



John Neil Nielsen

August 12, 1937 - June 13, 2026

John Neil Nielsen, 88, of Bend, Oregon, passed away on June 13, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

John was born on August 12, 1937, in Los Angeles, California, to Olav Christian Nielsen and Dorothy Smith Chamberlain. He later moved to San Bernardino, California, where he attended high school and met his first wife, Dixie Sterchi. Together they had three children. William “Bill” Carl, Robert “Bob” Wayne, and Jean Marie.

John worked as a floor layer to support his family, a trade he continued throughout his life. After his marriage to Dixie ended, he met Sharon Scott, the love of his life. They were married for 57 years and built a life centered on love, hard work, and family.

John and Sharon raised their children in San Bernardino until 1967, when they moved to Albany, Oregon, where John continued working in floor covering. In 1974, they relocated to Bend, Oregon, where he and Sharon remained throughout their lives.

John had a deep love for the outdoors and hands-on craftsmanship. His passions included hunting, fishing, gunsmithing, camping, snowmobiling, and go-karting. A true “do-it-yourself” man, he built homes in both Albany and

Sunriver. He was known for his strong work ethic and took pride in everything he did.

John also treasured time with friends and was especially fond of playing cards and cribbage, often enjoying a friendly win. He was surrounded by many friends and will be remembered for his humor, skill, and companionship.

He is survived by his children, William "Bill" Carl, Robert "Bob" Wayne, and Jean Marie; grandsons Nicholas, Taylor, and Ryan; and granddaughters Jennifer and April. John was preceded in death by his beloved wife Sharon; his parents; and his brother, Don.

John will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him.

Graveside gathering will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 10:00am in the Meadow Pond Garden at Deschutes Memorial Gardens at 63875 N Hwy 97, Bend, OR 97701.

Following the gathering will be a celebration of life at the DRRH Neighbors Clubhouse at 17200 Milky Way Rd. Bend, OR 97707 (outside Sunriver).

Cemetery Details

Deschutes Memorial Gardens

63785 N. Highway 97
Bend, OR 97701

Upcoming Events

Graveside Service

JUN 27. 10:00 AM (PT)

Deschutes Memorial Gardens
63785 N. Highway 97
Bend, OR 97701

Celebration of Life

JUN 27. 11:30 AM (PT)

DRRH Neighbors Clubhouse
17200 Milky Way Rd.
Bend, OR 97707