



Richard (Dick) David Nelson

March 10, 1929 - November 14, 2013

Richard (Dick) David Nelson passed away peacefully with his family at his side on November 14, 2013 at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, OR. He was 84. Dick was born on March 10, 1929 in Albert Lea, Minnesota to Mary Collins and was soon adopted by Guy A. and Lola M. (Lester) Nelson also of Albert Lea. Dick moved with his family to Bend, Oregon in 1945 and graduated from Bend High School in 1948. He married Carolyn Louise Blakely on August 31, 1956 at The First Presbyterian Church in Bend, Oregon. Dick joined the US Navy on August 31, 1950 spending most of his time in The Philippines and Kwajalein (Marshall Islands). At the end of his service, he returned home to Bend, OR on June 3, 1954, and again began working at The Pilot Butte Inn as he had done during high school. In 1955, Dick began work for Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company, which became U.S. West after the breakup with AT&T in 1984. He remained with U.S. West for 34 years until his retirement in 1990. Upon retirement, Dick & Carolyn spent a lot of time traveling to visit family, friends and places they had never been. During this time, while visiting Minnesota, Dick found a family he never knew he had. Being adopted, he grew up as an only child, only to find out later in life that he had 5 half-siblings. Once discovered, the siblings welcomed Dick with open arms and wished they had known years earlier they had an older half-brother. Dick was active in the Telephone Pioneers, Deschutes Pioneer Association, and Eagle Watch at Cove Palisades State Park. His daily routine included coffee with the guys downtown. He also never missed attending his

grandchildrens sporting or school events. Dick is survived by his wife of 57 years, Carolyn, His children, Al (Beckey) Nelson and Debbie (Robert) Anderson; Grandchildren; Travis Nelson, Ryan Nelson, Mackenzie Anderson and Carson Anderson all of Bend. Also surviving are siblings; Mary Gress of California; Dorothy Harguth, Pat Madden, Pete Madden and Bonnie Andersen all of Minnesota. He was proceeded in death by his parents. Memorial Contributions in Dicks memory may be made to Deschutes Pioneers Association Scholarship Fund, c/o Linda Bach, 19697 Manzanita Lane, Bend, OR 97702.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home New
105 NW Irving Ave
Bend, OR
US 97701

Tribute Wall

LD

“ Carolyn and Family, Words cannot truly express the sad feeling we had when we learned of the death of your beloved Dick. Please accept our sincere and heartfelt condolences on your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you during this saddened time. He was a great friend to us in all the volunteer work that we participated in together and we shall miss him and do share the grief that you and the family feel as well. Sincerely, Leon and Marian Devereaux

Leon and Marian Devereaux - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I worked with Dick for many years at the telephone company, both as a person learning how to splice cables and to do maintenance splicing. He was also one of the finest foreman I worked under once He became my boss. Carolyn, both myself and Janet wish to extend our condolences.

Jim Lake - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ I feel fortunate that my family was able to spend time with Dick at gatherings over the last few years, including Marys 80th. Our thoughts are with you! Love, Britt, Ray, Brandes, Colin

Britt Gress - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dick was a kind and thoughtful man and a wonderful neighbor. He was always available for a friendly chat during a break in the yard work or was doing something helpful without even being asked. I feel very lucky to have known him.

Maureen Kelly - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ I was one of the guys that had coffee with Dick. I only attended on Wednesdays but truly enjoyed his and the others company. I will miss seeing him across from me. You will be missed, Dick. My condolences to the family. Gary Kelley

Gary Kelley - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Carolyn, I am so sorry to hear of Dicks passing. He was a wonderful person who leaves a void in the lives of your family. It was my pleasure to know him the few years that I did. My prayers are with you.

Bob Bunday - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Our thoughts & prayers are with you in your time of loss. With Deepest Sympathy, Jeff Deswert, Kirby Nagelhout Construction Co.

Kirby Nagelhout Construction Co. - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ You are in our prayers Carolyn!

Clara and Dean Cannon - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ Carolyn and family, Please be assured that our deepest sympathy is with you guys at this time. I am so happy that we were able to be all together last July in California, what a special time we had. Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this time and always. Bonnie

Bonnie and Syl Andersen - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ I am a cousin of Dicks on his biological mothers side. I am so glad I got to meet him. He reminded me of my Dad, Jim Collins. I am sorry for your loss and pray God surrounds you with his comfort and strength. Carol Hildebrant

Carol Hildebrant - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM