



Jack Latham West Davis

January 11, 1939 - November 22, 2019

Jack L. Davis passed away on November 22, 2019, at Poudre Valley Hospital after suffering a heart attack at home. He was born January 11, 1939, in Fort Collins to CoraLee (nee Davis) and Lloyd D. West. They lived at 600 Elm St. on a small acreage purchased from Mr. Hart, close to where Martinez Park is today. In 1951, he and his younger brother George were adopted by his aunt and uncle, Flora and Frank Davis. They lived in Phoenix, AZ; Austin, TX; and then moved to Germany where Jack graduated from high school in Wiesbaden.

He married Mitzi Gerhardt on December 21, 1978, and they lived in the Stratton Park area of Rist Canyon for many years. Jack enlarged and added on to the cabin he had built. It became a two story house with solar panels to heat water and photovoltaic panels to produce electricity. They raised pure bred Toggenburg dairy goats under the herd name Rocky Mtn. Toggenburgs, and were longtime members of the American Dairy Goat Association and the Front Range Dairy Goat Association. Jack and Mitzi traveled from California to New York, buying and selling animals, visiting other goat herds and attending shows and conventions. They also traveled the West, exploring Colorado and many of the National Parks in the U.S. and western Canada.

Jack started as an apprentice electrician, then became a welder, and worked on the Glen Canyon dam in Arizona. He moved back to Fort Collins to help his father, Lloyd, both of them working at Forney's. In 1961, Jack enlisted in the Army, and served in both Germany and Vietnam. Returning to Fort Collins, he purchased property in Stratton Park. He was very proud that his Great-grandfather Robert West had homesteaded in the area in the late 1880's. Many miles were logged commuting back and forth to work in Fort Collins, but Jack loved the mountains. He retired from American Breeder's Service in Wellington in 1994.

Jack could build and fix almost anything. He loved to shop the thrift stores for treasures, and was a great cook, baker and canner. They started "Mitzi's Flowers" in 2000. Jack did all the rototilling, composting, building raised beds, designing and managing the irrigation

system, building a “cold room” for the flowers and thinking of ways to grow everything better. Mitzi and Jack were together every Saturday at the Larimer County Farmer’s Market, from July until frost, selling cut flowers and bouquets.

Jack is survived by his wife, Mitzi, a sister Gladys Morris (Tom) of Houston, TX, his nieces Sandy Imes (David) Ft. Worth, TX, Michelle Davis, Tucson, AZ, Michelle Pappaducas (Brian) Ankeny, IA, Kathy McCarthy (Jon) Minneapolis, MN, and nephews Jeff Morris (Shari) Pasadena, TX and Eric Gerhardt (Dawn) York, PA, plus numerous cousins, great nieces and nephews, and his beloved dog and companion Marco. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother George and a nephew, Greg Morris.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020, at the Farm at Lee Martinez Park, from 12:30p.m. - 3:30p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to [Coloradogives.org/](https://coloradogives.org/) [Poudreriverlibrarytrust](https://coloradogives.org/Poudreriverlibrarytrust) or [Coloradogives.org/Friendsofthegardensonspringcreek](https://coloradogives.org/Friendsofthegardensonspringcreek).

Comments



“ Mitzi
We are sorry to hear about Jack. You are in our thoughts.

Ken and Mary Dunnington.

Kenneth Dunnington - January 05, 2020 at 11:14 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jack Latham West Davis.



December 26, 2019 at 06:33 PM



“ Sandy Imes lit a candle in memory of Jack Latham West Davis



Sandy Imes - December 26, 2019 at 05:54 PM



“ Vicki Kler lit a candle in memory of Jack Latham West Davis



Vicki Kler - December 06, 2019 at 07:28 PM



“ Mitzi, you are in my thoughts and prayers! While I haven't seen you in many years I've thought about you and Jack often. He will be greatly missed. It was always a pleasure to work with him at ABS and he always made sure I stayed safe and didn't let the work environment get me down. I'm also thankful to have been the recipient of a beautiful Toggenburg that got me started on quality goats. I'm sorry to have missed your farmers market ventures. Take care and kind regards, Vicki Kler

Vicki Kler - December 06, 2019 at 07:36 PM



“ I see Jack sitting quietly behind Mitzi at the Farmers Market. His face lighting up when he recognized us, Again lighting up if you said anything about Mitzi or her flowers He was a good man and he sure loved you Mitzi Davis.
Peace and comfort to you and his family,
Paul & Nancy

Nancy Hilbrecht - December 04, 2019 at 06:06 PM



“ Always a smile and warm greeting when he saw us at the market booth helping Mitzi with her beautiful flowers !
Love Mitzi Linda & Donn

Donn - December 05, 2019 at 01:49 PM



“ I loved knowing Jack for so many years. In the Rist Canyon days; sitting down to one of their famous chilli lunches surrounded by Jack and Mitzi's cabin, mountain home, ranch and look out. The creative efforts in creating this unique home; truly astounding. In the later years, Jack and Marco wrapping my sun flowers at the market; with a big smile from both of them. Blessings to all.

Robin

Robin Minott - December 06, 2019 at 09:57 AM



“ Mitzi, please accept our heartfelt condolences on the sudden and unexpected loss of your husband Jack. I have so many wonderful memories of our long ago times in the goat associations, and appreciate how much Jack taught me over the years. He built my first goat shed, taught me how to trim goat feet, told me always "to talk to my stock", and I really appreciated his calm, confident way of handling livestock. With love, Dick, Joan and Helena Bowen

Joan S Bowen - December 11, 2019 at 11:37 PM



“ Mitzi, thank you for sharing your beautiful memories with us today. You honored Jack and the special man he was with the Celebration of Life gathering. John and I always have enjoyed our times with you both. Pamela

Pamela Von Plutzner - January 11, 2020 at 06:37 PM