



## George Edward Counsell

November 1, 1940 - July 5, 2023

### GEORGE EDWARD COUNSELL

George Edward Counsell, 82, a long time Moses Lake resident passed away Wednesday, July 5, 2023 after a short battle with cancer. George was the first-born son of Ed and Lillian Counsell on November 1, 1940 and raised in LaGrande, Oregon on a cattle ranch. He loved living on Happy Valley Ranch driving tractors, putting up hay, herding cattle and riding horses exploring local mountains and streams with his brothers. He attended a little country grade school just down the road and LaGrande High School. He was an active member of FFA and played an alto saxophone in the high school band. He graduated in 1958. He joined the U.S. Air Force in September, 1959 and served until September, 1963. He was stationed at San Antonio, Texas; Chanute, Illinois; Roswell, New Mexico and Larson Air Force Base in Moses Lake. He was an airman 1st class, assistant crew chief and jet mechanic on a KC 135. He served temporary duty in Fairbanks, Alaska and Hickman AFB in Hawaii. He arrived at Moses Lake New Years Eve 1960. He met his future wife, Karen that following summer, then at a swim party at a neighbor's irrigation pond he knew she was the one! They were engaged April 28, 1962 and married on April 28, 1963 at the United Methodist Church and recently celebrated their 60th anniversary. After his discharge he went to work for his father-in law, Alex Schwab and brother-in-law, Charles Schwab. The three formed a farming partnership the following year. They were recognized for their success being awarded the 1971 Outstanding Young Farmers of the

Year. In 1976 the three were named Resource Conservationists of the Year by the Conservation District. They raised a wide variety of crops. After retiring, son Mike continued on with the farming. George served his community over ten years as a volunteer firefighter with GCFD#5

George enjoyed many hobbies-boating, water and snow skiing, bowling, fishing, camping, traveling, playing pinochle and flying his plane. His latest hobbies were golfing with the guys and wood working! George never met a stranger, especially at Bob's Café making many lifelong friends over a cup of coffee. He loved to tease a bit, especially Karen's friends, and they all teased back. He loved his family and spent lots of quality time with them telling stories of growing up. He adored his three granddaughters and loved giving them rides when they were little on Great Grandpa's old restored Farmall tractor.

George was a strong faithful and long-time member of the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church serving in many ways as needed.

He is survived by his wife Karen, daughter Kris (Lee), son Jon (Marianne), son Mike (Kim), three granddaughters, Danielle, Kailey and Kodie, and three step-grandsons, Taylor, Reese and Carson and one step-granddaughter, Tori. He's also survived by his brother Dale (Charlene) Counsell, brother-in-law Charles (Dee) Schwab, several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brother Mark and his parents Ed and Lillian Counsell.

Public viewing is July 17th, 2:00-3:00 pm at Kayser's Chapel of Memories, Moses Lake, WA. Interment will be held at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, July 18th at Guarding Angels Cemetery, 2595 Road L NE, Moses Lake, WA. All are welcome to attend. Memorial service will follow at 2:00 pm at the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church, 1142 W Ivy Ave, Moses Lake, WA. Memories of George can be shared at [www.kayserschapel.com](http://www.kayserschapel.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Moses Lake Presbyterian Church or Assured Hospice, 1417 S Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA 98837

# Cemetery Details

## Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E.  
Moses Lake, WA 98837  
(509) 765-7848

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 17. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Kayser's Chapel of Memories  
831 S. Pioneer Way  
Moses Lake, WA

## Graveside Service

JUL 18. 12:30 PM (PT)

Guarding Angels Cemetery  
2595 Road L N.E.  
Moses Lake, WA 98837  
(509) 765-7848

## Memorial Service

JUL 18. 2:00 PM (PT)

Moses Lake Presbyterian Church  
1142 W. Ivy  
Moses Lake, WA



# Tribute Wall

VF

“ Karen and family, George was a great man except for running JD tractors. Great memories of Bob's, and your 50th at Charles and Dee's you were so blessed to have 60 years together. I had a good time with you two when you came to Az. We need to remember Goodbyes are not forever it is just tell we meet again. Vaughn Forsberg

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**Vaughn Forsberg** - July 18, 2023 at 03:23 PM

KC

*Thank you Vaughn for your kind words and memories!*

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**karen Counsell** - July 27, 2023 at 12:49 PM

DE

*Always enjoyed waiting on George at Bob's. He was such a fun man. Miss you George!*

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**Dessie** - September 28, 2023 at 09:08 PM

DL

“ Lots of good conversations over coffee at Bob's. He will missed.  
David Lane

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**David Lane** - July 12, 2023 at 03:45 PM

BS

*It's hard to say goodbye to someone as special as George. George and my late husband, Bill Sharp, were in the Air Force together and were room mates. When they came to Moses Lake together, they were looking for a church and found the one that Karen and I were attending. I was one of those kids at the swimming pond who got to know those two and I married Bill in 1962. George was our best man and Karen was my maid of honor. Karen was my closest neighbor and the four of us had a lot of great times together. George was always looking for fun and loved to tease whoever was close! I feel so blessed to have been a friend of George and Karen and plan to continue my friendship with Karen. May God bless her with peace, knowing that George is up in Heaven and most likely with Bill shooting the bull! The Lord only takes the best!*

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**BARBARA J SHARP** - July 13, 2023 at 06:35 PM

PL

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Counsell family, I did not know him personally, however know (Charles & Dee Schwab) and Scott Schwab. Pat Ledbetter, Moses Lake .*

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**Pat Ledbetter** - July 11, 2023 at 07:31 PM

LM

“ I used to see George every Sunday morning at Bob's Cafe. He sat in the first booth and I looked forward to seeing his smiling face and trading some good natured ribbing. I missed him when he changed his "coffee schedule" to Saturdays, but we still ran into each other on occasion, always with that warm smile. He even stopped in to my office when he heard that I changed jobs, just to check in. He was one of the nicest people that I have ever met, and I will always think fondly of the man that chuckled at my shenanigans every time I waltzed into Bob's. Our interactions may have only lasted a few minutes at a time, but he left a lasting impression on me that I will carry throughout my life.

*If he affected me this deeply with only a few minutes a week, I can only imagine how rich he made his family feel. My deepest sympathies go out to George's family. He was a bright spot in my life and I was blessed to have met him.*

*With Warmest Regards,  
Happy Jack*

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**Leslie Masenten** - July 11, 2023 at 06:36 PM

MO

“ Sending prayers, hugs and love. Bob and I first met George and Karen on one of our motorcycle trips to Washington, we were there to visit my brother and his wife...Jack and Kay Hendrix. Karen and Bob would share pictures of their ice cream cones. I'm not sure when or how George started answering his phone .... I would call and George would say is "this my friends ornery little sister from Kansas," and I would say Yup! Then one day he said is "this my obscene phone call" I just cracked up laughing....And I will always remember that. The Counsell family will always have special place in our hearts.

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**mary owen** - July 11, 2023 at 03:12 PM

LR

“ *Counsell family - George was an amazing customer, and was always a good friend. He and the entire Schwab family have always been stalwarts of the Moses Lake community, and he and his contributions will be missed. Karen and Charlie, please know just how much your friendship and business meant to the Rigsby family. A truly remarkable man.*

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**Larry & Katie Rigsby** - July 10, 2023 at 07:22 PM