



Wayne Stephen Markham

April 19, 1948 - March 6, 2020

Wayne S. Markham, 71, of Marathon, Florida, passed away Friday, March 6, 2020, after sudden complications from a long-standing illness. Wayne was publisher of The Keynoter and The Reporter in the Florida Keys for 13 years. He led the two weekly community newspapers in award-winning coverage of news, opinion, arts and entertainment, tourism, fishing, environment, and hurricanes. Wayne loved the Florida Keys, its history, and its people. He expanded the newspapers' coverage of hard news and politics, added art and entertainment features, wrote op-ed columns, and supported the community through leadership positions in organizations such as United Way of the Florida Keys. Wayne spent most of his journalism career in Miami at The Miami Herald where, for 30 years, he held newsroom roles as a reporter, award-winning real estate writer, and section editor before moving into business operations where he was a circulation director.

Wayne was born in East St. Louis, St. Clair County, Illinois, in 1948, the son of Volney and Frances Markham. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Lois; daughter Heather Stewart and son-in-law, Keith, of Charlotte, NC; son Sean Markham and daughter-in-law, Jaime, of Culver City, CA; brother Dennis Markham and sister-in-law, Barbara, of Waterloo, IL; four grandchildren, Sydney, 15, Braden, 10, Lillie, 9, and Leo, 3; nephews Jesse Markham (wife, Jesse) of Waterloo and Eli Markham (wife, Rebekah) of St. Louis, MO; great-nieces Nola, 2, and Amelia, 1; great-nephew Wyatt, 13; mother-in-law

Frances Wolfe and sister-in-law Cheryl Wolfe of Morgantown, WV.

Wayne enjoyed planning trips, reading history and mysteries, touring art museums, conducting acerbic armchair critique of contemporary media, and finding home remodeling projects that were short and sweet. He took peace and pleasure from sitting in the sun on his Seawatch patio and watching trees change season beyond his shady wooden deck in Asheville.

Wayne loved being a proud father to Heather and Sean and a grandfather who doted on the current and future accomplishments of Sydney and her music, Braden's basketball and writing, Lillie's art, activism, and athletics, and Leo's perspicacious grasp of life at three.

We marveled at Wayne's courage and resilience in confronting illness. We deeply miss his sharp intellect, great laugh, integrity of character, unfailing sense of direction, appreciation of hard work, and respect for friends and colleagues. What we miss most deeply and irreparably, however, is him.

Wayne's life and memory are being commemorated in a private family gathering in Asheville, NC. Memorial donations can be made to United Way of the Florida Keys, P.O. Box 2143, Key West, FL 33045.

Tribute Wall



“ Wayne Stephen Markham

October 09, 2023 at 01:52 AM



“ Wayne Stephen Markham

October 08, 2023 at 10:49 PM



“ Wayne Stephen Markham

October 24, 2022 at 11:11 PM