther. Do great things. I'll be watching. Love to you all. - Gerry"

Besides the love of his life and childhood sweetheart Elaine, Gerry leaves a legacy including his sons Eli and fiancé Emily of Cornish, New Hampshire; Ezra and his partner Anna of Portland, Oregon; Eben and his partner Katharine of Canaan, New Hampshire; and his step children Eliot Brooks and Grace Brooks. He is survived by his mother Pat Hunt and her longtime friend Al Callahan of Morgan, Vermont; brothers Donald Hunt and wife Andrea of Coventry, Vermont; Andy Hunt and his wife Trish of Vestal, New York; an uncle Reverend Stuart Brush and wife Laura of Woodbury, Connecticut. In addition, he leaves many nieces and nephews. Predeceasing him were his father Paul Hunt, his daughter Erin, and wife Debra Hardy Hunt.

The family asks that those who desire to contribute to his legacy donate to the "Vermont Students to Africa", 136 Coche Brook Crossing, West Charleston, Vermont 05872. A celebration of his life will be held at his home, 136 Coche Brook Crossing, Morgan on Monday May 11, 2015 from 3-5 P.M. rain or shine.