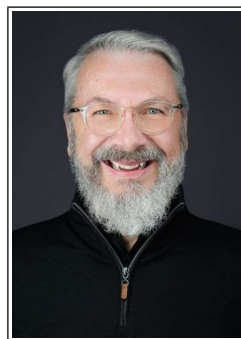


Carl Alan Mahnke '80, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at the age of 67 in his home in Bailey, CO. He valiantly battled ALS as long as he could.

Carl was born June 13, 1958 in Milwaukee, WI; the second of five children to Marjorie Ann and Carl Alfred Mahnke. He was raised in Milwaukee, WI, Springfield, PA, La Crescent, MN and Waterford, WI.



In 1976 he graduated from Waterford Union High School and went on to attend the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana, IL where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Chapter of the Alpha Chi Rho fraternity, graduating in 1980.

In 1980, while working at University Inn in Champaign, he met his wife Tanya (nee Fisher) and they married August 13, 1983 in Saginaw, Michigan; leading to a 42 year marriage. They had two children, James Carl in 1985 and Anne (Annie) Catherine in 1987, both born in Princeton, NJ. From Princeton, NJ they moved to Gladstone, MO and then landed in Aurora, CO in 1993 to raise their family.

Carl spent his 45 year career in the hotel and event industry. He started out as a banquet server, then banquet captain for Ramada Inn. He then spent 38 of those years with Hyatt Hotels, working his way up from head steward in the dish room to Corporate Director of Events for Hyatt worldwide. He had many different food and beverage positions in between. He loved his career with Hyatt; always saying he had the best job in the world. And, it gave him (and Tanya) the opportunity to travel the world.

In the last years of his work life, he worked for a non-profit called *Aurora Warms the Night*, helping unhoused people in a marginalized area of Aurora. His last position he worked part time as an events consultant with Sonesta Hotels. Carl and Tanya fulfilled a 30 year dream of moving to the mountains in 2021. And Carl officially retired in October 2024.

Hiking, traveling, making and drinking wine (he was a professional sommelier) and eating delicious food were some of his favorite things to do. Since birth, he was an avid Green Bay Packers fan. He loved visiting his adult children in Dallas and Chicago and playing with his 5 grandchildren. In Bailey, prior to ALS, he served as a deacon and on the Missions Committee at

Platte Canyon Community Church. He also volunteered with Tanya at Widow's Oil Food Pantry in their Harris Park community.

Carl was a compassionate, kind soul. He loved his wife Tanya. He loved being a father and a papa. He was a good son, brother, uncle and friend. Carl was a strong follower of Christ and a friend to all he encountered; positively impacting so many lives. His quiet and calming presence will be greatly missed by all those who knew him.

Carl is survived by wife, Tanya; children, James (Victoria) Mahnke and Annie (Michael) Lilly; grandchildren, Silas Mahnke, Lucy Jackson Mahnke, Emerson Lilly, Jim Jackson Mahnke and Lilah Lilly; mother, Marjorie (Albaugh) Mahnke; siblings, Debbie (Bruce) Ranke, Lindy (Mark) Lenard, Laura (Keith) Skully and Jim (Michelle) Mahnke. He was preceded in death by his father, Carl Alfred Mahnke.

A Celebration of Life service was held at Platte Canyon Community Church in Bailey, CO on Saturday, January 10, 2026.