



## Oliver Spaeth

May 18, 1924 - September 26, 2011

Oliver “Ollie” Wendell Spaeth Jr. of Corvallis died peacefully Monday morning, Sept. 26, 2011, at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center. He was 87 years old.

Ollie was born in Evansville, Minn., the eldest of four children, to Mr. and Mrs. O.W. Spaeth Sr. (the former Alice Ostrom).

He graduated from Evansville High School in 1942, and enrolled at Gustavus Adolphus College in the V-12 Navy College Training program. He was trained as a radarman, and served aboard the USS Fallon, an attack transport ship in the South Pacific, during World War II. After being discharged from the Navy in 1945, he resumed his studies at Gustavus, graduating with a degree in business administration in 1947.

Upon graduation, he worked for several retail lumberyards, finally joining his father at the Evansville Lumber Co.

Ollie married Ruth A. Scholl on Oct. 13, 1951, in Fairmont, Minn. After conducting a search for the ideal community in which to raise a family in the Pacific Northwest, Ollie and Ruth moved to Corvallis in 1961.

Leveraging his prior lumberyard experience, Ollie joined J&J Plywood, 621 S.W. 11th St. After working there for two years, he purchased the company from the original owners, changing the name to Spaeth Lumber & Plywood. The business was moved to its current location at 1585 N.W. Ninth St. in 1967.

Although Ollie’s love for the retail lumber business was obvious, his first

priority was his family. Survivors include his wife, Ruth; daughter, Julie (John) Wager; son, Wendell (Janet); son, David (Kristen); and daughter, Merrie Sue. Ollie is also survived by eight grandchildren, Nicole, Austin, Alex, Anita, Melissa, Ian, Jacob and Nicholas; two sisters, Edna Granlund of St. Peter, Minn., and Kathryn (George) Reimer of Minneapolis, Minn.; and one brother, George (Nancy) of Berkeley, Calif.

A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, in the John and Nancy Dennis Community Center and Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church, 114 S.W. Eighth St., Corvallis. Overflow parking, if necessary, will be available at First Baptist Church, 125 N.W. 10th St. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to Benton Hospice Service or Community Outreach in Corvallis.

The family wishes to thank Corvallis Manor and Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center for the excellent care Ollie received in the final days of his life.

# Tribute Wall

AL

“ *Mrs. Spaeth, Wendell & Family, I am sorry to hear of Ollie's passing. I enjoyed knowing him and learned alot from working for him at the Lumber yard. My Condolences,  
Allen Lahey*

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**Allen Lahey** - October 02, 2011 at 03:34 PM

MG

“ *Ruth, I am so sorry to learn of Olie's passing. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. Best regards, Mike PS: I will watch for the date and time of his service. Also we will need to meet soon.*

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**Mike Gray** - September 30, 2011 at 11:26 AM