



## **Graham Richard Cross**

April 2, 1955 - July 27, 2016 (61)

Graham grew up in Rutledge, PA. He attended Swarthmore High School, graduating in 1973. He travelled to New Orleans with his high school friends. Graham was active in the Rutledge Fire Company, becoming President. Graham entered the United States Air Force. He finished Fire Fighter training at Chanute Air Force Base in IL. He was then stationed at K. I. Sawyer AFB in Michigan before serving at RAF Woodbridge in England.

Following his service in the military, Graham moved to Arizona. He was an aviator at Hughes/McDonnell Douglas/ Boeing Helicopters. Graham spec'd out a Boeing Helicopter crash truck. He drove it back from Wisconsin - with ample supplies of brats and beer. Graham was also an active member of Maricopa Mountain Rescue. One memorable life moment was when Graham met Arnold Palmer - and offered advice on improving his golf game! He furthered his skills in flight training Edwards AFB where he participated in Boeing 767 brake testing.

Graham returned to the East Coast settling in South Bowers Beach, Delaware. Along with being a gifted photographer, always looking for the perfect shot, he served as Chief Engineer for the South Bowers Fire Company. Work there was conducted on land, and in the water. A testament to a life of service to the fire company was his memorial service. It was held at his favorite lighthouse the 14 Ft in the Delaware Bay. Escorted by Fireboat 40(Bowers) 54 Marine-1 (Little Creek) Marine 89(Slaughter Beach) Fire Boat 82(Lewes Fire) Airboat 57(South Bowers). Flag Over the Murderkill River Ladder 49 (Frederica) Quint 40 (Bowers). Bag pipes - Ryan Knowles. *Last alarm assignment. Rest easy my friend.*

Graham is survived by his brother, Gerry Cross of Wallingford, PA.