



Russell Pinard

November 11, 1938 - August 7, 2010

Russell Pinard was born on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1938, in Wessington Springs, S.D., the fifth child of Telly Pinard and Grace Donnelly Pinard. When he was at a young age, his family moved to Roseburg, where he spent an eventful and mildly delinquent childhood. He graduated from Roseburg High School in 1958.

After high school, Russ served in the National Guard, and studied at Mt. Shasta Community College and Oregon State University. He returned to Roseburg in 1961 and married his high school sweetheart, Rita Sutton. In 1972, they moved their family to Corvallis, where they have lived ever since. Russ spent the majority of his adult life working as a land surveyor: an occupation he truly enjoyed, as it gave him both “the chance to be outside, and lots of time to think.” He spent the last 10 years of his career working for the Oregon State Parks Department, where he was awarded the Governor’s Suggestion Award.

Russ was a man with many interests and even more hobbies. He possessed the mind of a scholar, the soul of an artist, and the heart of an explorer. Throughout his life he created drawings, paintings and carvings that still fill his house. His workshop contains sketches, inventions and several gadgets whose purposes remain a mystery.

Four years ago, he scaled Mount St. Helens, and just last summer, while battling cancer, he hiked the Twin Lakes area.

Russ passed away at his home on Aug. 7, peacefully, in his sleep, surrounded

by family. He was 71.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Rita; his four children, Kari Rieck, Rex, Penny and Dan; 11 grandchildren; and his dogs.

His friends and family and all those who knew him will miss his sharp mind, the twinkle in his eyes, his warm smile and his heartfelt laugh.

A viewing service will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, at McHenry Funeral Home, followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m.