



Ramon Nordyke

March 29, 1931 - December 23, 2011

After an extended illness, Ramon Walter Nordyke of Corvallis died Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, in the arms of his loving wife, Marilyn.

Ray was born to Paul Wade and Amy (Watson) Nordyke on March 29, 1931, at Corvallis General Hospital. In 1948, he graduated from Corvallis High School, where he excelled in several sports.

Except for one year in Roseburg, Ray lived his entire life in Corvallis. He grew up on the banks of the Willamette River, and spent many happy hours hunting deer, ducks and geese, and fishing for trout. He knew every twist, bend and snag between Corvallis and Harrisburg.

Ramon married Marilyn Joyce Pugsley on April 16, 1950. His first job was at Medo-Land Creamery, then the Umpqua Dairy in Roseburg. Upon his and Marilyn's return to Corvallis in 1953, Ray started reading meters for Pacific Power and Light. He finished his 40-year career there as a line equipment operator.

In 1953, to earn Christmas money, Ray began making and installing cedar garlands for much of downtown Corvallis and other locations. He continued this venture for 45 years.

Ray was a loyal Oregon State University Beaver fan, rarely missing a football or basketball game. He took great pride in his abundant garden and orchard, and loved to give away the fruits of his labor. His and Marilyn's home was always open to friends and family members, many of whom lived with them for varying periods of time.

Ray and Marilyn spent nearly every anniversary since 1975 in Hawaii. One year they hosted 19 family members ranging in age from 6 months to 87 years. On Ray and Marilyn's 50th wedding anniversary, they renewed their vows in the church where they had been married, and Ray wore the same suit he had worn at their wedding.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Jim. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Marilyn; son, John (Carol) of Corvallis; daughters Diane (Jeff) Howell, Tina (Ron) Crook of St. Helens, and Kay Miller of Philomath; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, at First Presbyterian Church, Corvallis. The Rev. John Dennis will officiate. Memorial donations can be made to Benton Hospice Service in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 N.W. Fifth St., Corvallis, OR 97330.

Tribute Wall

BA

“ We were so sorry to learn of Ramon's passing. Know we are thinking of you and praying for Marilyn and the rest of the family. With our sympathy, Barbara and Ken

Barbara French Arnold - December 30, 2011 at 11:04 AM