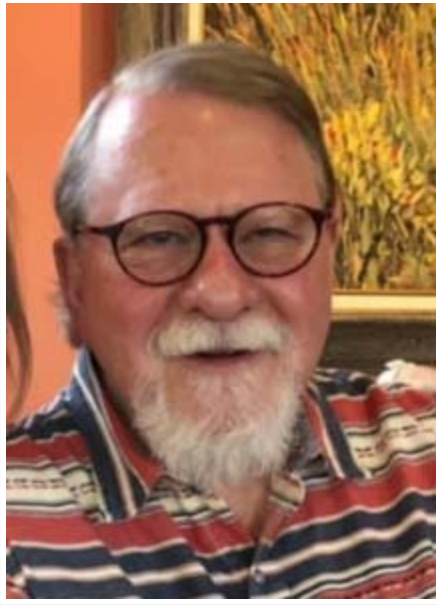


“Skip” Earell Edwin Kissinger, III



“Skip” Earell Edwin Kissinger, III died at his Santa Fe, New Mexico home of a rare vascular sarcoma (EHE) with his family around him on Wednesday, March 30th, 2022. Skip was a devoted father, husband, son, US diplomat, and peacemaker. As a Foreign Service Officer with USAID, Skip lived and worked in 33 countries doing economic development and legal, political, and institutional reform, including economic and political integration. He managed almost \$5 billion globally in US Assistance and established the Asia Regional Development Mission (RDMA) for USAID in Bangkok.

He was born October 1, 1951 to Frances and Earell Edwin Kissinger, Jr. in Canon City, Colorado. Many of the best times of Skip’s childhood were the times he spent with his aunt and uncles on his grandparent’s ranch in Gunnison, CO. His experiences working on the ranch set his lifetime values. Skip was a survivor: At

3 years old he contracted polio and spent much of his childhood having reconstructive surgery and physical therapy. At 6 he survived being bucked off a horse and landing on his head on a railroad bed, while riding double with his uncle.

Skip studied at the University of Chicago, The Hague Academy of International Law, French language at the EuroCentre in Lausanne, Switzerland and in 1979 received a M.I.M -joint MA/MBA in International Management, Politics and Law from the University of Denver.

He later joined the Peace Corps from 1979-82. After self-evacuating from Garissa, Kenya, during his tour in Turkana, Skip met his first wife Bridget Kissinger who was working for the Turkana Rehabilitation Project.

Skip then worked for CARE in Port-au-Prince, Haiti when he and Bridget had their first child, Chloe. In 1987, he joined USAID as a private enterprise officer. He managed the establishment of the first private mortgage bank. He was instrumental in beginning exporting mangoes from Haiti to the US. Mangoes are now one of Haiti’s most important exports. In 1990, Skip’s next post was Jamaica, when their second child Travis was born. In 1994 in Bulgaria, Skip did economic restructuring and coordinated a multi-million dollar Bankruptcy program. In 1996-98 in Eastern Slavonia and Croatia Skip directed the USAID Office in UN Sector East and the General Development Office in Zagreb. His first marriage ended in divorce.

In 2004-08 in Bangkok, he served as Acting Mission Director and Director of the General Development Office and also established relations with the ASEAN Secretariat, Thailand, China, Tibet, Vietnam, Laos and Burma.

Skip’s daughter and mother encouraged him to visit a church: (“You might meet someone”). The next Sunday, he crossed the street and met Ann at the door of Concord St. Andrews in Bethesda, MD. Skip and Ann Kissinger were married shortly thereafter in 2012. Skip became Chair of the Church Council. In 2013, in Abuja, Nigeria, Skip worked in Economic Growth & Environment and Ann was ordained as

a United Methodist Minister and became the Associate Minister. Skip and Ann returned to Bethesda, MD. Skip served as Senior Advisor, managing the new USAID Trade Capacity Building Policy. He retired in Santa Fe, NM where he and Ann enjoyed attending and volunteering with the Santa Fe Opera and watching the sunrises and sunsets from their portals.

We remember Skip for his great kindness, generosity, and enthusiasm. He was a forgiving man and peacemaker. He was proud of his children. Ann says "He taught me something new everyday."

Skip is survived by his mother, Frances Kissinger, Rio Rancho, NM; his wife Ann Kissinger, Santa Fe, NM; his daughter Chloe Thornhill and her husband John Thornhill of Silver Spring, MD; his son Travis Kissinger of Washington DC; his sister Kristy Totten and her husband Dr. John Totten, of Juneau, AK; and brother Brad Kissinger and his wife Jill Kissinger of Rio Rancho, NM.

A Mass of Resurrection, Interment and Reception will be held Saturday, April 23rd at 11 am at The Church of the Holy Faith, 311 East Palace Ave., Santa Fe. The service will be livestreamed and also available for later viewing at Holy Faith's YouTube channel.