



Donald William Moos

March 4, 1923 - February 28, 2014

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"For what purpose does your existence serve?" Don Moos asked himself and then replied, ". . . the most noble endeavors of both man and government are the fulfillment of their obligations to those generations yet unborn."

On February 28, 2014, Don Moos, 90, a lifelong Washington state resident passed away peacefully at the Colonial Vista Retirement and Care Center in Wenatchee. His legacy of public service began in October, 1942 when he left Washington State (College) University to volunteer for induction into the U.S. Army. A proud veteran of the European Theater during World War II, where he earned a Combat Infantry badge, a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts, he saw action in the Hurtgen Forest, the Battle of the Bulge and the Rhine River Campaign. In 1945, while on leave from the Army, he married Parmalee Brouillard of Sunnyside Washington. After 68 years of marriage, Parmalee predeceased him in 2013.

Shortly after their graduations from WSU, Don and Parmalee moved to Edwall, Washington to carry on the family tradition of farming. During this time, Don served on the Edwall school board and was one of the prime founders and second president of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers. In 1958, Don was elected to the Washington State Legislature representing Lincoln, Adams and Ferry counties. After serving 4 terms, he became the

state's Director of Agriculture (1965-1973) in the cabinet of Governor Daniel J. Evans. His commitment to service continued as he became the Director of Cabinet Affairs and Special Assistant for Natural Resources (1973-1975) and state Director of Fisheries (1975-1977) in the same administration. In 1978, he and Parmalee moved to East Wenatchee when Don became the Fisheries Coordinator for the Chelan, Douglas and Grant County P.U.Ds. In 1981 he again accepted a position in Olympia to become the state's Director of Ecology (1981-1985) in the administration of Governor John Spellman. Because Don and Parmalee were committed to making the Wenatchee area their final address, he commuted weekly between an apartment in Olympia and Parmalee's great meals in Wenatchee. In 1985, Don discontinued his weekly travels and accepted the position of Senior Policy Advisor to United States Senator Slade Gorton with an emphasis on agriculture, ecology, water and fisheries. His final position of formal service began in 1993, when he became the Land Use Hearing Examiner for Douglas County. Service also marked his volunteer efforts: one of his favorites was working with a teacher and students at Eastmont High School to launch their "Honor by Listening" project.

Don's respect in these many positions was built on his analytic skills, his ability to forge compromise and his principled fairness. Those who knew and loved him most celebrated his great wit, his never-ending optimism, his love of stories and nature, as demonstrated through his delight in hunting and fishing and digging in the earth, and his commitment to make a difference. Indeed, he lived his purpose.

He is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Merry-K. Moos and Locke deBruyne of Durham, NC; one son and daughter-in-law, William H. Moos and Kendra Moos of Pullman, WA; one brother and sister-in-law, Lester and JoAnn Moos of Edwall, WA; five grandchildren, Christa Bohlke of Richland, WA, Brittany Johnson of Valleyford, WA, Robert "Bo" Moos of San Francisco, CA, Kaitlin and Benjamin Moos, of Pullman, WA; six great grandchildren, Abigail, Hannah, Caleb and Jordon Bohlke of Richland, WA and Landon and Wyatt

Johnson of Valleyford, WA.

His children wish to publicly thank Jim and Gaylene Pope, Don's dear niece and nephew, who always found time to assure he felt special, his decades-long Rock Island lunch buddies who brought Don laughter, shared passions for fly fishing and who stayed connected even as Don's health deteriorated, the staff of Colonial Vista whose compassionate caring for and about Don made them seem like an extension of his family and the Central Washington Hospice, for making their father's final earthly chapter one befitting a wonderful man.

A private graveside ceremony will be held at the Edwall Cemetery with a celebration of Don's life to be scheduled for later in the year. The family desires no flowers. Instead, they suggest people pay tribute to Don by taking a veteran to lunch, teaching a child to fish or volunteering at a local school. Contributions can be made to a charity of your choice.

You are invited to view his online guestbook at: www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com . Arrangements are in the care of Heritage Memorial Chapel, East Wenatchee, WA.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ On this one year anniversary of Don's passing, I would like to say I hope you have found a way to rejoice in his life because he had a very good one! All of his family meant the world to him. My continued blessings to you all.

Diane Burnett - February 21, 2015 at 04:44 PM

CC

“ My condolences to Don's family. I spent an afternoon with Don in the Hospital in Wenatchee. My husband had a back surgery and Don was in with a broken hip. We talked all day about WW2 and fish. I work for WDFW.
He was so interesting and I so enjoyed my visit with him.

Carol Coleman - July 30, 2014 at 10:14 PM

DB

“ I first met Don when he worked at Fisheries, as the director. I was a young girl back then, and he made me feel so comfortable every time I worked with him. He was indeed a very good man. I send my condolences to his family.

Diane Burnett - April 09, 2014 at 09:07 PM

TH

“ Merry K and Bill - I met your dad and Bob Timm at the Jacardana in Oly the first day I met Bob. He and your mother were always a joy to be around. Blessings on you!!! Tom

Tom Heye - March 20, 2014 at 05:58 PM

ET

“ I first met Don when I was a freshman legislator. He trusted me to investigate a local problem in the timber industry. I was pleased to have this experience to serve Governor Evans. When Don was the Director of Ecology we made many round-trips between Wenatchee and Olympia. I wish that I had recorded the many stories that Don shared with me. He was very conscious of both sides of an issue. He worked very hard to help resolve difficult issues. He and I had the joy of helping raise the necessary funds to build the Wenatchee Valley Senior Activity Center. He certainly lived well the Rotary Motto of Service Above Self. He was truly one of the finest members of the Greatest Generation. Sincerely, Earl Tilly

Earl Tilly - March 18, 2014 at 12:10 AM

JL

“ *Bill and Kendra,*
I happened to receive the letters from the Chief Clerk's Office of the House of Representatives notifying other legislative members of the passing of former legislators. I was saddened to read of your father's passing. I was in and out of his life when you and I were kids and when I started my career in state government during the Evans Administration. I was a young budget analyst and worked on the Governor's Budget in the mid to late 1970s. I remember your dad as being a very fair individual with a vision of where he was going. The difficulty I faced was with my mother who was decidedly democratic and many times would discount ideas that came from a republican. That was not the case with your dad. She had a definite respect for him and a few others who were part of the Evans Administration. While I don't know the details of your dad's last years (I think I saw him last at Olympia High school when you were honored by the Alumni Association)I know it is difficult to lose a parent. And in your case, two parents in a relatively short time. I am glad to have known your father. I think you represent his values and have your own vision. I know that you know where you are going and he has helped you become who you are. My best wishes to you and your family as you work through the loss but enjoy the memories. Jim Lux

Jim Lux - March 12, 2014 at 03:09 PM

JP

“ *As a young boy growing up in Edwall Don and Parm were folks to look up to, and they served as an example of community and family. I will cherish the memories of those folks and that time so long ago. God speed faithful servant. John*

John Peek - March 11, 2014 at 01:28 PM

SA

“ When Don and Parm lived in Edwall, our families would get together frequently and socialize. The parents would sit and talk while the children would play. After Don and Parm made their "home" in East Wenatchee, I had the opportunity to golf with Don. He always treated everyone with respect.

Stewart "Andy" Anderson - March 02, 2014 at 07:52 PM

PA

“ I have so many great memories of both Parm & Don. Though I grieve his loss, I feel deep happiness that they are now together again. May Don find beautiful rivers on which to fly fish forever.

Pam Trompeter Aguilu - March 02, 2014 at 02:45 PM