



Marion Ross Conner

October 21, 1947 - September 27, 2019

Marion Ross Conner passed away unexpectedly on September 27, 2019 at the age of 71. He was born October 21, 1947 in Counsel, Idaho, to Marion and Camilla (Celie) Conner. Ross was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Vickie (Olson) Conner, his daughter Nicole (Nikki) Fitting her husband, James, his son Travis Conner and his partner Daniel, and his son Tim Conner; his five grandchildren, Jordan Fitting, Andrew Conner, Brenner Fitting, Jaxson Conner, and Jerika Fitting, along with many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and friends. He is also survived by his sister Claudia (Gordon Torrey) and Linda (Jim Miller) as well as his adopted children Mike Conner and Jodi Conner Parks.

Ross graduated from Boise High, class of 1965 and entered the US Navy serving from October 1965 through April 1989. He served with distinction, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) while stationed in San Diego. He served on the USS Kearsarge, USS Constellation, and USS Cape Cod among others. His favorite was the USS Tarawa, where he met the love of his life and partner in crime Vickie. She was the 'B' with the notebook, and he was the man with big ears, crooked teeth and no butt. It took some time, but they fell in love and were married February 4, 1984 later being sealed February 9th, 2002 in the Mount Timpanogos Temple. They celebrated 35 glorious years together of laughter and stories. After retiring from the Navy, they moved to Utah where he worked for the Utah Department of Corrections for 21 years, in various capacities.

After moving to Saratoga Springs, Utah; Ross joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. While he served in many callings over the years, he found his passion serving in the scouting program. He loved his scouts and made a lasting impression on the boys who went through the program. He was awarded the high honor of Silver Beaver in September 2016, which is given for impacting the lives of youth through service. He rediscovered his love for camping and found a new love and talent of woodcarving while attending Philmont Scout Leadership Camp. Shortly after starting, he turned this talent in to amazing projects and art winning several awards at local carving shows.

Ross loved life and loved his family. He impacted everyone he met, through his stories and his deeds. Whether through his silly jokes or his tall tales, he could bring a smile to your face and a warmth to your soul. He was an amazing man and a gentle spirit; he had a story for any occasion. Whether it was his injury at wounded knee, or the corn's growing pains; Ross' talent for story telling was famous.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, October 2nd at 11:00 am at the Saratoga Springs 3rd Ward Chapel, 49 East Centennial Boulevard, Saratoga Springs, Utah, where Viewings will be held on Tuesday, October 1st from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and prior to the service on Wednesday from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Interment in Spanish Fork City Cemetery.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

**Spanish Fork City
Cemetery**
420 South 400 East
Spanish Fork, UT, 84660

Events

OCT Viewing 06:00PM - 08:00PM

1

Saratoga Springs 3rd Ward
49 East Centennial Boulevard, Saratoga Springs, UT,
US, 84045

OCT Viewing 09:30AM - 10:30AM

2

Saratoga Springs 3rd Ward
49 East Centennial Boulevard, Saratoga Springs, UT,
US, 84045

OCT Funeral Service 11:00AM - 12:00PM

2

Saratoga Springs 3rd Ward
49 East Centennial Boulevard, Saratoga Springs, UT,
US, 84045

Comments



“ Ross was a great guy, I'm sad to hear of his passing. I had the pleasure to work with him at UCI for a few years until he transferred to the electronics security shop. When I first started at the prison I looked a bit young for my age (I still do). He jokingly asked if I was even old enough to work at the prison. After we joked about our age difference he started calling me "Sonny" and I called him "Pops". It was always a fun jab that we through at each other over the years. Even after leaving UCI he would frequently stop by to chat and show me his latest carving creation. As a fellow woodworker, I was always very impressed with his quality work and attention to detail. He had a true talent and you could tell that he loved to carve. Years after he retired I had the pleasure to run into Ross at the Spruces campground. It was great to see him and hear what adventures he and Vickie had been on. I know this is a big loss for your family. I know you will see him again someday. Until then, know that you have the best guardian angel looking over you!
Doug Schut

Doug Schut - October 07, 2019 at 11:13 AM



“ Sorry to hear this. Great guy and it's unfair that so often retirement time gets cut short.
John French - October 29, 2019 at 01:27 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ Once a daddy’s girl, always a daddy’s girl! I love you dad! I am so grateful families can be together forever! I will miss you every day!



Nikki Fitting - October 06, 2019 at 12:16 AM



“ And he loved you so much.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:33 AM



“ I want to thank our family, immediate, and extended for the help they have given Nikki, Travis, Jordan, Andy, Brenner, Jaxson, Jerika, Jim and Dan this past week. Great friends and neighbors who came to my rescue with food, water and most of all love. Who supported us at the worst days of our life. Who shared in our lives the past 36 years, and brought forth so many memories of the love and laughter we had in our home everyday. Who respected the man we called Dad, Papa, brother, brother-in-law, Uncle, cousin, and friend. I wish I could give the love of my life one last kiss, hug, hold his hand or share another secret. I know he left this life knowing how much love I have for him, and how he has been the best friend and partner in crime anyone could ask for. How our kids and grandkids are so thankful for the lessons he taught them through this life. Till we meet again Rosasco, there is no regrets for the adventures we had, or the laughs we shared. I am grateful that our family is forever.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:01 AM



“ Growing up dad would go out to sea often so he was our fun parent, we would rarely get into trouble by him. I remember getting letters from him every time he was out to sea they were always signed” All my Love”. Which is how I sign my cards & letters to the people I care about today. I remember getting so excited and getting ready to go to the piers and wait for the ship to come in and being so emotional when I would find him standing on the ship as they pulled in.

He taught me how to work on cars, sew, He sewed my sun dress that I got an A+ in homec class as well as a stuffed bunny I got the best grades in class cuz Dad did most of my work. Taught me how to catch & clean fish.

We would go to this beach called Gater beach, after Jaws came came out I was so not about the water anymore, Dad told me that’s why I bring you here jode, they put shark nets 2 miles out so no sharks come to this beach. Oh, great until one year the life guard comes by and says Make sure you shuffle your feet because lots of sting rays out there today, well of course I pipe up and say, Hey what about the nets.... what nets...? The shark nets they put 2 miles out how come they don’t keep the sting rays out? Mean while dads behind me waving his arms trying to get the life guards attention to continue... “THE LIE” LOL it was fun while it lasted.

Any time I seen my dad over the years there’s always a time where we’d lock eyes and both tear up. Even at Tim’s graduation this past June, I am so thankful I was able to see, hug and tell him I love him one last time. Only if I knew....

I know my dad loved me & missed me.... as I did him, as I will for the rest of my life

Jodi Parks-Moonvez - October 02, 2019 at 07:12 PM



“ Dear Vick and family,

I am so heart sick over your loss. You two were the best "partners in crime."
He was such a great man, husband, and father. Knowing you will be together one day will hopefully help you through this. Always remember "Families are Forever."

Deon Stroman

Deon Stroman - October 02, 2019 at 02:55 PM



“ Thank you so much for your kind words. It helps us as a family.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:03 AM



“ Vick, we are absolutely heartsick over this. It was a privilege to know Ross and be able to spend a little time with you guys at our class reunion recently. Gene enjoyed working with Ross all those years at DOC and respected him a great deal. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family as you navigate through these next few days. Much love, Jan & Gene Tabish

Jan Tabish - October 01, 2019 at 01:02 PM



“ Vickie I just read about Ross. I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Rose Kocinski - October 03, 2019 at 05:54 PM



“ We have no words for the loss of our dearest friend. So grateful for the grandkids we share, and the memories of such good times in and out of the oceans. We love you both so much.

Rick and Shauna Beard

Rick and Shauna Beard - October 01, 2019 at 10:49 AM



“ We have had so many great times. Thanks for your prayers and support during our difficult time.

Love you.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:06 AM



“ I had the pleasure of meeting Commander Ross and Vickie when they were campground hosts at Spruces CG on the Slat Lake Ranger. I was always impressed that Ross made the journey from E-1 to O-4, a true mustang. He was a energetic and a pleasure to be around. Peace to Vickie and the rest of the Conner family in the days ahead. Anchors Aweigh Commander.

George King
US Forest Service -Retired
Spearfish, SD

George King - September 30, 2019 at 06:24 PM



“ We had so much fun being at Spruces for a couple of years, and getting to know you. Thanks for your kind words.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:11 AM



“ I served with Ross on USS Kearsarge CVS-33 in the IC Shop during two Westpacs 1966 and 67/68. We crossed the equator together and had our last deployment extended due to North Korea and her capture of the USS Pubelo in Jan 68. We all survived the fire as we were mooring to the refueling pier in Sasebo, Japan on 12-23-1967. I had the pleasure of working with Ross again as my Division Office of Shop 51 IC/Gyro at DATC/FMAG San Diego. He was a good man, IC man and Division Officer, he will be missed.
Fair Winds and Following Seas Shipmate

Stephen Norton - September 30, 2019 at 03:47 PM



“ I met Ross aboard the USS KEARSARGE and we served together in the IC Room until I separated from the Navy in Sept of 1969. We were close friends and doubled dated with our girlfriends of that time. I had the pleasure to spend an evening with him in SLC while I was on a construction project there. He was a kind and generous man, a good friend, and an excellent sailor. I am saddened by his passing and know will meet on God's Quarterdeck in the future. Fair Winds and Following Seas, my friend.

James Kennedy - September 30, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ I wish everyone could have known the great man he was. He was an amazing husband, who was so very proud of his family.
He spoke of you, and your friendship often.

Vickie Conner - October 06, 2019 at 12:15 AM



“ I love you, Dad. Fair winds and following seas, sir.
Attention on deck!



Mike Conner - September 30, 2019 at 03:09 PM



“ Ross and Vicki were my Neptune mentors and dear traveling friends. I will forever remember Ross's always positive presence every time we met. May his memory be eternal, he will be dearly missed.

Angela Simmonds



Angela Simmonds - September 30, 2019 at 03:03 PM



“ I came to IC 'A' school from the fleet in '75 when I was 1st Class and Ross was already a 1st Class! We spent many hours discussing the Fleet, Liberty around the world and just life in general! I could always go to Ross with a question about our rating and he proved to be a wealth of info! I think him talking about the El Paso(LKA117) so much that when I left shore duty early in '76, I took orders to the St Louis(LKA116) and he was right! Really learned my job and made Chief from that tour of duty! Thank you Buddy for all the 'good skinny'! May you rest in eternal peace and save me a spot at the 'Snipe' council fire!

Stew

Darryl Stewart - September 30, 2019 at 02:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Scannable Living Tag



Utah Valley Mortuary - September 30, 2019 at 02:10 PM