



Gordon Ryan

November 29, 1943 - April 4, 2009

Gordon Ryan, 65, from Moses Lake, formerly of Wenatchee, passed away Saturday, April 4, 2009. His long battle with cancer and other health complications came to an end quietly with his family by his side. Memorial services will be held at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, 2009 at the Moses Lake First Presbyterian Church.

The eldest son of Eugene and Jean Ryan of Ephrata, Gordon attended junior and senior high school in Ephrata. He got his amateur radio license at age thirteen. After graduating high school, he joined the Navy and survived the Viet Nam War. After his discharge, he taught Amateur Radio to blind children in Los Angeles. He met his wife Tally and in 1967 they were married. Gordon loved Washington. He and Tally moved to Yakima and had their first daughter, Sharon. He earned his AA and transferred to WSU, where he lost his left hand in a near death experience, but he still got his BA in Business. In Spokane, their second daughter, Debra, was born. They moved to Seattle where he became a manager at Pacific Northwest Bell. Their third daughter, Michele, was born and he obtained his Master's from Univ. of Puget Sound. He later formed his own financial consulting business in Redmond, Washington. A few years later he, his family and his business moved to Wenatchee, where he truly enjoyed living. He was involved with Habitat for Humanity and Rotary. He sang and performed with the Wenatchee Apollo Club across the Northwest and in Canada. Music was always a big part of his life. In 1996 he had a stroke, and in 1998 he and his wife retired to Moses Lake. Gordon always

liked fishing. He was a member of the Potholes Bass Club and the Central Washington Amateur Radio Club. He taught classes in defensive driving, was a Tax-Aide to the elderly and low-income. He went to Mississippi as a volunteer to help with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. He pursued interests in: singing, bowling (scoring a 299), hunting, teaching, speaking (where he encouraged high school audiences to pursue higher education), building (a 4-bedroom 2-story house after he had lost his left hand), people-watching, writing (he wrote a book in 1992 and several publications), traveling, landscaping, dancing, baking, cooking, and photography. He discovered that Jesus came to pay the price for his salvation, making a place in the family home which is now in heaven, and that He did those out of a heart of love. Gordon will be remembered for his love of life, sense of humor and optimism. He will be truly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Tally; daughters, Sharon O'Hara, Debra Kettel, and Michele Davidson; his brother, Greg Ryan; sister, Pamela Andresen; his nephews, Spencer Ryan and Jared Parks; nieces, Lindsay Elfrink and Allison Meyer; his grandchildren, Justin, Meghan and Morgan O'Hara, Joshua and Matthew Kettel, and Hunter and Levi Davidson; his aunt, Wanda, and several cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Jean Ryan, and by his grandson, Caleb, whom he can also now enjoy in heaven.

Previous Events

Service

APR 17. 5:30 PM (PT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Tally and family,
Mel and I are so sorry to hear about Gordon. Our sister-in-law sent us the news paper article. It really said a lot about Gordon. We are currently in Nevada but will head for New Jersey next week. Scott and his family moved there last winter. There are no words to express our feelings for you. Just know you are in our hearts.##imported-begin##Mel and Carolyn Carpenter##imported-end##

May 07, 2009 at 09:43 PM



“ I was saddened to read of Gordon's death in the Grant Co. Journal today. He and I were classmates at Ephrata High School. I last saw and spoke with him at the class reunion in 2001, where I learned some about his contributions and outlooks on life since we had struck out on separate paths so long ago. I am sure he will be missed by many who knew and loved him. I just wanted them to know that he also touched others who were less connected to him. Sincerest condolences.##imported-begin##Bill Roberts##imported-end##

April 17, 2009 at 11:24 PM



“ It was a privilege to have had Gordon be a part of our fishing club. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
CWBC members##imported-begin##Central Washington Bass Club##imported-end##

April 16, 2009 at 01:09 PM



“ To the family of Gordon Ryan.
I am so sorry to hear of Gordon passing. I was very lucky to have know him and to sing with him in the Apollo Club. We will never forget coming to your House in Moses Lake and singing. Gordon was a very special person and most important a very good friend. This world is a much nicer place because Gordon was here, and we got to know him. We will all miss him dearly. God bless you all durring this time and we will keep you, and your family,in our prayer, and may God's presence be with you all. Skip Laney##imported-begin##Skip Laney##imported-end##

April 15, 2009 at 09:39 PM



“ Tally and Family ... Our hearts ache for your loss and for our loss of a wonderful man! Gordon was always very special, his faith strong - - and he will be missed. Our love and prayers are with you, Mike & Joyce##imported-begin##Mike & Joyce Mulliken##imported-end##

April 07, 2009 at 09:47 PM