



Butch Ochsenreiter

April 23, 1944 - March 1, 2026

Butch Ochsenreiter, 81, died unexpectedly Sunday, the first of March, at his Elk Mountain home from heart failure.

Butch was a widely beloved friend, a person of artful passions who served and inspired those who knew him, and a native of Asheville whose love of the mountains made its way into every aspect of his life.

His death occurred the same day he visited and brought cheer to a decades-long friend at Solace Center Hospice.

A dedicated athlete and mountain biker until the day he died, Butch wound down mountain trails from Bent Creek in Asheville to Monarch Pass along the Great Divide in Colorado. He was often accompanied by stalwart friends with whom he piloted around and through mudslides, snowstorms, and fallen trees, among other things.

Butch will be remembered for his passionate love of music, dogs and cats, and constant reading, in the main books about fantasy worlds made from whole cloth, loving Tolkien and J.R. Martin, to name just two favorite authors. A Cold War army veteran, he was a master framer and art lover, working side-by-side with his wife Sandy for many years at their gallery in Biltmore Village. In every sense, Butch's friends were his family; a family he cared deeply about.

He leaves behind his love of foggy hollows, wind-blown mountain balds and the rush of trees flying by in all seasons. With Ann as his partner for the past 20 years, he was an integral part of the Lingerfelt family. Deeply loved and in

return he found such tranquility. He and Ann were certainly soulmates.
Ann requests that, in lieu of flowers or other gifts, friends of Butch make donations to The Carolina Great Pyrenees Rescue (<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1416190>)

Morris Funeral & Cremation Care is honored to be assisting Butch's family.
Condolences may be sent through the website, www.MorrisFamilyCare.com

Tribute Wall

RG

“ I came to know Butch when I worked with Sandy at UNCA. On many an occasion I would visit the gallery, partake in the many New Years Days gatherings and talk endlessly about the dogs and cats. He taught me more about framing that I ever thought I'd come to know and showed me a love of art that I didn't know I had. Thank you Butch for wonderful experiences and an appreciation of the joys of being outdoors.

Rosalyn Galloway - March 13 at 05:34 AM

LP

“ On behalf of all of our brothers and sisters at the Teamsters Local 61 and of his coworkers at UPsS our deepest condolences to the family. Butch was my helper in 2006 as I began my career as a delivery driver at UPS. His work ethic was impeccable. A tremendous amount of respect to his unwavering dedication and it was honor to know and work with him.

Lee Player - March 12 at 06:10 AM

PJ

“ So long Butch. Hopefully wherever you may end up, there are plenty of dogs and bicycles.

P Johnson - March 11 at 07:21 PM

LJ

Well said. L Johnson

Lane Johnson - March 12 at 06:13 AM