



Kenneth Dayton Bielman

June 21, 1924 - August 4, 2017

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Kenneth “Ken” Dayton Bielman of Corvallis, died August 4 in Albany Oregon. He was 93.

Ken was born in Bucoda, Washington, the son of Cue J and Olga M Bielman. He started school in Beaverton, subsequently attending Welches School at Mt. Hood, Washington School in Corvallis, Woodstock School in Portland and Taft and Rose Lodge Grade Schools matriculating in 1938. His secondary school years were spent at Taft Union High at Lincoln City, graduating with the class of 1942. From birth until he entered the military he went by his middle name, Dayton.

Early in WWII Ken spent a year in the US Merchant Marines previous to spending 2 ½ years in the US Coast Guard where he attained the rank of Electronics Technician First Class. During the 1946-47 school year he studied music at Lewis & Clark College before transferring to the School of Engineering at Oregon State College, (OSC), where he graduated with a BS degree in 1950.

Ken married Alta June “AJ” Myles of Portland June 15, 1948. They had four children, Steve, Lyn, Mark and Clayton, all of whom attended grade and high schools in the Corvallis school system. Ken and “AJ” were divorced in 1971. On September 15, 1972 Ken married Iva Jewell “Julie” Crownover of Denver, Colorado, the mother of three children, Michael, Scott and Cheryl. Lyn preceded her father in death.

While still attending OSC in 1948, Ken joined CH2M HILL Consulting Engineers as a surveying assistant, later becoming a fulltime employee (employee number 12), after receiving his engineering degree. Assigned to the Water/ Wastewater Discipline, Ken served as a project engineer until 1971 when he was transferred to Denver to open a new regional office for the firm. In 1978 he transferred to Atlanta to manage that office until 1981 when he and his wife “Julie” moved to Alexandria, Egypt, to fill the role of Manager

of Design for the huge wastewater project that the firm had undertaken. In 1983 at the conclusion of the design phase of the Alexandria project, Ken transferred to Amman, Jordan, to serve as Program Manager for two wastewater projects outside of Amman. In 1984 he returned to Corvallis to head up the Water and Wastewater Departments in the Corvallis office, but continued his involvement with the International Division of the firm in the Mid-East and in Southeast Asia until his retirement in 1990. After retirement he continued to work as an on-call water engineer on projects in Cyprus, Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Turkey for another 10 years, retiring fully in 2000.

Ken had a deep fondness for music beginning with violin, guitar and saxophone in his early years, and finally settling on piano for the rest of his life as a part-time jazz pianist. Starting in 1941 he played with big bands and small jazz ensembles and as pianist in Dixieland Jazz Bands.

Ken is survived by Julie, his wife of 45 years; his three sons, Steve, Mark, and Clay; three step children Mike, Scott and Cheryl; grandchildren, Steve Bielman II, James Bielman, Matt Bielman, Simon Bielman, Cameron Bielman, Abbey Bielman and Justin Labhart all on the Bielman side; Jennifer Wenning and Brian Crownover on the Crownover side; and 13 great grandchildren with one on the way.

Comments



“ Dear Julie,

It is October and we only just learned today of Ken's passing. We are so very sorry for your loss.

We felt so privileged to share the video tapes you made for your family about your adventures overseas in connection with Ken's job. What an interesting life the two of you have lead and what wonderful memories you must have of your years together!

Jim so enjoyed performing with Ken at the Jazz club meetings. Lots of good music was played and heard!

Please know that you have our most sincere condolences at the loss of your husband and dear friend. Remember that when you are hurting most from your loss, it is the price you pay for having the privilege of loving so much. You are in our prayers Julie.

Andrea and Jim Buchmann

Andrea & Jim Buchmann - October 20, 2017 at 01:39 AM



“ I send much love to Aunt Jewell and all of Ken and Julie's family at this time of memories and 'missing.'
from cousin Jewell

Jewell Holmes Bolton - August 16, 2017 at 07:50 AM



“ Janet and I will always remember Ken as a good friend over the many years. May he rest in peace.
Mac and Jan Stuart

Mac Stuart - August 09, 2017 at 03:20 PM



“ Ken and his music are unforgettable.

Norm and MaryLee Seward

Norman Seward - August 08, 2017 at 04:58 PM



“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Leon Roland #1. Ground - Allow 5 to 7 bu - August 08, 2017 at 01:34 PM



“ Ken was a good friend to so many of us. He was a bright, successful engineer for CH2M...for whom he served as manager of units and projects around the globe. In addition, he was a wonderful human being. A man of musical talent, humor and good works. He will be remembered with admiration, gratitude and a big smile. May God grant him his rest and may we meet again.

With fondest memories and a grateful heart,

John Filbert

John Filbert - August 08, 2017 at 01:06 PM



“ Ken has been a very special person to me and his support for my singing and photography. Thoughts are with his family.

Leon Roland #1. Ground - Allow 5 to 7 bu - August 08, 2017 at 01:06 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Iva and the rest of Ken's family. Ken was a talented musician and a pleasure to be around. My thoughts and hopes for healing are with you all for this loss.

Natalie Summerlin
Chintimini Senior & Community Center



Natalie Summerlin - August 08, 2017 at 12:11 PM



“ What I think about first when I think of "Unc" are his many professional accomplishments, his attention to detail as he documented his family's genealogy and his own life experiences, and his exceptional talent as a musician. When I remember him, I cannot help smiling when I think of his humor - quiet, low-key, and always with a tremendous punch-line. My earliest memory of his sense of humor was of a family holiday dinner at Grandma and Grandpa's house in Sutherlin ca. mid-1950. All of the family was there, the table was loaded, and it was a delicious meal to say the least. (Our grandmother was an excellent cook.) All of the food prep and eating had produced a mountain of dishes, pots and pans, and there were no dishwashers in those days. Everything was hand-washed and dried. Remembering those times, we who were of that era will recall that clean-up responsibility was women-work. So even as a kid, I spent some time in that kitchen washing and drying dishes that day. After what seemed hours, we were finally finished and ready to rest, and all of the leftovers put away. Uncle Dayton wandered in about that time and said in his rather slow, deliberate way: "I could sure go for a sandwich!" It was hysterically funny watching the looks on the dishwashers' faces. He was that kind of guy. I will miss him very much. He and his brother, my dad, are not with us anymore, but I like to think they're not gone - just gone ahead. With love to Aunt Julie, Steve, Mark and Clay.

Mary Fryer



Mary Fryer - August 08, 2017 at 11:24 AM