



David Bonato

November 19, 1933 - March 25, 2008

David F. Bonato, 74, of Moses Lake, passed away March 25, 2008 after a courageous battle with bone cancer.

He was born in Spearfish, South Dakota on November 19, 1933 to Florendo “John” and Ethel Bonato. When he was very young he often acted as a guide for his dad who was blind, leading him around Deadwood and Lead where they bought furniture for the family second-hand store.

Shortly before he turned 18 he joined the US Navy and was sent to San Diego by train for boot camp. He said the train ride was fun, boot camp was not! He was stationed on the U.S.S. O’Brian, a destroyer during the Korean War. During his tour of duty, his ship made two trips to the Far East and he also earned his GED. He was honorably discharged in September 1954 and shortly after married Cathy Berry in Los Angeles. They moved to Denver, Colorado in 1955 where they had 2 sons David Jr. and Anthony. In 1957 he and his family moved back to California where he earned a bachelors degree in accounting while working for the Santa Fe Railroad, and later for North American Aviation. While in California they had a third son, Jonathan. In 1961 Dave brought his family to Washington moving to Yakima to be closer to relatives.

He was hired by the accounting firm of Boyd, Olofson and Company, working

in Yakima briefly and then transferring to the Ellensburg office in 1962. While living in Ellensburg, Dave enjoyed fishing with his family, day trips, and treasure hunting. He also farmed for a short time. He was divorced from Cathy in 1973, and moved to Moses Lake in 1976 to become managing partner of the local office. He spent 22 years with the company, the last seven as a partner and the last two as managing partner of the firm (seven offices and 120 accountants). In 1983 Dave opened his own office David F. Bonato C.P.A. In 1984 he married Regan (Berryhill-Schrag). Together they worked at the CPA practice, were best friends and did nearly everything together. He wanted to keep the practice a family affair and employed his children and grandchildren however he could.

Dave served as treasurer for the Grant County Fair and the Mennonite Country Auction for many years, and was an active member and treasurer of the Rotary Club of Moses Lake. He enjoyed working through Rotary as service to the community, but especially loved the fellowship and made many long-lasting friendships. He enjoyed hosting a Rotary exchange student from Thailand, and being a host family for the Taishin Group from Japan for many years.

Family was very important and he loved summer barbecues, weekly card games and family get-togethers. He made a point to travel back to South Dakota for annual visits to relatives. He went out of his way to help the family in any way he could, and had a very special relationship with his granddaughter Jennifer.

He particularly enjoyed treasure hunting at auctions and yard sales. This pastime started early with coin and stamp collecting, and eventually led to selling on Ebay, an activity which much of the family came to enjoy together over the past few years.

He is survived by his wife Regan, his son David Jr and daughter-in-law Gayle,

sons Anthony and Jonathan, two step-sons Barry (and Dawn) Schrag, and Kenneth (and Yasuko) Schrag, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren, sister Helen (and Art) Bissenden, brother Leroy Bonato and a close niece Susan Schrier, He was predeceased by his parents and 2 grandchildren, Tony and Matthew Bonato.

A memorial service will be held at the Assembly of God Church at 2:00 on Monday, March 31st, .with a time of fellowship to follow. He will be buried at Menno in a private family ceremony. Arrangements are in care of Kayser's Chapel and Crematory, Moses Lake. You may sign the guestbook or leave a note for the family at www.kayserschapel.com

Memorials may be made to The Rotary Foundation or the Rotary Scholarship Foundation, PO Box 525, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Previous Events

Service

MAR 31. 2:00 PM (PT)

Assembly at Moses Lake
431 E. Brown Ave.
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall



“ *Kayser's Chapel of Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of David Bonato*



Kayser's Chapel of Memories - March 25, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Regan:*
I just learned of Dave's passing and am so sorry. You may remember me from Boyd Olfoson I am the fellow from Ellensburg who used a wheel chair.

I will always remember Dave as I used to do a lot of work for him. He also sold us our first house in Ellensburg.

I do have good thought of Dave. It was always good to talk with him.

Our Prayers are with you.

*Terry & Dolores Reed###imported-begin##Terry Reed
CPA###imported-end##*

May 16, 2008 at 09:33 PM



“ Dear Regan,

We sent a card to you upon Dave's passing. We recently received it back. It was sent to Marina Dr. We couldn't find another address to send it to you.

Please know we are so sorry for your loss. Dave will be remembered for all the good he did during his brief time on this earth. Take care of yourself and know we are thinking of you.

(We made a recent donation to Rotary Scholarship Foundation in Dave's honor.)

Sincerely, Ron and June Cox##imported-begin##Ron and June Cox##imported-end##

April 27, 2008 at 06:06 PM



“ *David and I were cousins and although I didn't get to know him well, the times I did see him, bring fond memories. My love to the whole family in this time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Patricia Park Morano##imported-end##*

April 03, 2008 at 11:17 PM



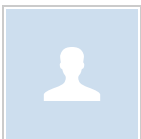
“ Reagan, Dave and Gayle and family - My deepest condolences in the passing of Dave. I had a warm spot in my heart for Dave and Reagan as they were one of the first couples to welcome Brian and me when we came to Moses Lake. We sat at their table at the first Rotary function we attended and enjoyed their company. It was good to see you and Dave, Reagan, in passing at the store last year. It had been years since I had seen either one of you. I pray the Lord comforts you and carries you through the lonely days ahead. Surely He is coming soon and we will be reunited in His presence. Sending my love on to you, Gayle. God be with you all.##imported-begin##Chris Rosborough##imported-end##

April 03, 2008 at 06:15 PM



“ My wife, Jeannie and I have been clients of Dave for about 28 years. We cannot express his wonderful caring attitude. He was a friend to my wife's father, John McDonald of Moses Lake, who passed away about 15 years ago. In short, we thought of Dave and Regan as members of our family. He will be missed tremendously. Godspeed, David. Michael and Jeannie Herr##imported-begin##Michael Herr##imported-end##

April 02, 2008 at 07:30 PM



“ We're so sorry to hear of your loss. You're all in our prayers.##imported-begin##Lorelie Falzerano-Barth & Family##imported-end##

April 01, 2008 at 09:24 AM



“ David, no matter where you are. You will be in my heart FOREVER.

Always Love You,
Kitirat V.(Gow)##imported-begin##Kitirat V. (Exchange student from
Thailand)##imported-end##

March 31, 2008 at 06:54 AM



“ In loving memory of my dear brother. You will always be in my
heart.##imported-begin##Helen and Art Bissenden - Rapid City,
SD##imported-end##

March 30, 2008 at 04:52 PM



“ You will be missed but not forgotten.##imported-begin##Robert &
Sheryl Street##imported-end##

March 30, 2008 at 03:52 PM



“ Through the years, your encouragements to a young nephew's
journey --- from summer family visits to one-on-one long-into-the-
night conversation over dinner in a small college town ("Whoever
heard of a restaurant closing at 9?) --- became important life guides
and remain precious memories. Rest now, dear Uncle.##imported-
begin##Norman Bissenden - Terrytown LA##imported-end##

March 30, 2008 at 01:17 PM



“ Sorry to hear of your loss. We will keep your family in our prayers, thru this difficult time.##imported-begin##James and Julia Bonato##imported-end##

March 29, 2008 at 11:50 AM



“ Our hearts and prayers go out to you during this time of sorrow. We will miss our visits.##imported-begin##Susan and Richard Schrier##imported-end##

March 28, 2008 at 08:54 PM



“ Our prayers are with you all at this time of loss.##imported-begin##John & Penny Bonato - Littleton, CO##imported-end##

March 28, 2008 at 04:47 PM



“ David will be missed. I respected David a great deal and found him to be a good friend too.##imported-begin##Don Burk##imported-end##

March 26, 2008 at 10:10 PM