



Paul Lynn Mortenson

September 21, 1945 - March 31, 2013

After a courageous four-year battle with cancer, Paul left this earth on March 31, 2013, to touch the face of God.

Paul was born in The Dalles to Jim and Agnes Mortenson, and spent his first nine years in Mosier. In the early 1950s, the family relocated to Hood River, where Paul attended school, graduating from Wy'east High School in 1963.

The following December, Paul enlisted in the U.S. Army, earning the Good Conduct Award. He served in Vietnam for one year, and completed his tour of duty in Germany. Upon returning home he attended Mt. Hood Community College and graduated from the University of Oregon. He then returned to Germany for two years to teach English to German children. Paul remained in touch with his German friends as the years went by.

Paul returned to Oregon in 1974 and became employed by Starker Forests. He performed a number of jobs at Starker's, but primarily was responsible for road maintenance. Paul thoroughly enjoyed working for the Starker family, and retired in 2012 after 38 years.

Paul found the love of his life in 1975 when his brother Eric introduced him to Genie Sanderson. They married in 1976; built their first home, in Mary's River Estates; and raised two children, John and Laura. In 1998 Paul and Genie

bought their current home, in Kings Valley.

Paul's first love always has been his family, and they enjoyed many activities together, such as camping, hiking, water skiing and following Oregon Ducks sporting events. Extended vacations included trips to Germany and Hawaii. Paul loved to fish and hunt, and knew where all the best spots were. He never missed a sporting event in which his children were involved.

Paul also was very community oriented, and loved his adopted hometown of Philomath. He was active in various civic groups, including the Philomath Youth Activities Club, the Society of American Foresters, American Legion Post 100, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Oregon Hunters Association. He found time to rebuild his Grandpa's 1941 Dodge pickup, and enjoyed taking it to area car shows.

Paul is survived by his wife, Genie; son, John (Heather) of Lewiston, Idaho; daughter, Laura (Nathan) Weishaar of La Grande; grandchildren Keith, Seth, Taylor and Brynn; sisters Sheila (Brett) Tegen and Mary Ann (Kevin) Hay; brothers Neil (Jill), Eric (Michelle), Denis and Robert (Ramona); and many nieces, nephews, cousins and wonderful friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Agnes; and Genie's parents, Virgil and Theresa Sanderson.

Paul will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

A memorial service will take place at 4 p.m. April 4 at College United Methodist Church in Philomath. A graveside burial service is set for 11 a.m. April 6 at Summerville Cemetery in Summerville.

Contributions can be made to the Philomath Youth Activities Club, American Legion Post 100 or Benton Hospice Service. Please leave your thoughts and

memories for the family at www.mchenryfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *McHenry Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Paul Lynn Mortenson*



McHenry Funeral Home - March 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *Paul and I were best friends for awhile in junior high school back in Hood River. We'd pal around, shoot 22 rifles, fish in Indian Creek, and generally try to make mischief. Paul was honest, open, curious, gregarious and had a neat sense of humor. He was a good soul.*

Richard Parker, Sacramento, CA

richard parker - May 03, 2013 at 12:04 AM

JP

“ *I worked with Paul on the Mary's River Road District and he always took the hard tasks and made them look easy. This coupled with his easy going manner made him a real pleasure to be around. Chekhov once said that when you expend the minimum amount of effort to accomplish a specific task, you have achieved grace. Paul achieved grace.*

Jim Przybyla

Jim Przybyla - April 13, 2013 at 09:55 AM

LM

“ To the family of Paul Mortenson,
Ruthie and I extend our sincere sympathy and condolences to you
all. Paul was a wonderful classmate and friend. He was a very
positive influence in our lives and we will miss his wonderful sense
of humor and positive way of living. We will miss him at our 50 year
class reunion this July. We pray God's blessing of comfort on the
entire family and know that you all are in our prayers.

With Sincere feelings of Sympathy and Love,
Lyle and Ruthie McAlexander
lylem@gorge.net
www.mtvieworchards.com
541 806 6554

Lyle and Ruthie McAlexander - April 07, 2013 at 12:05 AM

TM

“ Our Condolences to All, Nothing but Great memories of Paul at the
UO. After my Mom died,Paul always concerned about others
stopped by Mosier , to say Hi. Many Fond Memories,I will miss
him, Tom and Jan Mallery Mosier,Oregon

Tom and Jan Mallery - April 05, 2013 at 08:33 PM

AL

“ Arthur (Jr.) Lyday lit a candle in memory of
Paul Lynn Mortenson



Arthur (Jr.) Lyday - April 04, 2013 at 06:13 PM

SS

“ On behalf of the Benton County Sheriff's Office, please accept our sympathies on the passing of Paul. Paul was a great supporter of our Forest Patrol program and particularly Cpl. Jeff Wilcox who passed away from cancer nearly two years ago. I always appreciated visiting with Paul at the quarterly Forest Patrol meetings and we all missed him after he became to ill to attend. Our thoughts go out to your family. Sincerely, Sheriff Diana Simpson

Sheriff Diana L. Simpson - April 04, 2013 at 04:09 PM

JW

“ To Paul's Family, I had the honor to work with Paul at Starker Forests during the early 80's. Paul was a true teacher and was always willing to work with newcomers to forestry. In fact, I was a city kid who never even touched a chainsaw, but Paul worked through my shortcomings and showed me how to handle a saw and even perform maintenance. This was only one example. There were many more. To this day, I still practice what he taught me. My years at Starkers were very rewarding and Paul made that possible.

I will further always remember his stories. Many times he would bring the whole crew to tears from laughing so much. Life was about lessons and Paul was always one to make that a point too. Case in point, I was moving Barte Starkers car one summer and I got out of his car without setting the parking brake. Unfortunately, the car rolled down the driveway striking a truck. Paul made sure I was the one to clean up the glass and broken pieces while he made arrangements to get it fixed. All the time though, he never said a thing.

He will be missed with out question. I will forever remember how he touched my life if only for the few short years I was at Staker's. I regret I will be unable to make it to his service, but please know that he and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

*God Bless and Take Care
John Whittle,*

John Whittle - April 03, 2013 at 08:22 PM

SW

“ *Steve and Debbie Weishaar purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Paul Lynn Mortenson.*



Steve and Debbie Weishaar - April 03, 2013 at 11:40 AM