Atchison, KS

Terry William 'Butch' Ball, 76, a lifelong Atchison resident and Pharmacist, passed away unexpectedly Wednesday, April 26, 2017.

Memorial services have been set for 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at the Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home. Abbot Barnabas Senecal, OSB, will be officiating. Burial will follow at the Mt. Vernon Cemetery in Atchison. Family will receive friends from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Monday, May 1, 2017, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Atchison YMCA, Atchison Achievement Services or The University of Kansas School of Pharmacy and may be sent to the funeral home. Words of comfort and sympathy may be left online at www.beckerdver.com.

Butch was born on March 5, 1941 in Atchison, the son of Max and Zilpha (Cummings) Ball. He graduated from Atchison High School in 1959 and from The University of Kansas School of Pharmacy in 1965. Upon graduation, Butch was drafted into military service with the United States Army and served his country honorably from 1966 to 1968. After completing his military commitments, Butch returned to Atchison with his family and began working for his father (Max) and his uncle (Merle) at Ball Brothers' Drug Store at 733 Commercial. A year later, in 1969, he purchased his uncle's stake of the business and became partners with his Dad. He subsequently became the sole proprietor of the store in 1975 after purchasing Max's half of the business. Butch purchased Domann's Drug Store in 1992. He merged the two businesses, and moved to the larger Domann's building at 504 Commercial and closing the 733 Commercial Street location. Butch's son Chad followed in his footsteps by becoming a pharmacist and going to work for his father in 2001. Chad eventually bought the business from Butch in 2009, and he and Butch continued to work side by side until Ball Brothers' Drug Store closed its doors for good in 2011. Butch served the Atchison Community, which he dearly loved, for over forty-six years as a pharmacist. He was known for his ability to connect with his customers and for always having the people of Atchison's best interest at heart. Ever the people person, Butch loved to keep busy, so in 2013, he earned his realtor's license and was currently working for United Country Realty in Atchison. He was thoroughly enjoying his second career.

Butch was member of the Atchison Elk's Club, Bellevue Country Club, Past-President of the Fellowship Club, and served on the Board of Directors for the Atchison YMCA. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Atchison Achievement Services, and Valley Hope. He was a member of the Kansas Pharmacist Association, the National Community Pharmacy Association and the University of Kansas Williams Fund.

Butch's passions in life were his family, sports, snow skiing, and the Atchison Community. He was proud to be an alumnus of Atchison High School and The University of Kansas. He played all sports in high school, and continued to follow and support the Redmen and the Jayhawks as a fan and booster for his entire adult life. He loved to go snow skiing and his annual treks to Colorado with his best friend of 47 years, J. David Farris, were always an adventure. Butch loved Atchison, Kansas. He took great pride in his hometown and always saw it for its very best.

Butch was very proud of his sons and grandchildren and loved to spend time with them, and attend their sporting events. His favorite sport was basketball and he particularly enjoyed watching his son Brad coach and grandson Tanner play.

Butch and Mary Nass were united in marriage on June 10, 1967 in Atchison. After briefly living in El Paso, Texas while Butch was still in the military, Butch and Mary returned to Atchison in 1968.

Butch was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Judy Taylor. Survivors include his wife, Mary, of 50 years; two sons, Brad (Anne) Ball of Tomball, TX and Chad (Carri) Ball of Wichita, KS; five grandchildren, Tanner, Avery, Lindsey, Maxwell and Addison; sister, Kathy Hines of Atchison, Numerous nieces and nephews and many, many, many friends.