

Rodney Combellick

March 3, 1951 - August 24, 2025



Rod Combellick passed away unexpectedly from a stroke, on August 24th, 2025. He was 74 years old. His passing has left a void in the hearts of his family, friends and many more whose lives were touched by him.

Rod is survived by his loving wife Carolyn Comiskey and his two children Jennifer Stromack and Ryan Combellick. He was cherished by his grandchildren Caden Stromack (4), Levi Stromack (1), Evan Combellick (3) and Molly Combellick (1). Rod leaves behind his sisters Janet Showalter (Mike Showalter), Morgan McKenna, and Linda Combellick (Kelly Cheek). He also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews. Rod was predeceased by his parents Glenn and Vernie Combellick and his first wife, Michele Combellick.

Rod was born and raised in Littleton, Colorado. After his graduation from high school, he

attended University of Washington where he received a BS degree in 1973 in geological sciences. He received his MS degree in geological sciences in 1976 from University of Southern California. Throughout his college years he also studied to be an organist.

Rod began his career as a geological scientist in Alaska in 1981. He worked for the State of Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Survey (DGGs) for 33 years. During this time, he became an expert in the field of paleosiesmology geology. The study of historic earthquake activity in Alaska. After years doing field studies he then served as the Deputy State Geologist for the State of Alaska, until his retirement in 2013.

Rod's dedication to playing the organ continued until his death. He was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, in Fairbanks, for over 40 years. During this time, he was the organist for many church services and special events. He participated in numerous public organ recitals and was involved in the State chapter of American Guild of Organist. Rod taught Osher Lifelong Learning Institute classes in organ at UAF. He accomplished his lifelong goal to travel the world to listen and play historic organs.

Rod became a pilot in his early 20's and was involved in all aspects of local aviation. He flew his beloved Cessna 177 (Cardinal) for 40 years, mostly in Alaska. Rod was also involved in Civil Air Patrol for many years.

After his retirement, Rod became a volunteer for the AARP Tax Aide Foundation in Fairbanks. He felt tremendously ful-

filled when helping others.

A memorial service will be held for Rod on October 25th, 2025 at 1:30 at Christ Lutheran Church. Rod's love for the organ will be the highlight of the service. The Rod Combellick family looks forward to seeing you there and sharing his memories.