

Larry Peterson

January 20, 1928 - April 16, 2008

Lawrence "Larry" D. Peterson, 80, lifelong resident of Grant County and former longtime PUD manager, passed away Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at McKay Healthcare and Rehabilitation in Soap Lake. Memorial services will be held at 2:00 P.M., Friday, April 25, 2008 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. 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

Larry was born January 20, 1928 in Ephrata, Washington, son of the late Ernest Paul and Laura (Padgitt) Peterson. He was raised in Grant Orchards, just outside of Soap Lake and attended schools in Ephrata. While in high school he met Lorraine Roberts and they were later married in Ephrata on November 2, 1947. They continued to live in Ephrata where Larry worked for Morrison-Knutson Construction Company on the area canals. In 1949 he began working for the Public Utility District and over the years worked up through different positions until he became the PUD manager; he retired in 1983. Since that time he has worked as a Public Power Consultant for numerous companies with an interest in the Pacific Northwest.

In the 1960's Larry was instrumental in writing a treaty with the Wanapum Indians to re-establish their fishing rights. At another time, while on vacation to Sweden, he left literature on the Moses Lake and Grant County areas with the Swedish Trade Center, which led to Eka-Nobel and Union Carbide Companies establishing plants here. He also helped start Granco Credit Union for the

PUD employees.

He loved golfing, hiking in the area, extensive travel including trips to China, Guatemala, the Panama Canal, Australia, Russia, Sweden, and Japan, and was a true Philatelist (stamp collector).

He was a longtime member of the Moses Lake and Ephrata Rotary Clubs and was the Moses Lake Rotary Club President in 1972. Over the years of Rotary membership, he exhibited the ideals of Rotary time and time again with numerous financial gifts and awards. He was also a former member of the Toastmasters and named Jaycees "Young Man of the Year" in 1963. He was on the Moses Lake Port District Board since 1998 and a long-serving member of the boards of the Housing Authority of Grant County, the Grant County Economic Development Council, and the Big Bend College Foundation. He was active with the Boys and Girl Club, the Cooperative Educational Foundation for the Guatemala Literacy Project, and always willing to lend advice and a helping hand for many community projects.

He is survived by his loving wife of more than 60 years, Lorryne Peterson, Moses Lake; three children and spouses, Brian and Anna Peterson, Puyallup, WA, Nancy Kay and Jim Hale, Eureka, CA, Jeanne-Marie Peterson and John Poling, Soap Lake; six grandchildren, Christina Munro, Aimee Peterson, Kevin Peterson, Eric Hale, Serin Von Reigers, Jessamyn Clark; two great grandchildren, Makena Munro and Jack Munro; and "Orson" the cat.

A sister, Esther Fitzgerald preceded him in death.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Guatemala Literacy Project, c/o Glenn Chamberlain, National Project Co-Coordinator, 14259 Wenatchee Ave., N.W., Ephrata, WA 98823. This is a project through the District 5060 Rotary Clubs to provide books, computers and mini-libraries for the Guatemala Schools.

Tribute Wall



“ Lorryne - I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Love, Ivan##imported-begin##Yvonne (Hagerty) Parker##imported-end##

April 22, 2008 at 10:54 PM



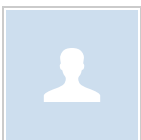
“ We fondly remember Larry from Grant County PUD in the sixties. He was one of those rare individuals who lit up the room with his smile and impish wit. We know he positively touched many lives and we are grateful to be among them.##imported-begin##Darrell and Sylvia Russell##imported-end##

April 22, 2008 at 03:29 PM



“ Dear Jeanne Marie and family, My prayers and thoughts are with you.##imported-begin##Alfredo "Jr." Valdez##imported-end##

April 22, 2008 at 12:09 PM



“ Lorryne and family,

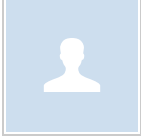
I am in Yuma Az and just received the Ephrata paper with Larry's notice in it.

I was both stunned and sensed some of the loss you are feeling.

As I was working with some stamps a few days ago, I thought of Larry and some stamps I had obtained from him long ago.

My thoughts are with you in this sad time for you.##imported-begin##Bob Spurrier##imported-end##

April 22, 2008 at 01:29 AM



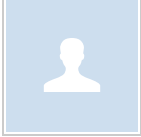
“ Dearest Lorraine and Families:
Is heartbroken when hear Larry leaving us. My daughter Erica informed me this morning I seem to hard to believe. We will never forget Larry's laught and his great support of my families. Larrayne and families please take care and I love you all. Larry will still alive in our memories. Love.
Cindy Zhong and Families###imported-begin##Cindy Zhong###imported-end##

April 21, 2008 at 10:39 AM



“ We are totally stunned and speechless at learning the tragic news of Larry's sudden death this past week, and we are at a loss for words. We are especially pleased that we got to know Larry during our two trips to Guatemala. He was a wonderful, caring, and compassionate person, a true "gentle giant". We send Lorraine and the entire family our condolences and deepest sympathy.###imported-begin##Stan & Gretchen Liebenberg###imported-end##

April 20, 2008 at 10:29 PM



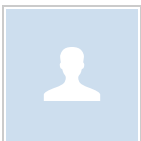
“ Jeannie Marie and family, I lost my sister last July, she was 82 and I spent her last 6 years with her here in Wenatchee, she was resident of Highline Care Center. She had dementia, short erm memory loss, but her long term memory was brillent. The experiance of walking the last mile of the way with her enriched Richard and my life, sad as it was, it deepened our compassion and made us ever aware that we too are not invincable. Watching the waning of her life was draining at times but we both knew that we were her only light in the world dementia patients live in and watching her eyes light up at the slightest sight of us at every visit drew us closer to here year by year, making it all worthwhile. As the end drew nigh, it was hard to give the okay, take her off life support and let her go. She so wanted to live. It is not an easy walk; giving up those we have grown to love. We spread her ashes in my lily garden, close to us where she so always wanted to be. I still shed a tear or two as I pass that way. She lives on in our memories that we cherish in our hearts.

There is a time to mourn and a time to heal. May your good memories keep Larry's flame alive in all your hearts today and each and every day to come.

Sincerly,

*Esther & Rich.##imported-begin##Esther and Richard
McAmis##imported-end##*

April 19, 2008 at 10:06 PM



“ Dear Lorryne, Please know our thoughts are with you at this difficult time. We have many fond memories of the good times spent with you and Larry over the years. During a long business association with Larry, Hal knew him as a capable leader, devoted public servant and good friend. Please extend our thoughts to your family.##imported-begin##Hal and Sue Mozer##imported-end##

April 19, 2008 at 01:11 PM



“ I will never forget you Larry. I was 28 years old when we first met. You were one of the first real "big wigs" I ever interviewed. You were, at that time, the manager of Grant PUD. You were gracious and accommodating with your time and my questions. Who would have known I would later work at the utility, and who would have ever guessed that even more years later you and Lorraine, Nancy, Jim, and friends from Moses Lake and I would travel to China together. I think that was a life changing trip for all of us. I loved visiting with you as we sailed along the Yantgze. Together we marveled at the incredible change we knew was coming to that part of the country as the reservoir would soon rise and change the landscape forever. I will never forget the day you invited me on that trip. We had run into each other (by way of speaking) outside of Titan. You were so excited about the unfolding plans and when you described the trip to me, I just know you saw that look of curiosity and intense interest on my face because the next thing you did was ask me if I wanted to go. I felt like I was walking on air - I didn't give you an answer, but I knew I wanted to go, and I did - and we all did and what an incredible time we had.

I will never forget it. I also remember how two months after we returned home, my beloved Charlie died and when I invited you and Lorraine to a photograph exhibit at my house in honor of Charlie, you snagged a couple of guys to lift Lorraine in her wheelchair into my basement gallery...you went with the moment Larry - always, and with your disarming smile, I always felt comfortable around you. I miss you. The tears that fill my eyes as I write this come from wanting desperately that people don't forget you - that they remember that you loved and cared deeply about things, that you made a difference in peoples lives, and that you were passionate about things because you knew what was important on the "big picture" level. I love you Larry... When Cathy Chapman told me on Monday that you were at McKay, I picked out some poetry I was going to bring over to read to you - McKay is three blocks from my house. I couldn't believe that on Wednesday you were gone. We both missed me reading you from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass. Oh well, you can read to me now, from the other side, and I will

listen for you, in the birdsongs along High Hill road where I ride after work on summer days. Take care my friend . I promise to remember you always - Love, your friend, Kathy
Kiefer

April 18, 2008 at 09:18 PM



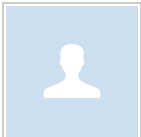
“ *Sorry for your loss
Douglas Olson Port of Moses Lake Maintenance
Department*
D Olson ”

April 18, 2008 at 07:30 PM



“ *Lorrayne, So sorry to get the news of Larry's passing. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know him and learn from him through our activities with the Boys and Girls Club. My thoughts are with you and your family.*
Deb Miller ”

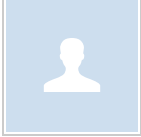
April 18, 2008 at 05:28 PM



“ *Dear Lorrayne and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this very difficult time.
Larry enriched this community with his life and his leadership will be missed.*

Kara and Don Garrett
Kara Garrett ”

April 18, 2008 at 03:59 PM



“ Dear Lorryne, Jeanne-Marie, and family - you are all in my prayers as you go through this time. Where does the time go? Your family is part of my memories since childhood! I hope to see you next week at the service. Hold each other close and know that Larry is receiving his real reward. Hallelujah! Love, Isabel###imported-begin###Isabel Cardenas Wilder###imported-end##

April 18, 2008 at 01:01 PM



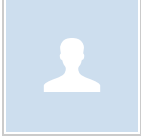
“ Just a note to let you know we are thinking of your entire family at this time of your loss. Larry will be missed by many people.###imported-begin###Gene & Bonnie Polhamus###imported-end##

April 18, 2008 at 11:17 AM



“ Lorryne and family:
You and Larry were among the first people that we met when we came to Grant County in 1950. You have always been the most gracious friends and Larry was a superlative co-worker at the PUD. Public service was always at the core of his interests and your family can be proud of that service. While Maida cannot comprehend this occasion I know that somewhere in the depths of her mind she joins me in a prayer for all of you.###imported-begin###Bob Gillette###imported-end##

April 17, 2008 at 11:01 PM



“ Lorryne -

So sorry to hear about Larry's passing. He was a wonderful man and both of you were always so gracious and such good friends to me. I miss Moses Lake and people like you and Larry. I hope the memories of all your years together will be of comfort in this time.

love, mary powell###imported-begin###Mary Powell###imported-end##

April 17, 2008 at 07:25 PM



“ Hello Lorryne,

Jeff informed me of Larry's passing yesterday and how quickly things progressed. My love, prayers and blessings go out to your entire family during this time of transition for you all. May sweet memories of him keep you company as you find that place of Divine Balance in your new life.

*Much Love as Always,
Ashalyn*

Mt. Shasta, CA###imported-begin###Ashalyn###imported-end##

April 17, 2008 at 01:23 PM



“ Dearest Lorryne,

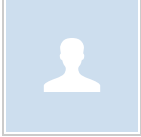
Sorry to hear of your loss. He was a wonderful person to all. I know he will be missed. Thinking of you in our prayers.

Maria & Randy Higginbotham

936 N. Browne Ave

*Brownsville, TX 78521###imported-begin###Maria & Randy
Higginbotham###imported-end##*

April 17, 2008 at 09:44 AM



“ We were saddened to hear of Larry's recent passing. He was a very special man and will be greatly missed. We have your family in our prayers at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Bob & Marilyn Bluhm##imported-end##

April 16, 2008 at 06:13 PM