



## Nicholas "Nik" John Fagen

August 25, 1941 - August 14, 2019

Nicholas (Nik) Fagen of Bend, OR, an icon of the diesel repair business, was taken from us on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, in a motor vehicle accident at the age of 77.

He was born to John and Marian (Schaedler) Fagen in Keewatin, MN, on August 25, 1941. The family moved to Bend in 1950. Nik married Cherri (Boyles) Fagen on August 24, 1991. Nik attended St. Francis School and graduated Bend High School in 1959.

His love of mechanics was in his heritage, which developed in his adolescence and teen years. After graduation he moved to Seattle, WA, and worked in the shipyards, before establishing a career as a diesel repair man at Pacific Garages. In 1966, he moved to Pasco, WA, with a promotion to supervise a satellite shop. In 1977, he opened Nik's Diesel & Repair. He successfully ran the shop for 12 years before moving back to Bend in 1989, where he continued his business for the last 30 yrs.

Nik belonged to the Machinist Union, Hill and Gulley Motorcycle Club, Central Oregon Classic Car Club, and was formerly an active member of the Right of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

Nik is survived by his wife Cherri (Boyles) of Bend, OR, Brothers; Harry (Bev) of Bend, OR, John (Patti) of Fruitland, ID; Sister: Susie (Mark) Wirges of

Bend, OR; Former wife; Linda Childers, Richland, WA. Sons: Stacey (Liz) of Vancouver, WA; KC (Maria) of Tillamook, OR; Travis (Lori) of Springtown, TX; Daughters: Nichole (Rod) Tucker of Kirkland, WA; Monique (Dan) Connolly of Richland, WA; Kelli (Bob) Allen of Beach, ND; Melani Stewart (Randall Ervin) of Aloha, OR, and his 102 year old Aunt Joyce Kaiser of Arlington, VA. Nik has 16 grandchildren and a plethora of nieces, nephews and cousins. Nik is preceded in death by his parents John and Marian Fagen and a brother, Don Fagen.

Nik loved people and loved to tell stories. He never met a stranger. His boisterous laugh could be heard long before he entered a room. His sense of humor and witty antidotes will linger forever.

Rosary and Celebration of Life services will be held on August 31, 2019, at Historic St. Francis Church at 1pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility, 1800 W Monroe St., Burns, OR 97720. Please make checks payable to: EOYCF Diesel Program.

Arrangements are being handled by Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home. Please visit the online registry for the family at [www.niswonger-reynolds.com](http://www.niswonger-reynolds.com)

# Tribute Wall

KK

“ *My Tribute to Nik Fagen From Keith M Kienle The Man, The Myth, The Legend! I was very sad to hear about the loss of Nik and am praying for all the family and friends of Nik as we grieve his death. It has left a big hole in the lives of all who knew him. 2001 How did I Meet Nik, I have a Ford Diesel Pickup, that about say's it all. If it was a diesel he could fix it. And he loved Ford's There are lots of good things to remember about Nik. Just want to touch on 3 things that stand out. These are burned in my memory forever !!!!!!!!!!!*

*About 2004 1. When to the shop one time and Nik he was working on a Cadillac FlatHead V8 engine, pre WWII. He was helping someone to get it running. Had some kind of a Cam or lifter problems. How many mechanics can fix something that is older than they are ? Well Nick Could ! In my early days I worked at a Junk Yard ( Auto Wrecker) and had seen a Cadillac FlatHead V8 engine, think it was an Industrial engine, maybe from a saw mill. Nik was a little surprised that I knew what it was and we hit it off quite well, and had lots of talks about engines and stuff. Can't talk to Nik for to long with out some politics thrown in also. No beating around the bush about what he believed. Got to see his Olds engine in the very early stages. Yes he could fix Gas engines too. Just look at his Oldsmobile engine and listen to that thing RUN. Sure hope that car stays in the family. 2010 ?? Don't remember exact year 2. Went out to the shop on a saturday afternoon and there was a person with a Ford Van with a Diesel engine that Nick was fixing something on it. Person was disabled in a wheelchair and after he left Nick started talking about if there was some way to modify his bathroom to made it easier for him to use it. We kicked around several ideas. I am fairly mechanical blessed and have been around construction work for many years. But from there I dropped the ball and didn't think much about it. At the funeral service I connected the dots so to speak that Nick was serious about doing something to help this person. My best guess now is that person was a disabled Veteran form The Band of Brothers. I so wish now that I had said "Nik what can I Do to HELP You" That was a side of Nik that I didn't know much about. So now It's time for me to start giving back as a way to honor Nik. Joined The Band of Brothers this week, meet Susie's*

*husband at the meeting. 3. As Nik was winding things down and closing the shop, he was building a Diesel Power Plant for an Oil Rig. Went out to see him several times and he would give me details about the engine and why he chose each part for that Engine. He could teach the Engineers a few things about how to build a Diesel Engine that would Really Run and Put out some POWER !!!!!!!!!! Might not meet new EPA emission standards. No doubt about it, he was a Master of His Trade ! Nik it was an honor and a privilege to know you for the time I did! Nik WE MISS YOU !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! But am sure I will see you in the future. Fagen Family, You did a First Class Job of a Tribute to Nik, Job well done ! Keith M Kienle Bend OR 9/24/2019*

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**Keith M Kienle** - September 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JG

“*Sorry to hear of nicks passing. He did things his way, the right way, and was a larger than life human giant of his profession. Was glad to be aquianted with him.*”

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**Jay gulliford** - September 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GR

“*Nicholas "Nik" John Fagen*”

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**Gail Reed** - August 29, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I am so sad to hear about Uncle Nik. He was a character with a huge heart! He loved to talk 7.3 liter diesels and whenever I had an issue with mine I couldn't figure out I'd call Nik and he was always happy to help and always spot on with his diagnostic of the problem. I'm saddened as Nik was a good man with a good heart that loved, helped and cared about people, but then he was a Fagen and that's how the Fagen Family is, helpful and kind. Heaven has gained a wonderful soul. Janeal Dollar

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**Janeal Dollar** - August 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ I'm so sorry to hear this 😞 Nik was a really cool guy and I'm glad I got to know him. Prayers for the whole family.

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**Aimee Esquer** - August 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Nicholas "Nik" John Fagen

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**David Carroll** - August 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Nicholas "Nik" John Fagen

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**Randy Bias** - August 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ God bless you, Nick.. I'm glad to have knew you. RIP

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**Marianne Cascio-Smith** - August 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I remember in elementary school, being over at the Fagen house, and Nik always being so happy & fun, and would chase us around. He always had the best smile that shone from the inside out. It was so wonderful seeing him just months ago dance with Nic at her 50th~ again the smile that warms your heart. Truly one of a kind, and someone who will leave an impression on all of us. He'll be remembered forever. ❤️ Love you Nik Fagen! Love you Fagen Clan ❤️

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**Julie Larson** - August 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ So Sad to hear of this. Nik was a long time Customer who grew into a Friend. I used to see him at the car shows and all over town. He had some great stories. He had a hearty laugh and was always smiling with a toothpick in his mouth. Nik was a Man that made his own way, Told you straight the way he saw it and was Extremely opinionated for things he was passionate about. He believed in The wrights and wrongs of life, he was a 2nd ammendment Supporter and for all of your rights as an American. I will miss Nik, I will miss seeing him at the car shows and that great smile. Nik was one of the Good guys! Rest in Peace Nik!

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**Patrick Hemperley** - August 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Nicholas "Nik" John Fagen

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**Brandy Lutz** - August 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Add his grandson said in his prayer "grandpa Nik was the nicest grandpa ever." God bless you Dad and keep a lookout over all of us.

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**KC Fagen** - August 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *He was always smiling, happy and such a tease! More than once he said something that caught me off guard and oh would he laugh at that! He will be missed, that's for sure! We love you Nik, rest well because someday when I get there we have a lot of teasing and laughing to do. Melinda Misamore*

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**Melinda Misamore** - August 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM