



## John Freeborn

July 24, 1930 - February 16, 2015

John Norman Freeborn constantly sought adventure and was blessed with a brilliant, vibrant, and creative mind. He was the son of Switzer Gardner Freeborn – an officer in the Canadian Expeditionary Force of WWI – and his loving mother Annie Violet. John enjoyed hunting and ranching with his father in Alberta and loved taking his sons hunting in Montana and Washington. He was a gifted artist in any medium including but not limited to drawing, painting, and 35 mm photography; he produced advertisements in national campaigns for Hodaka Motorcycles, Arctic Circle Restaurants, and many local media outlets. John wrote and illustrated a book called Please Pass the Buck and was widely considered a Renaissance Man by his contemporaries.

Dad graduated from the University of Washington with a B.A. in Graphic Arts, where he played for the university's baseball team. A lover of sports and athletics, he also played semi-pro hockey in Calgary. While attending UW he fell in love with and married Bernice McBride. When John accepted the position of Director of Graphic Arts at KIMA TV the couple moved to Selah and started a family. They enjoyed traveling while raising their two children Steve and Gail. Dad, a student of American history, became a U.S. citizen. Bernice Freeborn was a devoted mother and passed to heaven in 1968.

Dad fell in love with Arlene Hoffman and after the two married they moved to the Wenas in order to pursue John's dream of building a hobby ranch and expanding his collection of classic Ford Mustangs. They later moved to Clayton, back to Selah, and then settled in Moses Lake.

John's creative talents led him to establish his own business in the successful Freeborn Graphic Arts. He provided work for KSPS-TV in Spokane, American Sign and Indicator, and was a Graphics Arts instructor at Perry Tech. We are very proud and grateful of his lasting legacy.

John was passionate about coaching the Partlow Silvers T-Ball team, and enjoyed helping with Little League games. He was a big game hunter and hiking enthusiast, often taking trips to the Rocky and Cascade Mountains. Arlene and John found enjoyment in water skiing, muzzle loading with friend Doc Savage, and vacationing in Hawaii. John's unique sense of humor, his endearing personality, his brave spirit, optimistic ambition, and his enduring Christian faith encouraged all who loved him – especially his numerous grandchildren.

He loved and cared for us, serving as an inspiring role model for endurance and bravery. John rarely complained and was loved by his large families in Selah, Moses Lake, and Canada. He will be especially missed by his loyal friends that he made through his faith.

We all believe our beloved Dad is now free, currently sharing his God given talents of art and friendship in heaven. He was loved and respected by all who had the privilege to know him. We especially thank the many doctors, nurses, and medical professionals who cared for him these last few years. We will always love Dad and trust that we will see him again in heaven. He was a devoted member of Peace Lutheran Church in Selah, and the Assembly of God Church in Moses Lake.

A funeral service will be held at the Assembly of God Church located at 431 E. Brown Avenue, Moses Lake, WA 98837. The service will take place at 1:00 pm on Saturday, February 28, 2015.

Survivors include his loving faithful wife Arlene Freeborn, his brothers Jim and Bruce Freeborn, children: John Steven Freeborn (Kathy), Gail Yaden (Mark), Diana Moss (Greg), Steven Hoffman (Debi), Candy MacDonald (Danny); and a multitude of grandchildren and great grandchildren.



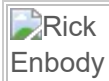
# Previous Events

## Service

FEB **28**. 1:00 PM (PT)

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

# Tribute Wall

Rick  
Enbody

“ Goodbye John. He was a good art teacher at Jm perry. He cared and I later saw John and he was nice then also. I will miss those times.

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**Rick Enbody** - January 04, 2016 at 02:09 PM

AK

“ Hello,  
Sad to see this. Mr. Freeborn has a place in my memory for his great artistry and personality. I remember him from KIMA tv and his weather forecasts. Take care.



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**Alice Kidd** - March 04, 2015 at 04:25 PM

RC

“ I was one of John's nurses at Lakeridge. I'm so sorry for your loss. My dad passed away at Columbia Crest a few days before John, so I empathize with his family during this time. I had the opportunity to meet John's granddaughter, Lacey, who was one of my dad's nurses. My love goes to Arlene and the rest of your family during this time. It gives me comfort to know that they are not broken and suffering anymore. I am glad that I was able to be there to help and comfort John at the end of his journey, and know that his new journey is to a wonderful place full of His love and peace. God Bless

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**Rebecca Camden** - February 28, 2015 at 03:36 PM

RC

“ *Rebecca Camden sent a virtual gift in memory of John Freeborn*



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**Rebecca Camden** - February 28, 2015 at 03:28 PM

DN

“ *Debbie Norris lit a candle in memory of John Freeborn*



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**debbie norris** - February 26, 2015 at 12:01 PM

BG

“ *I will miss our visits and chats, as well as your fountain of knowledge and incredible talent. Our lives are better from having had you in them for such a small part of the big picture. Our hearts go out to all who will be missing you.*

*Ben & Marietta Getz, Moses Lake*

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**Ben Getz** - February 24, 2015 at 12:52 PM

JS

“ So sorry to hear Uncle John has passed on. Please know we're thinking of you all. I've been remembering the fun family vacations my family had with road trips to Washington and then staying with the U.S. branch of the Freeborn family.

*I hope your memories of happier times will lighten the tough days ahead for you. Take care of each other.*

*Love Jean & Lee Sallenbach*

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**Jean Sallenbach** - February 17, 2015 at 01:18 AM



*John is in peace now, our thoughts are with you, remember the good times now.*

*Andie and Ken*

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**Andrea Anderson** - February 20, 2015 at 02:21 PM

RF

*We are truly saddened to hear of Uncle John's passing. We have fond memories of our few but precious visits. John had such a welcoming manner, and made everyone feel comfortably at home. John was a most gracious man, always a pleasant smile, always a sincere interest in others and a genuine concern for all. Our sincerest sympathy to Arlene and family. "May the love that surrounds you bring you comfort and peace."*

*With love, Rob, Rene and family*

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**Rene Freeborn** - March 09, 2015 at 11:55 AM