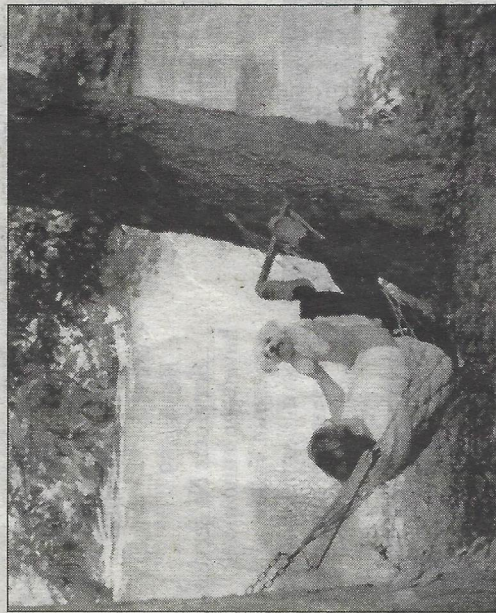


**CHRISTOPHER M. REHDER**  
**January 7, 1941**  
**September 16, 2021**

Chris was born to Helmut and June Kruse Rehder in Madison, WI, where Helmut, a native of Germany, held an assistant professorship, teaching German and the humanities. Chris's aunt Gertrude and grandfather Julius Rehder, a noted painter, also lived in Madison at the time.

In 1946, Helmut accepted a position as head of the German department at the Univ of Illinois, so the family moved to Urbana and remained there through Chris's grade school and junior-high years. In 1955, Helmut accepted a professorship at the University of Texas. There, the family lived in an isolated and sprawling hill-top ranch style home on 54 acres just outside of Austin. After graduating from Austin High, Chris followed in the footsteps of his father intellectually, pursuing a degree in history at the Univ of Texas. He studied eastern



**Christopher M. Rehder**

European history. His master's thesis related to the Battle of Gallipoli. He graduated in 1962 (BS) /64 (MS). While at UT Austin, he was a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. It was then too that Chris met the love of his life, Suzanne Hall. Suzanne and Chris lived a wondrous and adventurous life together. They married in Dallas in 1962. In 1965, they moved to Iowa for a short four-month snowy stint where Chris taught history. Switching paths, they packed their bags and

headed to the outskirts of D.C. There, Chris began his 34 year career with the CIA. At Langley, Chris was an analyst, heavily involved with the Russian Missile Defense System. His later years are off record, or as Chris would say, "I could tell you, but I would then have to kill you." In 1968, Chris and Suzanne had twin sons, Mark and Michael. Chris was dedicated to his sons, acting as soccer coach, soccer commissioner and supporter of AAU wrestling activities through their

youth. The family lived in Fairfax, VA (first on Lincolnshire and then Ordinary Way) and later moved to historic Clifton, VA (by the tracks) after their sons went off to college. The family made many excursions to New Hampshire over the course of 14 years.

In the decades to come, Chris and Suzanne spent much of their time travelling the world with friends and family: Greece, Scotland, Guatuala (CA), Hawaii, Alaska, Canada, Martha's Vineyard, Spain, England, Italy, France, Germany, Mexico, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Virgin Isles, and Haiti were some of the places they visited.

However, the world collapsed on Feb 2, 2000, with the death of their son, Mark. Nearing retirement, Chris and Suzanne then chose to move near Seattle, where their son, Michael, and his wife, Yasuyo, lived. They chose the haven town of Gardiner on the Olympic Peninsula, where they enjoyed a thriving rural community with abundant friends and a scenic porch where they could look out across their

five-acre plot towards Discovery Bay and drink their wine (or Maker's Mark). They continued to travel, but to a lesser degree. They enjoyed weekend trips to Seattle for their granddaughters' soccer matches, as well as many trips with friends to Canon Beach, Oregon, staying surfside at the Ecola Inn.

Chris's interests were simple: Seattle Seahawks, University of Texas football, geology, his grandfather's paintings, Suzanne's cooking and planning, and crude jokes (that often took a while for others to absorb). He loved dogs (including Max, Alpo, Sandy, Dusty, and Haley over the years).

He loved Shiner beer, brewed in the heart of Texas. He was an avid reader. He enjoyed Gardner coffee group and OPES with friends. He was a Sunday morning robe-wearing, newspaper-reading, joke-scribbling, dog-petting, bacon-cooking aficionado. His slow-cooked, dry-rubbed, baby back ribs shared with family and friends were nothing short of masterful. He was a life-

long democrat and served as a Democrat precinct officer while in Gardiner.

Chris and Suzanne moved to Chateau Pacific in Lynnwood, WA, in 2019 after Suzanne had a fall that required subsequent brain surgery. While Chris's mental and physical health deteriorated over these years, his wit and dry humor "surfaced" to the end. He died unexpectedly by pulmonary embolism.

Chris is survived by his loving wife of nearly 60 years (Suzanne), his son (Michael), his daughter-in-law (Yasuyo), his grandchildren (Marlena and Elisa), his niece (Liz), his nephews (Karl and Ben) and his sister-in-law (Helen).

The family would like to thank all those at Chateau Pacific (including Charisse, Pat and Lisa) who took care of Chris during the past two years and Villa Rey AFH during his final few weeks (including Judith, Erick and Ramel).

Condolences may be expressed by contributing to Alzheimer's research. A memorial service will be held on a future date.