



Waldo "Wally" Russell Thompson

June 16, 1952 - March 19, 2014

Longtime Willamette Valley resident Wally Thompson, 61, passed away in his sleep on Wednesday, March 19, at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis, following a prolonged illness.

He was born on Father's Day, June 16, 1952, in Corvallis, the first son of Gordon and Grace Thompson. His two brothers, Burt and Steve, followed in 1954 and 1960.

Most of Wally's education was received in Corvallis. As a student at Lincoln School and Western View Middle School, Wally learned to play the trumpet. After graduating from Astoria High School in 1970, he returned to Corvallis, where he met Barbara Spencer. They were married on April 9, 1977. Their son, James Russell Thompson, was born on Aug. 12, 1983.

Wally's career in the facilities department of the Corvallis campus of Hewlett-Packard Co. spanned 20 years, 1979 to 1999.

From childhood, Wally could catch fish even when no one else did, and he enjoyed fishing and camping all over Oregon, all his life.

He was a 12-year survivor of throat cancer.

Wally is survived by his son, James Thompson of Portland; his wife, Barbara Thompson of Albany; his brother Burton Thompson of Aurora; his brother Steve Thompson of Corvallis; his sister Donna Farris Trask of Albany; his niece Sara Trask Ensey and her children, Brennan Ray Ensey and Vivian Grace Ensey of Shedd; and his nephew Ray Trask of Salem.

Services will take place at 1 p.m. Monday, March 24, at McHenry Funeral Home in Corvallis, followed by interment at Crystal Lake Cemetery. Pastor Ron Johnson of Corvallis Evangelical Church will officiate.

Memorial contributions can be made to Milestones in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 N.W. Fifth St., Corvallis, OR 97330.

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Wally was my first cousin. Our dads were both brothers and friends. As kids we spent time together but I hadn't seen Wally for years. Condolences to his family.
Janet Gerlach

Janet Gerlach - March 24, 2014 at 11:04 PM

BB

“ I am so sorry to hear of my cousin, Wally's death. It is so sad that over the years our family has not kept in touch with one another, especially since Uncle Gordon passed away. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I just heard about this today so could not have made the trip from Brookings. I hope my sister, Susie was able to attend the service. Betty Jean

Betty Jean Thompson Bishop - March 24, 2014 at 05:43 PM

GS

“ Wally helped introduce me to Oregon fishing and I'll always remember how clean he kept his boat, truck and camper. Always immaculate. I'll never forget his unique laugh!

Gary Strader - March 24, 2014 at 10:55 AM