



## Harold Griffin Brainerd

April 3, 1929 - September 9, 2022

Harold Brainerd was born April 3rd, 1929 in Sacramento, California and passed away September 9th, 2022 in Bend, Oregon.

# Tribute Wall



“ 14 files added to the album *Obituary Wall*



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**Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery - May 18, 2023 at 03:12 PM**



“ 3 files added to the album *New Album*



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**Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery - May 18, 2023 at 03:12 PM**

CL

“ Q: *What was Harold really good at?*

*A: Harold was a very good friend of my family, especially my father Jack Lewis and myself. I will miss our monthly lunch, Harold and I continued to have the monthly lunches, even after Dad passed in late February (I think it was my turn to buy!) Harold was always calm and well collected, I have known him since 1967 and cannot remember an anger word or harsh assessment of a situation. He and Nicki were truly extended members of our family and lives. Harold will be missed.*

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**Chuck Lewis** - September 27, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *When I first met Harold about 27 years ago, shortly after moving to the "hood my first impression was what grumpy guy. But so much for first impressions! And I was that damn hippie who bought a home in the neighborhood. Yes my hair was past the middle of my back, but we came from different cultures. Me a brash Right Coaster and he, well it's already been said. But we got along marvelously.*

*As time went on and I became more involved with the HOA I truly got to discover what a remarkable man he truly was. Not only was a font of history of our little bit of paradise in Bend. But his life and his experiences on his journey were and are remarkable. But those of us who have been fortunate to live here know that.*

*I will treasure the time I spent with Harold and his great insight. It helped me become a better person. I'll miss and already do our meetings at the mail station, even though he was going through hell he was always the first to ask me how I was and then we got to talk about him. He was a Saint.*

*Gonna miss you pal, my only regret we missed having one last cocktail, for which you were always generous with the pour.*

*Peace*

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**Stu MacDonald** - September 26, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ We will always remember Harold's friendly smile and cheerful greetings, and we admired his spunk.

*Thank you, Harold.*

*Tim and Jamie Ward*

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**Tim and Jamie Ward** - September 26, 2022 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ Hello young man.  
Hello young lady.  
How are you today?  
Pretty good for an old man.  
I will miss the young old man who would greet me the same way every time I would visit. I will cherish the shared meals, stories and laughter at the Brainerd kitchen table.  
Farewell young man.

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**Vicky Mann** - September 26, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ Harold, the RRW community is not the same without you. I miss seeing your quick smile and friendly wave while you tended to your yard or walked to the mailbox. I remember as a kid when I sold Girl Scout cookies or needed a swimathon donation I could always count on you supporting me. You were thoughtful and helped others. When a fancy cell phone was lost in deep snow by your home you monitored that dang iced-over snow bank for days looking for the phone and found it! And because of your diligence you found it frozen but not wet so it still worked!

*Thank you for being kind. Rest in peace Harold.*

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**Amy Ward** - September 25, 2022 at 12:00 AM

EK

“ I met Harold on the night of 9/1/2019 when he and Nicki lovingly saved my four-legged boy Nougat's life. I wasn't able to see him very well that night when I went over to his house to pick up Nougat as I was in tears but I could sense his loving smile and caring heart. I think my little Nougat wanted me to meet Harold and Nicki, the two angels on earth. The handful of times I have seen Harold since he always made me happier, lighter, and loving life just a bit more. He was vibrant and full of life. A man with a sense of humor that cracks me up too. The time that he was at my house for a little get together, I diligently pointed out all the little treats I had laid out "this is candied pecan, this is Japanese cracker nuts, this is XYZ cheese, this is....," he jokingly started to mimic me...for some reason, the way he did it just cracked me up and I immediately just relaxed and chilled and joined the party vs. worrying about being a good host. Another time I caught him zipping around (speeding I am sure) in his electrical cart/wheelchair in his neighborhood going between the association mail room and his house. I yelled "Harold!" He turned and then continued zipping home while waving back at me. His demeanor was like a teenager and it just cracked me up and made me smile. Harold, as you joined the other angels on the other side, I wish you a wonderful journey ahead. I/we will miss you and will continue to hold you dear in our hearts. Every thought of you continues to make me smile.

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**Elaine Kitagawa** - September 24, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ Dear Harold, may this tree to be planted in your honor be as vibrant, strong and full of life as you.

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**Love, Elaine/George/Nougat/Wyatt** - September 24, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ I remember dad taking Lendell and myself fishing when we were kids. It was so much fun. I sure miss those day's in 1960s.

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**Chuck Brainerd** - September 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM

IG

“ My fond memories of Harold is when I called Nicki and he would answer the phone, and I would say hi Bernie and he'd say hi Marilyn. I don't know how that got started but it was a fun time bantering back and forth having fun and laughing. That was a special time with a special man. He will be missed.

*Irene Gillette  
Bend, Oregon*

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**Irene Gillette** - September 21, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Harold and I would talk about a lot of things, but we would always center on talking about History. His history, my history, the arrow collection and the remembrances of how things used to be. We would usually conclude that we were glad to have lived those "good o'l days" but we would never want to go back. Harold gave me a lot of insight into his life and and I'm thankful for that,

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**Joseph Hesbrook** - September 21, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ While my heart hurts with the loss of Harold, memories of him make me smile. I see him walking to our mail center - later riding his electric wheelchair - always smiling when we met. I see him listening patiently at our HOA meetings - where I impatiently waited to hear his views of whatever the hot topic was at that time. Harold didn't ask for it, but over the years he was my "go to" guy for any questions I had related to anything going on in our neighborhood. I not only liked him a bunch, I respected and trusted his judgment because he was insightful and could "read" the room. This kind, intelligent, humble soul will be greatly missed.

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**Lynda Westcott** - September 21, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Harold was a good, good friend to many- and certainly to us. Of his many wonderful attributes, Harold was always happy, passing his joy to others at any gathering.

Harold was knowledgeable and calm in many tough circumstances applying his vast experience and wisdom. We would call Harold up for advice. We learned of his experience as an assessor, his interest in arrowheads, etc. Among his many contributions, he was responsible for involving the HOA, inspiring community members and ultimately making our neighborhood only the second nationally recognized Firewise community in Bend. He was instrumental in significantly reducing wildfire risk in Rimrock West. He brought this wisdom to the HOA and over many years served on the Board as President, Vice President, treasurer and secretary . One could always count on his presence at Board meetings and other community events up until recently. Despite his many accomplishments and interests, he never bragged about any. Despite being well into his 80s, Harold still joined other community members with a rake to rake pine needles in our common areas. To many he was the very active and loved patriarch of our community! The wonderful care his wife, Nicki, provided was certainly essential in sustaining his spirit through his many health challenges.

Harold brought joy and wisdom to us and will be sorely missed. You can see from the photos how beloved he was to so many! Harold, we will miss you terribly!

Jerry and Martita

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**Martita Marx and Jerry Wein** - September 18, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ From the time I was a toddler, I loved my dad. He was always there for me. I aspired to be like him but always came up short. Still, he was always proud of me & showed me that he loved me in so many ways. He taught me how to hunt, fish & do better in sports. I will miss his stories & his advise. I love you dad ...your son Jim.

James Brainerd - September 18, 2022 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ Just wanted to express my sorrow about hearing of Harold's passing. I have known him for many years and was close to his sons. He was a wonderful father and a great influence to me. I will miss his smile and lovely personality. Rest in Peace Harold. Sincerely, Karl E. Lundy

Karl E. Lundy - September 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Harold Griffin Brainerd

Bend Funeral Homes - September 16, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home

A Memorial Tree was planted for Harold Griffin Brainerd - September 16, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Harold Griffin Brainerd

Bend Funeral Homes - September 16, 2022 at 12:00 AM