



Robert O'Brien

April 3, 1932 - September 27, 2011

Robert Harold O'Brien died peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 27, at home, 18 months after being diagnosed with brain cancer. He was 79.

Bob was born on April 3, 1932, in Sauk Centre, Minn., to Harold S. O'Brien and Genevieve Gray-O'Brien. When he was 9, the family, including the parents; Bob; his older half-brother, Garwood; and younger brother, Dale, moved to Portland.

Bob graduated from Benson Polytechnic High School in Portland, and was then stationed in Japan, rebuilding that country's infrastructure during the Korean conflict. He then returned to Multnomah, south of Portland, where he met a young school teacher named Dorothy Elaine Peterson. In the mid-1950s, life changes found Bob and Elaine married and living near Alpine, where they raised their five children.

Bob was a logger for those 50-odd years in Alpine, first for his cousins Marvin Rowley and Dick Parker, then for a successor organization, Tree Farm Stewards. In 1975, Bob began working as a contract logger himself, and did so until semiretirement in 2009.

Bob and his wife of 55 years, Elaine, have a deep-seated interest in and support of community, especially education. Bob served first on the Alpine Grade School Board, and then on the Monroe Union High School Board for many years.

Bob is survived by wife, Elaine; his five children, Dan, Jim, Sandra and her husband, John, Kathy and her husband, Dennis, and Gary. Bob and Elaine

have four grandchildren, Kaylin and Jeff O'Brien, and Jessica and J.D. Brownell.

Donations in Bob's honor can be made to Benton Hospice Service or the Monroe Fire Department. The family would like to express great appreciation to these organizations.

Services will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday at Bellfountain Community Church, followed by a lunch reception at Bellfountain School.

Tribute Wall

MT

“ *Kathy told me about Bob's passing. I am in Lakewood CO. and could not make it back in time.
Knowing Bob has been special to me. I do miss him. My sympathy to Elaine, Dan and family.*

Manley Thompson - October 01, 2011 at 09:55 AM