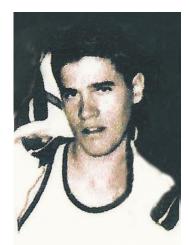


OBITUARY JOHN MORTON PHOENIX

November 1, 1941 - November 4, 2013



On November 4, 2013 John Morton Phoenix, age 72, passed away from colon cancer. He was born November 1, 1941, in St. George, Utah, the first son of Mary Morris Phoenix and John Jasper Phoenix also known as 'Jack'. He attended St. George Elementary, Woodward Jr. High, and was a 1959 graduate of Dixie High School. He was a member of the undefeated Dixie High basketball team, The Flyers that won the Utah State Championship in 1958. In 1959, the Flyers returned to the championship game, took 2nd place, and John was named to All-State team as a forward. After high school John worked for the Standard oil station on Main Street in St. George, and then enlisted in the U.S. Army. In the later part of the 1960's, John moved to Las Vegas where he began a life-long career as a croupier working first for Circus Circus and then the Imperial Palace. He retired in 2012.

When John was in his early twenties his father passed away, and his only brother, Bill, was the victim of a fatal auto accident. John and his mother, Mary, relied on a steadfast relationship to see them through these times. He was frequently seen mowing his mother's lawn on his weekend trips to St. George. In memory of his mother, a dearly loved and admired educator in Southern Utah, John willed a significant portion of his estate to the Washington County School District in her memory.

Those who knew John liked and loved him unconditionally. He was smart, kind, generous, and possessed a wonderful sense of humor. Being his pal was great fun. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan, and his knowledge of baseball trivia was unsurpassed. He also possessed a great passion for jazz music, having a collection of over 1000 jazz CD's. The artist Ray Charles was one of his favorites.

A memorial service and celebration of John's life will be held on Saturday, May 24, 2014, at 1:00 pm at the Spilsbury Mortuary with a dedication of the grave immediately following at the St. George Cemetery.

Anyone with information on the descendants of Mary's brother, Robert Morris are asked to contact John Gubler. E-mail: jgg@gublerlaw.com.

Arrangements are made under the direction of Spilsbury Mortuary, (435) 673-2454. Friends and family are invited to sign his guestbook at <u>www.spilsburymortuary.com</u>.