



## Garth Julius Skaar

September 17, 1938 - January 10, 2015

Garth J. Skaar, 76, of Corvallis, Oregon, passed away peacefully at Evergreen Hospice House in Albany on January 10th, 2015, surrounded by, and in the arms of, loving family.

Garth was born in Arnegard, North Dakota. He moved frequently in his early years as his father worked on various construction projects.

Garth spent his high school years in Kalispell, Montana, where he worked many jobs and met his future wife, Mary Janet Hughes.

Upon graduation, and a two week Naval stint, Garth enrolled in business school at Northern Montana College, paying his way with a myriad of jobs from furniture delivery to fire lookout. After his junior year, he and "Janny" married, spending their first two summers atop that lookout.

Garth and Jan moved to Ely, Nevada in 1962, where their two children were born and Garth began his teaching career. 3 years later, Garth took a teaching job in Oakridge, Oregon which he remained until his retirement in 1995.

During his more than 30 years in education, Garth taught business classes, driving, announced games, ran ski club, and coached golf.

In Oakridge, Garth and family spent wonderful years gaining friends and enjoying the land through camping, motorcycling, skiing, and other, too many to list, activities.

In 1987, a motorcycle crash severely limited Garth's activity, but not his spirit. 5 years after retirement, Garth moved to Corvallis and in 2004, moved into the house they had built where they've lived ever since. They enjoyed growing a

new circle of friends, maintaining cherished old friendships, and being a beloved part of the lives of their seven grandchildren.

Garth was preceded in death by his brother Harold Skaar of Kalispell and brother-in-law Ron Mushlitz of Spokane.

Garth is survived by his loving wife Mary Janet (Jan), his sister Susan Mushlitz of Spokane, his sister Niki and husband Rich Weatherly of Spokane, his daughter Vicki and husband David Guenther and their sons Jayce, Derek, and Ryan of Corvallis, and his son Brian and wife Linda and their sons Andrew (Ventura, CA), Conlin and wife Jessie (Hillsboro, OR), and Bryson and daughter Dana of Philomath.

A memorial service with a reception following will be held Saturday, January 24, at 1:00 PM at Peace Lutheran church, 2540 Applegate, Philomath. It will be a time to remember Garth's immense impact on so many and share stories of a life well lived.

In lieu of flowers, the family would welcome donations to Peace Lutheran Church of Philomath OR or Evergreen Hospice House of Albany OR in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 NW 5th Street, Corvallis OR 97330.

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ *Janny and family: So very sorry for your loss.  
I send deepest sympathy and prayers.  
Blessings with love, Janet Thompson Lund.*



---

**janet thompson lund** - January 23, 2015 at 09:21 AM

BA

“ *Janny, we are so sorry for your loss! Lana had relayed Nancy's concerns for the two of you after they had spoken on the phone, and this week Garth's obituary appeared in the Daily InterLake. Although this was a shock to us, it was no surprise to God, and He makes no mistakes. That being said, our hearts go out to you, and prayers are said for you during this time of grief and sorrow. May He wrap His arms around you in the warmth of family and friends, and sustain you by memories stored from years of life and love with your amazing husband and friend.*

*God bless you and keep you,  
Barb and Lana*

---

**Barbara Adams** - January 22, 2015 at 02:19 PM

DE

“ *Debra lit a candle in memory of Garth Julius Skaar*



---

**Debra** - January 21, 2015 at 10:49 PM

DE

“ So very sorry for your loss. Mr. Skaar was one of my very favorite teachers and I will always remember him fondly. He was kind and funny and everytime I see a yard stick or ruler I think of him.

---

**Debra** - January 21, 2015 at 10:48 PM

JC

“ Jan, Brian, Vicki & families,

We were so sorry to hear about Garth's passing. He was a wonderful man and we know all of you will miss him greatly. We don't remember him missing any school programs that his grandchildren were involved in. What a wonderful grandfather he was to them.

Please accept our sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.

John & Carol Cochran

---

**John & Carol Cochran** - January 21, 2015 at 07:26 PM

DC

My home was lost in a fire about the same time that Garth and Janny were moving from Westfir to the Corvallis area. They gave me their washer and dryer to replace my loss. It may have been such a small moment in their busy life that they don't even recall that event. But, I do. I will always remember their kindness and loving spirit. They were always willing to share with others. I will never forget Garth for being the kind of person we would all like to be - overcoming his own difficulties and extending himself to aid others. And yes, he did physically help me load the washer and dryer into my truck!

Dwight Chitwood  
Oakridge, Oregon

---

**Dwight Chitwood** - January 22, 2015 at 07:13 PM