



## Roger Louis Traylor

September 1, 1957 - October 8, 2024

Rest in Peace, Roger!

Roger Louis Traylor of Albany, Oregon passed away peacefully on October 8, 2024 at Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis, OR. Roger fell ill very suddenly in the early hours of October 7th and was diagnosed with a critical infection. Both the ER staff and ICU staff gave valiant efforts to help him recover, but his body was unable to overcome the infection. With his hospital bed facing the beautiful outdoors that he loved and with his family by his side, Roger passed peacefully.

Roger was born in Knoxville, TN on September 1, 1957 and was welcomed by his parents, Marion and Mary Traylor and his big sister, Rhonda. Roger grew up in the utopic little town of Norris, TN where he enjoyed the freedom to roam the woods, fish and explore. Roger had many interests. As a teenager, he started his first organic garden. He joined his father in becoming a HAM radio operator, raced motocross, water skied, rock climbed and hiked many sections of the Appalachian Trail. As a boy, Roger loved batteries and wires and figuring out how things worked. He knew from a young age that he wanted to be an electrical engineer.

Roger attended Norris High School where he met his future wife, Jane Worthington. After a first date in the Spring of their Senior year in 1975, they

both soon knew they were meant to be together and began what turned into a 5-year courtship. Roger earned his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, TN. He and Jane were married on June 7, 1980. Following Roger's graduation, they moved to Massachusetts for his first job at GTE. After four years, Roger and Jane moved across the country to Corvallis, OR for Roger to pursue a Master's degree in Computer and Electrical Engineering from Oregon State University.

Following his graduation, Roger and Jane moved to Hillsboro, OR, where Roger began a 10-year career at Intel. Soon after moving, Roger and Jane welcomed their first-born son, Andrew in 1988. Three years later, they welcomed their second son, William. Their family was complete when little sister, Emily, joined the family in 1994. While Roger loved the challenging work at Intel, he wanted to spend more time with his young family and took a job in the Electrical Engineering Department at Oregon State University, where he began his teaching career as an Instructor. Roger spent the rest of his career helping to mold and develop his students into great engineers and quality human beings. He cared about them as a whole. Roger left a legacy at OSU during his time there. While he would never tout his success, Roger won numerous awards over the years. The ones most important to him were those voted on by the students.

Roger continued many of his early hobbies throughout his life. He loved gardening, HAM radio, especially the Summit on the Air (SOTA) excursions he did with Jane, hiking, rock climbing, fishing and hunting. For many years, he was a triathlete. Roger loved anything outdoors and passed that along to his children. He also had a broad taste in music and could sing the lyrics to many songs.

Roger is survived by his wife, Jane Worthington Traylor, and his children: Andrew and wife, Corie; William and wife, Anna; Emily and husband, Simon

Batenhorst. He is also survived by his sister, Rhonda Traylor, and cousin, Ray Sinderson, Jr. Roger was predeceased by his parents, Mary Sinderson Traylor and Marion H. Traylor, Jr. He had three “honorary” grandchildren that he cherished: John, Makaylah, and Josiah Harris. Roger had many “brothers” that he loved deeply: Dan Harton, Eric Fields, David Harvey, Doug Worthington and Steve Bittner.

Roger was a true hero and example in many ways. He valiantly fought cancer twice and battled through a bone marrow transplant in 2017 and endured the subsequent effects. He never gave up and had a strong will to live. Roger’s greatest desire was to leave a legacy to his children and his students, and he completed that goal with great success. Roger’s faith in God was his foundation. He lived his faith until the end.

The family would like to say a special thank you to Roger’s beloved, Dr. Jessica Leonard and the multitude of nurses on 14K at OHSU that cared for him during his transplant, but especially, Annie and Caleb. The family also extends a heartfelt thanks to Roger’s doctor, Eric Sharp, and to the doctors and nurses at Samaritan Corvallis, both in the ER and ICU, who fought so hard to save Roger and to make him comfortable. Lastly, we give a special thanks to Roger and Jane’s pastor, Ben Clarke, for his gentle and caring love during Roger’s last day.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations are made in Roger's honor.

Donations can be made to:

Greenbelt Land Trust, honoring Roger’s love of the outdoors - <https://greenbeltlandtrust.org/donate/>

Contribute to a Commemorative Bench in Roger's memory - <https://gofund.me/33f1f264>

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Officer's Club, 6097 NE Ebony Ln., Corvallis, OR 97330, on November 3rd at 2 pm.

Please share your thoughts and memories for the family at [www.McHenryFuneralHome.com](http://www.McHenryFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 3. 2:00 PM (PT)

The Officer's Club  
6097 NE Ebony Lane  
Corvallis, OR 97330

# Tribute Wall

FF

“ Hello. I just came upon the bench in McDonald Forest dedicated to Roger. It led me to this obituary and page. He seems like he was an amazing man. I am a bench lover of the forest, and know that he and your family can appreciate the value of this bench in the forest. My condolences for your loss, and I appreciate you all for your appreciation of Roger’s love for the forest.

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**Forest Fan** - June 22, 2025 at 12:36 PM

KW

“ Kindergarten kiss on little tricycle, his cowboy boots, Manette & I riding her horse over to his house on Dairy Pond Rd, sitting on his parents' couch looking at his Mom's medical book about Hiroshima, him bringing a Geiger counter to Norris Elementary School for show and tell and hearing clicks of background radiation, him saying such nice things about my Dad getting him into ham radio, Glen Alpine superlatives - "Friendliest" Kim Curlin and Roger Traylor...What a lovely person <3

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**Kim Wettroth** - November 04, 2024 at 10:30 AM

DH

“ Roger always carried his 2 meter rig on the AT when we hiked during breaks from high school. He was the brother I didn't have at home. He befriended me when I moved to Norris and entered the sixth grade. We roomed together at Tennessee Tech when not out on co-op rotations. All I can say is to quote the anthem of our generation “ Fly on Freebird “ Heaven is a better place...

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**Dan Harton** - November 02, 2024 at 06:24 PM

EP

“ Roger transmitted ham radio from over 100 mountain tops beginning in 2013. He was a morse code specialist, reaching Europe, New Zealand and Canada with his teeny battery powered equipment, almost all on the 20 meter band.....RIP from Summits on the Air management team & K6EL radio

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**Elliott Pisor** - October 24, 2024 at 10:21 PM

PC

“ Roger worked at Intel in a small team I led. We created a line of supercomputers that were for a time, the fastest in the world and helped scientists solve difficult problems such as weather modeling and cancer research. Looking back, it's amazing to me what we were able to accomplish with such a small and dedicated team. Roger was a huge part of that success. He was one of the best engineers I ever worked with. Creative, curious and a pleasure to be around. The work we did was hard and took long hours. To blow off steam sometimes we'd ride dirt bikes in the beautiful Oregon coast range. He was a fantastic rider and taught me more than a few tricks. When Roger decided to leave our team, we couldn't believe it given his value and bright future at Intel. But then he told us he wanted a better environment to focus more on his family, which made absolute sense and speaks to Roger's strong moral fiber and sense of what is truly important. Reading these tributes I'm not surprised that he went on to be a fantastic educator touching so many lives.

*I'm very saddened to learn of his passing. But I'm also happy to have known and worked with Roger. I feel he made this world a better place.*

*Paul Close*

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**Paul Close** - October 21, 2024 at 01:12 PM

IS

*Hi Paul, Roger became a mentor of mine when I started teaching at OSU. He told me some of the best times in his life were "blowing off steam" with his fellows from Intel. I remember him talking about adrenaline and specifically a friend who he mentioned that he rode dirt bikes with. Thank you for your kind words, and I figure you might like to know he thought of you often and shared your good times with his students and colleagues.*

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**Ingrid Scheel** - November 01, 2024 at 11:41 AM

JT

*Paul, I am so sorry for my delay in answering your tribute for Roger. His time with the "Dream Team" at Intel held so many great memories. We included a picture in his slideshow of Roger with our son, Andrew, sitting on the motorcycle in the back of Roger's pick up before you all went riding together. I believe AZ loaned him that bike.*

*We also included a pic of Dave Dunning and Roger when they summited Mt. Rainier with their Grouch Marx's glasses. Those years were full of great times and awesome accomplishments.*

*I hope you and your family are doing well. Thank you for taking the time to write a tribute for Roger.*

*Jane*

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**Jane Traylor** - April 07, 2025 at 06:44 PM

AZ

“ Roger and I worked together at Intel's Supercomputer Systems Division. It was a small team developing parallel computer systems using Intel processors. It was amazing how so few people worked on such big projects. Roger was assigned to design a chip for all the processors to communicate with each other. It was the foundation of our computer. Normally, you would have an entire team assigned to design a chip like this. Roger designed the entire chip - by himself. I remember countless times with Roger working in his cubicle late into the night. The chip worked perfectly.

I also remember Roger being a special person. He was so much more than an excellent engineer - he was an excellent person. I remember him fondly from 35yrs ago and will always remember him.

"God takes the good ones early."

Hint: Roger and I are on the bottom right of the photo. Were we ever that young?



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**anthony zilka** - October 21, 2024 at 11:20 AM

JT

AZ, thank you for taking the time to write a tribute for Roger. He had so many great memories from his time with the special group at Intel.

Take care,

Jane

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**Jane Traylor** - April 07, 2025 at 06:45 PM

MB

“ Roger was an unforgettable teacher, whose practical approach gave us tools we could use every day in our careers. He cared about students beyond academics and ensured that we approached things holistically. He had a great sense of humour as well. He will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences to his family.

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**MJ Bustamante** - October 20, 2024 at 08:44 PM

WE

“ Roger Taylor is the professor I remember most. I nearly didn't graduate and was crying in the hall after finding out there was an issue in my transcript. Roger invited me into his office, we talked it out, and he helped petition. He encouraged me in class and gave a lot of good advice. Years later in industry I've had his advice come to mind. I also had him co-teach a class early on when battling cancer. He was strong and wise and I feel so lucky to have gotten to learn from him.

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**Weston** - October 17, 2024 at 08:27 PM

AB

“ Prof. Traylor was a great professor and person I had the privilege of learning from at OSU. Very much appreciated his welcoming and warm approach to teaching. My condolences and utmost respect to him and his family.

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**Abhishek** - October 17, 2024 at 01:59 PM

SA

“ Roger Traylor was a teacher who undoubtedly shows up on many students top five influential people in their life. He certainly is in my top five. He taught me things I have used to build my own career and teach to my own students. Roger will be missed and his impact will ripple into eternity.

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**Samuel** - October 16, 2024 at 10:42 PM

MS

“ I was fortunate to have Roger teach me three courses, advise me in finishing my MS, and as a colleague in teaching.

*I'll fondly remember our time together. ❤️*

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**Matthew Shuman** - October 16, 2024 at 09:46 PM

AU

“ Roger was such a kind and great teacher. He helped guide me through his sought after classes. I have a great memory of us bonding over blues band before a class.

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**Austin** - October 16, 2024 at 09:28 AM

KP

“ Mr. Traylor taught my favorite course at OSU and was my favorite instructor. I still remember the day he looked at us all during one of our last lectures of our last year and told us that “you are all engineers now.” His embedded systems course description was a near identical description of my first job out of college and his teaching and encouragement continue to shape my life and career. There is zero chance I would be the person, engineer, husband, father, and human I am today without his influence on my life. Thank you and rest in peace, Mr. Traylor.

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**Keith Prickett** - October 15, 2024 at 11:28 PM

SB

“ Roger was a legend in EECS at OSU and I had the pleasure of both taking his classes and helping TA them. He brought so much kindness and humor to everything he did and really put his heart into it and cared about people. He left a mark on countless people and will be missed but not forgotten.

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**Sean Bullis** - October 15, 2024 at 05:55 PM

KA

“ I am deeply saddened by the passing of Roger Traylor. While he may not have been the most conventional teacher, his passion for engineering and genuine care for his students left an indelible mark on my life. His encouragement during challenging times and his unwavering belief in my potential helped me persevere when I doubted myself. Roger Traylor was one of the few educators whose lessons I still carry with me almost a decade later, shaping the engineer (at Intel) I am today. His legacy of dedication and passion will continue to inspire me and many others. Rest in peace, Traylor.

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**Katelyn** - October 15, 2024 at 05:12 PM

DK

“ When I began Roger's class I was still unsure of exactly what direction I was going at Oregon State. Roger was an incredible instructor, and he was the type of person that I wanted to be. He made the coursework understandable, practical, and interesting. He also was kind, patient, and interested in us both as students and people. I walked out of that course knowing I was going to finish in electrical engineering. That decision has served me well, even as I have gone on to a different type of career than most of his students did. I am grateful for Roger's influence on the lives of so many students at Oregon State.

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**Dan Keese** - October 15, 2024 at 04:40 PM

RP

“ Roger was an important influence on the EECS program at Oregon State. He, together with Don Heer, Terri Fiez, and others, breathed important, practical, hands-on learning into the curriculum through the TekBots program, which has a unique multi-year continuity through 3 years of the undergraduate curriculum and brings a focus on multidisciplinary learning that some programs lack.

*I remember his lecture on the importance of decoupling capacitors and how those ideal voltage sources we throw around on paper don't exist in the real world. He was a practical engineer that grounded the program and helped balance the EECS program between practical and academic learning.*

*I also remember some of his stories about his time working in defense. One of his stories went along the lines of he realized there could be some race conditions in the digital circuit controlling a nuclear command-and-control system. I can't remember what the moral of the story was but I am glad we had Roger there at the right time to sort that out.*

*He was also a great role model for the next generation. Here was a guy who had a great career at Intel and shifted gears to focus on things more important to him - educating the next generation and having the flexibility to spend more time with his family.*

*I will miss you Roger!!! My condolences to his family and friends.*

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**Richard J Przybyla** - October 15, 2024 at 01:50 PM

SH

“What an amazing and passionate man. I recall years ago when I was interviewing students for positions at Garmin that I often heard “Roger Traylor’s name” as an answer to a question about a favorite professor they had. I shared that story with Roger when I finally met him and he laughed, as if it was no big deal. Later, when Terri Fiez asked Roger to be a Professor advisor for our Garmin scholar program, I got to know Roger better as we enjoyed several celebratory dinners and get togethers with Roger as we welcomed new Garmin scholars. He was a fierce advocate for his students and took ownership of making sure they had every opportunity to gain the knowledge in their field they would need to grow into successful engineers. His sense of humor and his laugh brought a smile to all he met. He made a difference, and he will be missed.

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**Steve Horvath** - October 15, 2024 at 12:18 PM

KG

“If I was ever in doubt about my choice of college major, it was taking Roger’s introductory and more advanced courses, that truly assured me. What an inspiring and talented individual, whose industrial success and personal demeanor was irresistible in propelling so many towards their future selves. He exuded such an infectious peace and joy and will be dearly missed.

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**Kevin Gatimu** - October 15, 2024 at 11:48 AM

MB

“ Traylor was an amazing instructor who taught the first ECE class I took when I transferred to OSU, that experience helped me adjust to my new university and cemented my decision that I picked the right major during an uncertain time in my college career. I was excited to have Traylor as an instructor again for the transmission lines class. I initially struggled with the transmission lines class, but Traylor worked with me after lectures and during his office hours which helped motivate me to stay the course and eventually excel in it. Traylor made such a positive impact on so many people, he will be sorely missed.

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**Matthew Beckers** - October 14, 2024 at 11:24 AM

EA

“ Thank you, Roger, for the unforgettable memories during my college years. Your impact on my career was profound, and your passion and kindness as an engineer set a remarkable standard for all of us. You will be deeply missed.

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**Edwin Ardiwinata** - October 12, 2024 at 06:58 AM

MS

“ He was a man I looked up to, inspiring me to be a better engineer and person. He encouraged his students to become more efficient, showed us what working in the industry was actually like, engaged with us, and was completely genuine. He once shared with the class how tenacious he was in applying for work on a supercomputer—applying many times and facing rejection, but after many tries, he finally got accepted. He also gave us unconventional advice about printing out code and reading it line by line at a coffee shop—advice I live by and continue to use. -(Mico) Miguel Santiago. Civilian Navy Electrical Engineer at NAVAIR

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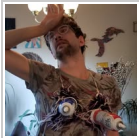
**Mico Santiago** - October 12, 2024 at 01:14 AM

SP

“ Roger was one of the most impactful mentors in my life. I got the sense that he was there because he identified it as a true passion and calling for him. In my entire time at OSU I waited to have that sort of experience again, but it never happened. Unfortunately by the time I got to take 473 he was very in and out - but every time he showed up, he brought wisdom and hard earned lessons into class. Incredible man and role model.

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**Spencer** - October 11, 2024 at 04:44 PM



“ Roger Taylor taught me about transmission lines which is still one of the most memorable learning experiences I've had. I ended up telling him about a snazzy circuit board that cared about transmission lines before realizing it might be proprietary and he joked that from my vague description he would reverse engineer some valuable engineering secrets.

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**Zachary Vick** - October 11, 2024 at 03:37 PM

TF

“ When Roger retired, I visited him in his office during winter term finals week to bid farewell. He told many stories, mostly describing his love for the outdoors and his family. The last advice and last thing he ever said to me was "Head up to the Oak Creek access to McDonald Forest. Walk slowly, observe, and listen. It's amazing for the soul." Attached is a picture from that hike a week later. Roger was incredibly kind and he will be missed dearly. If anyone ever misses him, head up to the Oak Creek access to McDonald Forest and take a hike in his honor.



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**Travis Fredrickson** - October 11, 2024 at 03:23 PM

SB

*He understood.*

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**Steve B** - October 13, 2024 at 11:43 AM

SM

“ Roger was a brilliant and caring instructor - his attitude in how he approached teaching was unique and incredibly memorable. It was a real privilege to be a student of his, and I know that he'll be missed dearly by all who knew him.

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**Sean Austin Mihuc** - October 10, 2024 at 09:43 PM

SM

“ Roger was a brilliant and caring instructor - his attitude in how he approached teaching was unique and incredibly memorable. It was a real privilege to be a student of his, and I know that he'll be missed dearly by all who knew him.



Sean Austin Mihuc - October 10, 2024 at 09:22 PM

BR

“ Roger was probably the most impactful instructor in my academic career. I can't understate how beloved he was amongst students and faculty. He cared deeply about his students and it showed in everything he did. He will be missed dearly. - Blake Roberts

Blake Roberts - October 10, 2024 at 05:44 PM

CO

“ With the lack of students on campus, summers were really hard for me. Whenever Roger was around during those quiet times, he'd purposely stomp the halls so I wouldn't be so blue. One of a kind!  
Cindy Bressler Olson, OSU CCE.

Cindy Olson - October 10, 2024 at 04:59 PM



“ Roger Traylor was an amazing instructor. I took several classes with him and he had an amazing ability to make each lecture both super informative and captivating to listen to.

Matthew Zochert - October 10, 2024 at 02:59 PM

SB

“ Roger was a wonderful instructor at OSU. He always had a kind word for faculty and staff. Every time he came into the office, he would make a point of saying hi. He will be very much missed by everyone. Sherry Barrett

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**Sherry Barrett** - October 10, 2024 at 11:52 AM

RC

*Dear Jane: I am just reading the sad new about Roger. My heart is so sad for you and your children. I am sorry, I did not know until a few minutes ago; just happened to type his name in and...Please accept my heartfelt sympathy and love. Rita Clark*

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**Rita Clark** - April 13, 2025 at 12:04 PM