



James Tombaugh

November 21, 1939 - January 30, 2011

Corvallis resident James Russell Tombaugh passed away Sunday in his home, from cancer. He was 71.

He was born in Chicago, Ill., to Mary Louise Scranton and John Richard Tombaugh.

He attended both Princeton University and Stanford University, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford in June of 1961. He then earned a Master of Arts degree from the University of California at Berkeley in January of 1966.

He married Linda Joyce Riggle in 1972 in Eugene. The marriage lasted for 15 years, and produced two children.

Jamie worked in the Oregon wine industry for more than 40 years. During that time, he worked for Bethel Heights Vineyard, Knudsen Erath Winery, Sokol Blosser Winery, Amity Vineyards, Hyland Vineyards and several others.

In 1968, Jamie owned and operated a metalworking shop in Eugene called the Manufactory. Throughout his life, he continued to make metal sculptures, lamps, pot racks and other useful objects. He chose not to sell these, but gave them as gifts to friends and family. He liked to make beautiful candleholders and give them to people who touched his daily life in a special way.

Throughout his life, Jamie remained a passionate scholar, a social commentator and an avid, intellectual conversationalist. He lived modestly, and tried to leave very little impact upon the Earth.

James was preceded in death by his parents, Mary Louise Scranton

Tombaugh and John Richard Tombaugh. He is survived by his children, Hilary Jane Tombaugh Norton and Benjamin Cayton Tombaugh; his brother, Richard Tombaugh; and his nieces and nephews.

A private gathering for family and close friends will be held in Jamie's home.