

**Pat Pitney**  
**UA President**

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**Mourning the loss of John Hebard**

I was terribly saddened to learn of the unexpected passing of former Chief Procurement Officer John Hebard.

John started working at UAF in 1996, ultimately becoming the Chief Procurement Officer in 2016. He retired in May 2023. He is remembered for his soft-spoken manner, attention to detail, and ease of conversation.

John loved sports, and regularly supported UAF athletics as well as cheering on his children as they progressed. He proudly supported his daughter as a WNBA standout for the Chicago Sky. An alum of UAF and Lathrop High, he demonstrated great pride for his alma mater. John and Dorothy loved to travel and were long-time volunteers for Catholic Schools of Fairbanks.

My sympathies to his wife Dorothy, and their three children Jacob, Ruth and Isaiah, as they grieve this tragic loss.

A funeral Mass will be held at 3 p.m. on September 2 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, with a reception to follow.

If you or someone you know is struggling with this loss, please don't struggle alone. Help is available. Employees are eligible for free counseling through the [Employee Assistance Program](#). Please call 1-888-969-0155, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Sincerely,

Pat Pitney  
President, University of Alaska