



## SIIA PAST BOARD CHAIRMAN JOHN JONES PASSES AWAY

John Jones, a past board chairman of the Self-Insurance Institute of America, Inc., passed away on May 7, 2020 due to complications of an autoimmune disease.

Born on Dec. 2, 1956, to James and Mary Ann Jones, John's earliest years were spent playing baseball and picking crab apples near their family home on Pryor Lane in Billings. As a young man, he worked alongside his brothers in the family construction business.

Venturing outside Montana after high school, he attended Willamette University and completed studies abroad at the University of Munich. While at Willamette, he met the love of his life, Darla, and forever endeared her at the campus Sweetheart Dance in February of 1979. They traveled across the country while he pursued a law degree at the University of Puget Sound, followed by an LL.M. degree in taxation from Boston University.

Continuing his professional work, John clerked for the Montana Supreme Court in Helena. Then, in 1985, he began a long career at Moulton Bellingham PC in Billings, where his aptitudes were welcomed, and his leadership encouraged.

In addition to his self-insurance industry leadership role with SIIA, John also served as president of the Montana Captive Insurance Association, Inc. (MCIA).

John's community contributions were many, which included the philanthropic work of the C.M. Bair Family Trust, as well as serving on the Rocky Mountain College Board of Trustees.

Over his life, he coached several athletic teams, and he was overjoyed when former athletes passed him in town with a "Hey Coach Jones." His passion for sports included also being an avid fan of the Baltimore Orioles and the Seattle Seahawks.

He is survived by his wife, Darla; sons, Sean (Elissa), Nathan (Carolina); grandson, Henry; granddaughter, Isabella; siblings, Pati (Laird), Kathy, Jimmy, Greg, Jerry (Ann), David (Kelly), Danny (Kari); mother-in-law, Lori Davis; brother-in-law, Tim Deering; sisters-in-law, Debby Deering and Pam Davis.

A private family service will be held, followed by a celebration of life to be announced at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley, the AJ Blain Foundation, and Rocky Mountain College. MCIA will be making contributions to each of these organizations. ■

