



Edward M Wilkinson

May 10, 1941 - August 11, 2016

Edward Marshall Wilkinson went to be with our Lord and Savior on Thursday, August 11th, 2016 after suffering a stroke. During the brief hospitalization following this event he was compassionately cared for by the staff at Samaritan Healthcare and was surrounded by his loved ones as he passed peacefully from this world into Heaven.

Edward, affectionately known as “Butch” in his earlier years, was born on May 10th, 1941 in Akron, Ohio to Woodrow and Leona “Evelyn” (Brady) Wilkinson. After graduating from high school, he joined the United States Air Force, and was eventually stationed at Larson Air Force Base in Moses Lake, WA. During his time of service in Moses Lake, he met the love of his life, Cheryl Schmid, and they were married on July 31st, 1965. Ed and Cheryl enjoyed 50 years of love and dedication to one another, and welcomed five children into their lives. They moved several times early in their marriage while Ed continued in the Air Force. After honorably discharging from the service in 1968, Ed and Cheryl resided in Seattle where Cheryl worked as a teacher, and Ed pursued his education at the University of Washington. Ed and Cheryl moved back to Moses Lake in 1973, when Ed accepted a position as a laboratory manager at what was then American Potato Company. He continued in various managerial positions at the company until his retirement in the late 1990’s.

Ed came to know and love Jesus Christ as a result of the example and testimony of Cheryl and he accepted Christ as his Savior shortly before their marriage. From that point on his commitment to his faith was a hallmark of his life. Ed and Cheryl were active members of several Baptist churches in the community, finally making the First Baptist Church of Soap Lake their church home in 1987. They continued to faithfully worship and serve there for the remainder of their lives.

Ed’s life passion was his family, which was always his priority, along with his love for the Lord. Woodworking, a hobby that multiple family members have benefitted from in the form of various beautiful handmade pieces of furniture, was an activity he enjoyed for many decades.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents, Woodrow and Evelyn, his dear wife of 50 years, Cheryl, his older sister Ellen, and his infant daughter Trisha Ann. He is survived by two sisters Jackie Clelland and Nikki Scott, his children Chandra (Michael) Lindberg, Thad (Jennie) Wilkinson, Kimberly (Adam) Sackmann, and Jamie Wilkinson. He also leaves behind 14 cherished grandchildren, two delightful great grandchildren, multiple nieces and nephews, as well as many true friends who became near and dear to him throughout his lifetime.

Ed had a huge personality and an equally huge heart. His ability to forgive along with his generous spirit were among his best qualities. He will be deeply missed by many, but we are comforted to know that he has transitioned to a place of perfect peace and love.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, August 18th, 2016 at Guarding Angels Cemetery with a memorial service to follow at 11:30 AM at First Baptist Church of Soap Lake with Pastor Andrew Schopf officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Crossroads Pregnancy Resource Center. Please sign the online guestbook at www.kayserschapel.com Arrangements are in care of Kayser's Chapel of Memories.

Events

AUG **Service** 10:00AM

18

Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E., Moses Lake, WA, US, 98837

AUG **Service** 11:30AM

18

First Baptist Church

322 S. Division Street, Soap Lake, WA, US, 98851

Comments



“ Edward M Wilkinson always and forever known to me as Uncle Butch. I have many great memories, especially from childhood. His and Aunt Cheryl's visits to Ohio were always looked forward to. He always made time for us kids and played all kinds of games with us outside. He was funny and loving and caring. He always will be my favorite uncle. He was a good role model and I always looked up to him. He along with his dad(my grandpa) taught me a lot about God and Jesus. My deepest sympathy to his loved ones and I will always be thankful to God for having him in my life.

Shelley Ogg - August 17, 2016 at 09:33 AM



“ I was eleven when Ed, or “Butch” as he was known then, married my sister, Cheryl. He was a handsome groom, full of vitality, and drove her away from the wedding in his sporty green Mustang. As the new husband, he came over to share family dinners with my parents and loved to tease my mom. His teasing always ended with his broad grin and contagious laugh. He did not seem to mind Cheryl’s little sister (me!) hanging around and even chauffeured me to Wenatchee every month or two for dermatologist appointments when my preteen face sprouted a crop of pimples. Years later, he would tease me over and over about the silly adolescent questions I pestered him with on these trips—the main one apparently being, “Do you think any boys might ever want to ask me out for a date when I am older?”

Years later when I was no longer a preteen but a woman in her early 40’s facing the biggest challenge of her life—the death of her husband and father of her children. Ed was a caring brother-in-law. When Steve’s impending death became apparent, he brought Cheryl, Kim, and Jamie out for a last visit even though traveling never seemed high on his list. He loved music and knew how it could be a source of comfort, so he went home from that trip and spent hours selecting songs and compiling CD’s of music he thought we might enjoy.

The two things Ed told me most often after that time when we spoke privately was how badly he still felt about Steve’s passing away so young and how much he loved Cheryl. The times I spoke with him after Cheryl’s death, his voice would break towards the end of the conversation, and he would say how much he missed her. Last time we spoke after he had moved into assisted living, he told me the same two things: how badly he felt about Steve and how much he loved Cheryl, but this time he added one more, “I just want go to go and be with Cheryl.” Ed’s deepest desire is now his reality. Ed and Cheryl are together and no longer encumbered by failing memory, declining health, or human weaknesses. I can imagine the radiant look on their faces, Ed’s playful teasing, and the spring in their step.

Ed and Cheryl leave behind four intelligent, fun, and caring children. Their journey over the last year has been difficult but they rose up to meet the challenge and made sure their parents’ last days were as comfortable as they could be. The death of a parent is a mile-post for most people as we realize the speed with which our lives twist and turn. I share your sorrow in the passing of first your mom and now your dad—all within one short year. You faced these last months with courage and persistence. I am proud of you. I am so sorry for your loss and love you very much. The words that have most comforted me in times of loss were sent to me by my dad and your grandpa, and I share them with you, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

Deb Fash



“ Thank you for your sweet words. My dad literally couldn't live without my sweet mom. I miss them both.

Chandy - August 17, 2016 at 09:45 PM



“ The Wilkinson family were dear friends of ours, having met at Euclid Ave. Baptist Church in Spokane when Ed was stationed at Fairchild AFB. We had common roots in Ohio, were both stationed in Spokane with the military, our children were of similar ages, and we had great times visiting with each other. We tried to stay in contact when they settled in Moses Lake and our visits were never long enough. Good friends are a blessing from the Lord and we were truly blessed. Distance will never again be a problem for us when we are re-united in heaven and we again will share wonderful times together. We pray for God's comfort and peace for Chandy, Thad, Kim, and Jamie; your parents will forever be in our hearts!

Richard & Jo Ann Whipps - August 16, 2016 at 10:08 PM



“ Lori Cooper is following this tribute.

Lori Cooper - August 16, 2016 at 09:34 PM



“ Finding the words to express all the feelings that I have about my dad is very difficult. I suppose like any kid that I took his presence for granted. He was my provider and a constant in my life. His love for me was never in doubt and one thing I could always depend on is that he would always have my back. Although I pushed his limits at times he was the parent I turned to when things got tough. I knew he would always love me no matter what the situation and help me find the solution. I would like to think that many of my personality traits came from him. His wonderful sense of humor, his ability to empathize with those in need, his creativity and spontaneous nature to name a few. I had the privilege of helping to care for him in few short months we had between my mothers passing and his recent reunion with her in heaven. These months have been a beautiful time of understanding my dad in a different way. We had many deep conversations about feelings, thoughts, and spiritual principles. We also had times of fun and lighthearted joking around which I will treasure in my heart forever. Now that he is not here for me to take for granted anymore I just appreciate even more all the things he did for me and how he helped to shape my life. I loved him deeply and i am so honored to have had him for my dad. I will miss him so much and there are many tears left to shed as I come to terms with his death. I love you dad and I know that things are good with you now and for that reason I will mix in a few tears of joy!!

Chandy Lindberg - August 15, 2016 at 08:57 PM



“ My brother, my hero, my best friend. Ed, or "Butch" as his parents and sisters called him, was the most wonderful person I have ever known. I've never known anyone as loving, forgiving, kind and thoughtful as him, and he was never afraid to stand up for the people and the things he believed in. We shared so many great memories growing up in our "Ozzy and Harriet" world. We were blessed with wonderful siblings and awesome parents, but even as wonderful as our childhood was, from time to time I managed to get in trouble with our folks and he always stood up for me and got me out of more trouble than I probably deserved to get out of. I absolutely thought the sun rose and set on him, always did, always will. He was everything I wish I was, and still am trying to be. I can't imagine this world without him in it anymore than he could imagine his world without Cheryl in it, so Big Brother, I'll give you this one for now.....when we meet up next "you got some splainin to do Lucy". I hope I feel as safe with you in heaven as I did with you on earth. My brother was the one person (besides my husband) who I knew no matter what life threw at me, no matter how far apart we were in miles, he always had my back. All I had to do was pick up the phone and say "I need you" and he would be on the next plane out. I have so many wonderful memories and stories I will cherish and plan to write about for his children and grandchildren. To Chandy, Thad, Kimmy and Jamie, I love you with all my heart, Your father would want you to be happy, love each other and live your lives in Christ and I know that you will and I might not be here for the rest of your lives but I promise I will love you for the rest of mine.

Jackie Wilkinson-Clelland - August 13, 2016 at 08:13 PM



“ Such wonderful words of encouragement and praise, Aunt Jackie. I know my Dad meant a lot to you. We all lost a hero, but I am so happy his is now at peace and that you are doing okay. I am doing okay too, and I share the same sentiment you expressed in this post. Thank you for writing it and take care. I love you.

Thad Wilkinson - August 15, 2016 at 03:20 PM



“ Beautiful tribute to a lovely man we were blessed to know. We are blessed also to have his and Cheryl's son Thad as our son-in-law.

Russ & Terri Blair - August 15, 2016 at 03:26 PM



“ Ed and Cheryl were our neighbors and she and I taught together for several years. Cheryl was a gentle soul and she and Ed were a wonderful couple. I'm glad they are together again.

denise - August 13, 2016 at 07:03 PM



“ I remember when Ed lived at Hearthstone where I work and he had been eating chocolate in bed. He called me to his room to launder his bedding because he got chocolate on it. Then he tried to convince me he wasn't eating chocolate in bed and he had no idea how it got there. He was so serious I almost believed him. Ed was like a father to me and I wish I had more time to listen to his wisdom. My heart breaks for the family but now he's with Cheryl and in the arms of Jesus.

Angie Massey-Shay - August 13, 2016 at 03:33 AM



“ He thought more of his family than he did of himself. What a wonderful Soul.

Alexandra Ford - August 13, 2016 at 12:30 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Alexandra Ford - August 13, 2016 at 12:27 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Alexandar Ford - August 13, 2016 at 12:19 AM



“ This picture was taken about 1 year ago at their 50th anniversary party. Don't they both look great? It's hard to believe they are both gone and over such a short amount of time. I will never forget them and I miss them both so much.

Chandy - August 14, 2016 at 07:35 PM



“ Uncle Butch. You were my closest uncle. You lived next door and always took the time to play and kid with me. I have looked up to you for a very long time. It makes me sad to know that you will not be coming to Ohio anymore. We will not get to share stories about where life has lead us anymore. I am glad you called me after Aunt Cheryl passed. We hadn't talked like that in a long time. I really will treasure that last talk. You and Aunt Cheryl raised some great kids. I wish I knew them better.

So on Thursday, I will be thinking of you. I will remember you pulling me around on the sled and helping me learn how to ride a bike. I will remember all of your nieces and nephews racing to get to you when you came back to Ohio.

I will will also remember how much your Mom and Dad thought of you and your Cheryl and your kids. You and Cheryl were a great team and I am proud to have been your neice.

Love,

Lori Cooper, Norton, Ohio

Lori Cooper - August 16, 2016 at 09:30 PM



“ My Uncle Butch. I was lucky enough to live next door to my Grandma and Grandpa. I had a lot of lessons there, Jackie and Nicki and one Uncle Butch. He was such a kidder. Teased me all the time. But I loved him. He always had time to play.

Later on our relationship changed. I was no longer the little neice next door, but a woman with a husband and son and he and Aunt Cheryl embraced my whole family when they came to Ohio.

We, his neices and nephews raced to see who could get to where Uncle Butch and Aunt Cheryl staying. Whether it be and Grandma's and Granpa's or Jackie's. There was just never enough time to spend with them. They always asked so many questions about our lives and were freely sharing their own. Especially their relationships with God and their kids. I will treasure this always.

Just a little while ago, after Aunt Cheryl passed, Uncle Butch gave me a call. He had never done that. We talked for a very long time. What he called for though was he was wanted Uncle Art and Aunt Tooties phone number. He explained that he wanted to thank Uncle Art

for all his help and care while his leg was mending. Apparently, Uncle Art carried him everywhere and he just wanted to thank him for that and he didn't think he had ever done that.

That is the kind of Uncle Butch I knew and loved.

My heart goes out to Chandy, Thad, Kimmy Jo and Jamie.

I know how hard it is to lose your parents. Thank you Kim for keeping the relatives in Ohio informed. We tried to keep everyone informed.

Keep the faith. Please know that even though you are far away, I love you all.

Lori Cooper

Lori - August 17, 2016 at 09:21 AM



“ Ed will always have a special place in my heart. I remember him when I was a kid at First Baptist Church in Moses Lake. He was the best Jr. Church worker that I have ever had. He would spend hours writing and doing puppet shows. They were the best Sundays of my life knowing he was going to do Jr. Church and put on a great puppet show. He was very talented and could do many things at the same time. Sorry for your loss he will be greatly missed.

Andra Hendrickson-Stredwick

Andra Stredwick - August 29, 2016 at 04:19 PM