



*In Memoriam*  
*Jack Donald Branch*  
*Worthy Grand Patron, 2023*  
*1955 - 2023*



Brother Jack Branch was born on November 4, 1955. He passed to the Grand Chapter on high, surrounded by his wife and children on July 1, 2023, in Longview, Washington. He is survived by his beloved wife, Cynthia and children Julie and Steven (Valerie) Branch along with five grandchildren.

Jack's Masonic career began when he was initiated into Ryderwood Lodge No 270, F. & A. M. in May 1986. He later joined the Shrine and served as a Shrine Clown with Afifi Temple in Tacoma. He served as Worshipful Master from January 1, 1990 to December 31, 1990. Brother Jack was initiated into Longview Chapter #206 *Order of the Eastern Star* on September 25, 1986. He was Worthy Patron at Longview in 1988 and 1994 and became a Life Member of that chapter in 1994 right before they merged with Maple Chapter #218. He was a Worthy Patron of Maple Chapter in 2004 and 2019. Our Brother was honored to be commissioned Grand Representative of New Mexico in Washington on January 8, 2020. He also became a member of Pacific Chapter #129 in 2021. The *Crystal Snowflake Grand Family* was proud to claim Jack as their Grand Sentinel on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with Darlene Wiggins as Worthy Grand Matron and Bob Wheeler as Worthy Grand Patron. Jack then became Associate Grand Patron on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, for Past Grand Matron Pam Rookard and Past Grand Patron Chuck Kent and was elevated to the position of Worthy Grand Patron with his Worthy Grand Matron Judy Turchin June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Jack and Judy and their escorts spent a lot of time together planning their "*Wild and Wonderful*" Grand Year. Jack passed away only three days after being elected Worthy Grand Patron.

Another great love of Jack's was Scouting, which he became involved with in 1990 with his son Steven. Jack served as Scoutmaster for Troop 702. In fact, he and Steven were charter members. Jack was recognized on many levels in the organization with numerous awards for Advanced Leadership Training, the Silver Beaver Award, the Order of the Arrow and many others.

*"A door swung briefly open and our Brother slipped away,  
He slipped from life's burdens into bright, eternal day,  
Where earthly grief is forgotten and pain shall be no more,  
To peace and understanding, God opened wide the door,  
So sweet be his rest and gentle his sleeping,  
God's way is best, our Brother is in His keeping."*

In tribute to the memory of our departed Brother and as a mark of respect and esteem, this Memorial is to be read at the first stated meeting after its receipt, and the Altar draped in his memory.

*Judy Turchin*  
*Worthy Grand Matron*

*Patricia DeMuth*  
*Grand Secretary*

*Darel Maxfield*  
*Acting Worthy Grand Patron*