

Jan Eric Peterson

April 28, 1944 - August 14, 2022



Jan Eric Peterson, widely acknowledged as a champion of justice, died peacefully at home on August 14, 2022. He was 78.

Jan dedicated his career to advocating for the disadvantaged with empathy, fairness, and professionalism. He was known for his larger-than-life personality, his generosity, his willingness to help and support his colleagues, friends, and family. He had numerous passions and accomplishments outside of the legal profession and lived life fully. Friends and colleagues remember him as "an amazing lawyer," "a legend," "a true giant," "stalwart," "one of the great ones," and "a true Renaissance man."

Born April 28, 1944, to Dorothy and Theodore "Pete" Peterson in Seattle, Washington, and raised in Pasco, Washington, with his sister Jana. Jan earned his undergraduate degree from Stanford University in 1966 and attended the University of Washington Law School where he received a Juris Doctor in 1969. Jan was a partner of the law firm Peterson Wampold Rosato Feldman Luna which he co-founded in 1973 after stints at the ACLU and OEO Legal Services. There, he achieved record-breaking verdicts for his clients.

As 2000-2001 Washington State Bar president, Jan's mantra of "Proud to be a Lawyer" united lawyers on both the plaintiff and defense sides. He took his popular, uplifting message across the state encouraging all lawyers to be "stewards of justice."

Jan was a true partner and friend to his wife of 38 years, Margy Peterson. He was a loving and supporting father to his children from his first marriage to Jeanne Peterson, son Nels and daughter attorney Anne Peterson, and to his stepsons Derren and Corrin Haskell, and a proud grandfather to Ocian, all of whom he encouraged in their endeavors until the day he died.

A celebration of life being planned for October.

For full obituary and online guest book, please visit www.washelli.com

**No Events Scheduled At This
Time**