



## Roger Jay Dorner

September 27, 1932 - June 22, 2016

Roger Dorner died on June 22, , 2016 after a short battle with cancer. He was born September 23, 1932 in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the third child to his parents Alfred and Sadie Strom Dorner. At age four his family moved west, settling in Lower Naches, WA. He helped in the family orchard business. By the age of 12, he could drive a truck loaded with boxed fruit alone, to town, for delivery to the warehouse. His high school years were in Spangle, WA attending Upper Columbia Academy, a private parochial boarding school.

When he enrolled as a freshman, he was the smallest and youngest student. He graduated as the tallest student on campus. He continued his education at Walla Walla College, now Walla Walla University. His nursing studies took him to Portland Adventist Hospital where he met fellow student, June Books, his future wife. In 1954, Roger and June were married in her hometown of Wenatchee. Returning to College Place, June worked as a surgical scrub nurse while Roger took pre-med classes at WWC. After the birth of their first child, Dixie, in June of 1956, they moved to California where Roger began his medical studies at Loma Linda Medical School, now Loma Linda University. Roger had been involved in construction during his pre-med studies at WWC. After 1 ½ of rigorous studies at LLMS he decided a doctors life was not for him. They packed up, moved to Wenatchee in early 1958, and began a lifelong career in property development and construction. He went to Community Savings and Loan requesting and receiving \$500 in startup funds to build his first spec home. In July of that year their second child, Duke was

born at Deaconess Hospital with Dr. Earl Bolton in attendance.

A hard worker Roger saw to it that his children not only learned the value of hard work by joining he and June on the job site but that they also enjoyed family time together by traveling and participating in many activities as the children were growing up. He had a fine memory and could relate many detailed stories of his childhood. Roger was an avid reader, especially of religious history and WWII. His many interests through the years included bird watching, travel, city league softball, golfing, fishing the daily crossword puzzle, playing basketball into his 50's and weekly card games with friends. Roger was preceded in death by his parents and by a sister, Marge Dorner Bock. He is survived by his wife June at the family home; daughter, Dixie (Darrell) Hunt in Troy, ID; son, Duke (Connie) in Wenatchee and four grandchildren, Taylor and Hayden Dorner of Wenatchee, Denae' (Jason) Kramer in Moscow, ID and Devin (Laura) Hunt in Troy as well as a brother, Lee (Maxine) Dorner in Salem, OR. He also leaves seven nieces and nephews, Kelly, Terry, Rick, Rollie, Brad, Becky and Cheryl.

Special thanks go to the Colonial Vista staff for the quality care given to Roger in the last months and for the compassion shown to the family.

Memorial Services will be held on July 9, 2016, 2:30 pm at the Wenatchee Seventh-day Adventist church. You are invited to view his online guestbook at [www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com](http://www.HeritageMemorialChapel.com) . Arrangements are in the care of Heritage Memorial Chapel, East Wenatchee.

# Tribute Wall

LP

“ We have always admired June and Roger as a couple. They will always be remembered that way. Death is our most difficult issue to deal with in life. But with assurance we can know that Jesus will wipe away all tears from our eyes and there shall be no more death! Thank you Jesus for your promises.

*Hold fast to Jesus, Dear June, until He comes. He is holding fast to you and You will be will Roger again.*

*Sending much love to you and your family.*

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**Lloyd and Fern Piper** - July 11, 2016 at 06:48 PM

LB

“ June  
You & your family are in our thoughts. Even when expected it is so very hard to say goodbye.  
Roger was special as well as your whole family.

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**Lou & Carol B** - July 09, 2016 at 04:14 PM

MB

“ We were so sorry to hear about Roger passing away. We are praying that God will comfort you through this sad time. We hope that Jesus coming will be very soon and you won't have to be separated very long.  
God bless you.  
Marion and Galen

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**Marion and Galen Brown** - July 04, 2016 at 02:12 PM

HB

“ June, you and Roger have always held a special place in my heart. Of course, it helped a lot that you were my "baby" sitter approximately 75 years ago. I attended you and Roger's wedding way back in the 50's and visiting you at Walla Walla. Roger too has a special place in my heart. He was a special man. We enjoyed many basketball games and softball games together. I have truly enjoyed his friendship thru all these years. And I look forward to enjoying eternity with him as well. From my perspective you had a very good husband and I'm glad for you. May God bless you real good as you continue thru the "golden years". Sometimes there are some major bumps but still, God is in control and we look to the future with gladness. I love you, June. Dixie and Duke, What can I say to you - it is tough losing a parent. I know cuz I have been there. But you can be happy that you had a wonderful dad, better than most people in this world. And one day you will have the opportunity to see and be with him again. Yer ole friend, Harold

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Harold Beebe - July 03, 2016 at 02:06 PM

JG

“ We will always remember Roger; our love and care to the family:  
  
'God be with you 'til we meet again.'

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Jean & Ralph Garner - July 03, 2016 at 01:01 PM

JG

“ Our paths did not cross often but when they did Ralph & Jean enjoyed the time/s we spent with Roger.

John 15:27

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

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Jean & Ralph Garner - July 03, 2016 at 01:01 AM

FM

“ June and Roger were classmates of mine, members of Basic G, of the WWC School of Nursing, and lifelong friends following graduation. They were especially kind to me and my children when I was going through a difficult time, and their thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.

Roger coordinated the Homecoming activities at Walla Walla a year ago and did a superb job, as always. He will be sorely missed.

Rest in peace, my precious friend, until Jesus comes again.

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**Frances McRae** - July 03, 2016 at 12:50 AM

DH

“ Our fond memories of Roger go back many years. First Betty knew the family through church activities etc. Then Dick came onto the scene in 1961 while in the service. There were many events. Weekly spirited "Rook" evenings, Church Potlucks and Picnics. The many philosophical debates with Roger over all manner of subjects. None of us were ever declared the winner. We were appreciative of Roger and June's friendship with our daughter Kim when she was a teacher in Wenatchee, and also their coming to our 50th party in Port Orchard in 2012. Roger's caring, his wit and curiosity about all manner of subjects are remembered with much fondness. He will be missed. Dick & Betty Harwood

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**Dick & Betty Harwood** - June 24, 2016 at 04:53 PM

DH

“ Just heard about Roger passing. We are saddened. We will be coming over for the service with our daughter Kim. In the meantime praying for you June and your family. Betty

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**Dick & Betty Harwood** - June 24, 2016 at 04:30 PM