



*Captain Dave Earnest is a Golden Eagles member and good friend of Captain Chester James. He sent the following email and letter for the benefit of our Golden Eagles members. Please contact Dave if you have any questions regarding Chester's condition. Many thanks to Dave for his input.*

Dear Dave,

I have read some postings recently that do not characterize Chester's current status accurately. Although well intentioned, some folks are just not up to date or in touch with the family. I spoke with Tanner this evening and he gave me permission to try to bring folks up to date with the most current information regarding Chester. Tanner and I are in touch with one another at the very least weekly. I'm also willing to answer any questions that may result from this letter. Would you please disseminate this to the Golden Eagles and other interested parties.

Thanks,  
Dave Earnest



Dave Earnest and Chester James

November 11, 2019

Dear Friends of Chester,

This evening I spoke to Tanner James and asked if I could write this letter to keep Chester's friends up to date.

During the past two years, I've had the opportunity to visit Chester almost monthly in Fort Collins. As many know, he has been afflicted with Alzheimer's and the disease has caused a mental decline.

All of us who know Chester love him and have the utmost respect for him as a leader, a friend and confidant. I have seen a few postings that although well intentioned may lead to some misconceptions.

When I last visited Chester in October, he was living in a memory care facility in Fort Collins. Shortly thereafter he needed some more intensive care and temporarily moved to a facility in FMorgan. On this past Friday he moved into a Hospice care facility back in Ft Collins.

Kathy and Chester decided to divest of their ranch in Wellington and their home in Fort Collins and Kathy subsequently moved to their home in the Steamboat Springs area. Since she was not in Fort Collins regularly, she turned over Chester's health care needs to their son Tanner.

Chester's three children and Kathy have rotated taking care of Chester as much as possible during this very difficult time.

Please know that this is a very challenging time for his loving family and friends. As events unfold, I will send out another letter. Also, if you have any questions that I can possibly answer, please email me.

Sincerely,

Dave Earnest  
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Dave Newell  
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