



## David Raymond Akins

November 25, 1938 - April 24, 2020

David Raymond Akins, age 80, sailed away into his sunset from home on April 24, 2020. He was surrounded by his soulmate in life of 28 years, Marti Miller, and his loving extended family. David was born on November 25, 1938 in Youngstown, Ohio to parents Florence and Carl Akins, Sr.

The family relocated to Orlando, Florida, where he attended Edgewater High School. Upon graduation, David moved to Chicago to pursue his passion for the Arts. He attended the Art Institute of Chicago, the American Academy of the Arts and the Institute of Lettering and Design. Post graduation, he returned to Orlando where he began his career in Graphic Design and founded his business known as "Akins the Artist".

David received many accolades from his civic involvement in local clubs and organizations, however, his love of sailing was his primary passion. As Commodore to "The Sailing Club" where he was a proud member for over 30 years, David sailed The Bahamas and Caribbean Islands with his first mate, Marti, along with his close friends and family. Captain Dave's adventures were so legendary everyone wanted to come along so he became the "Admiral of the Fleet".

Survived by his children, Shannon Unk, Cameron Akins, John Trent Akins and Carl Travis Akins; Grandchildren, Warren, Amanda, Natalie, Jami Lea, Kailee New and great-grandchild, Raegan.

His extended family are daughters; Cheryl (Terry) Bennett, Lisa (Jim) Knight and Grandchildren, Stephen (Candace) Bennett, Harry Bennett, Kristen Bennett, Maddie and Sophie Knight. His loving great-grandchildren; Isabella Talaga, Ellie Bennett, Brielle Cohen and Michael Sloat.

David is also survived by his brothers Bob (Kay) Akins and Lee (Barbara) Akins and their children.

Visitation for FAMILY ONLY, will be held from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Saturday, May 2, 2020, DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory, 9001 Orlando Avenue, Maitland, Florida.

A Celebration of Life will be planned for his birthday in the fall, where his ashes will set sail at Lake Baldwin Park, in Winter Park.

David made his most precious contribution, following his death, to The Neuromedicine Brain Bank at the University of Florida for Parkinson Research, to hopefully someday find a cure for Parkinson disease.

In lieu of flowers, please make your donation to:

Parkinson Association of Central FL

P. O. Box 3337, Winter Park, Florida, 32790

In Memory of David.

<http://www.parkinsoncf.org/donate>

David has left the shore under full sail, with fair winds and calm seas, heading for his “Island Time”!

# Events

---

**MAY**   **Visitation for Family Only**   03:00PM - 05:00PM

**2**  
DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory - Maitland Chapel  
9001 N. Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL, US, 32751

# Comments

---



“ Marti & family,  
David was such a sweet man. He will be truly missed by all he touched. It was our pleasure to have had him as a partner in the PD journey as he was an inspiration in how to travel this road.  
In prayer,  
Bruce & Carol Raskin  
A donation will be made to PAC in David's honor.

**Carol & Bruce Raskin** - May 14, 2020 at 02:30 PM

---



“ My Uncle Dave was the sweetest uncle, I never heard him raise his voice or say a negative thing about anyone. He had such a quite voice. I loved his smile and he always had one. He had such a positive attitude even through all the obstacles he faced. Love you uncle Dave. You will be missed by many. Marti, Tony and I are here if you need anything. We are keeping you in our prayers. We love you.

**Pam and Tony Moyer** - May 02, 2020 at 02:46 PM

---



“ Having known Dave all his life as his brother, there are so many memories to go over in my mind. We grew up in a small Orlando where on the week ends the three brothers would take the City Bus to down town to see cowboy movies and visit the few stores on Orange Ave. This would take up most of Saturday. Living in Orlando before Disney was great! After I joined the Air Force and was stationed in Tampa, Dave moved over and we shared a small apartment. On the week-ends we played in a band and got to be well known in a small (1959) Tampa. After the Air Force moved me several times before discharge I finally moved back to Orlando. Dave and I again played in a band on week-ends and enjoyed many family outings.  
Dave's final 28 years with Marti were his happiest. She was the best thing that ever happened to him. Thank you Marti.

Bob and Kay

**Robert Akins** - May 02, 2020 at 11:52 AM

---



“ Mart & Family

We were so saddened to hear about Uncle Dave. You & family have our deepest sympathy and love. David was a special person who was fun to be around and had a gentle way about him with a twinkle in his eyes & full of mischief. I always looked forward to seeing him and you Marti. It was so evident that you both were a sweet devoted couple together that really shined through. I always wished all our families lived closer so we could of visited more. I will hold the fond memories I have of all our visits together growing up in Ohio and visiting in Florida. His kindness to my husband & myself when we were first were married was greatly appreciated.

We will miss him. God be with you and Family and we'll keep you all in our prayers.

Love, Fonda & Gary Garland  
daughter of Carl & Thelma Akins

**Fonda Garland** - May 01, 2020 at 11:19 PM

---



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of David Raymond Akins.



May 01, 2020 at 10:03 AM

---



“ 2 files added to the album David Akins



**Marti Miller** - April 30, 2020 at 06:20 PM

---



“ Sally and I have been two of Dave's many sailing buddies since early 1989, when we met during the planning of the Sea Gals cruise to and from the Abaco Islands of the Bahamas that occurred in May of that year from Fort Lauderdale. Since then, we sailed with Dave in the Florida Keys, Tampa Bay, the Intracoastal Waterway on both Florida Coasts, and, of course, the lakes of Central Florida. Dave was Commodore of The Sailing Club while I was Boat Daddy under Dave's leadership. Today, upon learning of Dave's passing, we spent time remembering all those good times. We will miss him, but are glad that he is now experiencing fair winds and following seas. Marti, our thoughts are with you. You were there for Dave in fair weather and in rough seas. He appreciated that, and so do we.

Dave & Sally Pontis



Dave & Sally Pontis - April 29, 2020 at 08:16 PM

---



“ My condolences to you Marti and the family. Honored to have met David through The Sailing Club.

Joseph Bartolomeo

Joseph Bartolomeo Jr. - April 29, 2020 at 05:05 PM

---



“ Joyce and I will miss David, who was our partner with Marti in the life Journeys of sailing and Parkinson's , and the philosophy of WORRY NO MORE, a Beneteau we sailed together!

I remember when I first met David, who encouraged me to become a sailing instructor, a rewarding bit of fun that I did a few years, also meeting some good people. David was a balance of quietness and strength, and good in whatever he did. Our thoughts are with you Marti.

Peter and Joyce Wood

Peter and Joyce Wood - April 29, 2020 at 02:12 PM

---



“ 3 files added to the album David Akins



Marti Miller - April 28, 2020 at 04:37 PM

---



“ Dave will be missed very much by so many. But as he sailed out of our sight, we know his older 2 sisters and 2 brothers were excited to see him on the horizon...coming to join them and what a party they must be having! Marti, our love and sympathy is with you, along with gratitude for bringing Dave so much love and laughter for years. We also thank you for your loving support and care when David needed you most, David was fun, caring, sensitive, and loving, and those qualities were demonstrated in his incredible art. Dave, until we meet again, we love you dearly and thank you for the memories.

Jeannie & Ron Lerch

Ron Lerch - April 28, 2020 at 01:06 PM

---



“ Marti and family,  
David was the most happy and kind man. Despite all the challenges he has faced in his life, he always had a smile. A big smile and it lit up the room. I will miss that smile and his warm presence. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. David had a special place in my heart and will be so very missed. Love to you all.  
Anissa

Anissa Mitchell - April 28, 2020 at 12:30 PM

---



“ martimiller is following this tribute.

Marti Miller - April 28, 2020 at 11:44 AM