



## Elmo Lee Bartlett

November 7, 1924 - November 3, 2018

### ELMO LEE BARTLETT

November 7, 1924-November 2, 2018

Elmo L. Bartlett passed away November 2nd at the Cheney Care Center, five days short of his 94th birthday. Elmo (Bart) was born in Waitsburg, Washington, the second son of Blake and Alta Bartlett. He grew up with four brothers in neighboring Pomeroy. In 1943 after graduating Pomeroy High School Bart joined the US Army Air Force. He served as a gunner in Boeing B-17s and flew more than twenty-five missions in the European theater. He was on his way to the Pacific when WWII ended. Bart attended Eastern Washington College of Education in Cheney and earned a degree in Education, minoring in Industrial Arts. One day in college choir he met the love of his life, Mariam Banks. They were married in 1947 and began their family when son Robert came along.

Bart taught seventh and eighth grade Social Studies and English in Latah, Washington, and then in Portland, Oregon. A second Son, David, joined the family in Portland. When a job opened in Cheney, the Bartletts moved back to be closer to extended family. Daughter Kathy and another son Jim completed the Bartlett clan, and Cheney became Bart and Mariam's home for the years to come. His family relationships were very important in his life, particularly in his final days.

Bart contributed to the Cheney community in numerous ways. He started working for the United States Postal Service as a rural letter carrier in 1953 and then was Cheney Postmaster until his retirement in 1985. For many years he was a member of the volunteer Cheney Fire Department and worked part time for Rural Fire District 3. He drove wheat trucks many summers. He and Mariam welcomed a number of exchange students from EWU into their home. Bart and Mariam participated in craft bazaars selling his woodworking. They also participated in the Cheney Garden Club. Their yard was a showplace of year-around blooms, and family and friends alike enjoyed the benefits of their vegetable garden and raspberry patch. Bart had a wonderful sense of humor and his "orneriness" remained through his final days.

Some of Bart's favorite things were watching thunder storms and the Northern Lights. He liked dogs and cats, a pipe smoke, "damn good coffee" and swapping stories with buddies

down at Zips. He looked forward to watching the Spokane Indians and Mariner baseball games, hunting and fishing. A highlight of Bart's later years was participating in an Inland Northwest Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

Bart was preceded in death by his four brothers and Mariam, his wife of sixty-six years. Surviving are four children, five grandchildren and five great grandchildren. The family wishes to thank the extra-ordinary staff of the Cheney Care Center for their compassionate and tender during Bart's days there.

In lieu of flowers, suggested memorials to Inland Northwest Honor Flight, 608 W. 2nd Ave. Spokane, WA 99201. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 7, at Cheney Funeral Chapel. Burial with military honors will follow at Spokane Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

# Cemetery

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## **Spokane Memorial Gardens**

5909 Cheney Spokane Rd

Spokane, WA, 99223

# Comments

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“ To the Elmo Bartlett Family.  
Please forgive me for the misspelling in my earlier note. I thought that I had proofed it carefully. What I meant to say was that I am praying that the Lord will give you PEACE of heart and mind during this time of loss. I'm sure that you understand my intent.

Blessings to you,  
Beverly Schaad

**Beverly I. Schaad** - November 13, 2018 at 12:43 PM

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“ Dear folks; Bob, David, Kathy & Jim,

It was with great sadness that I read Bart's obituary in the Cheney Free Press. I do not subscribe to the Spokesman Review, so did not see the listing there. Thus I was unaware of the date and time of his service. I felt very badly about missing it. I would very much have liked to attend.

I remember Bart fondly. He was actively involved here at Cheney Community Church before and during those years we were constructing our new sanctuary, and assisted a lot in the construction process. He would be happy to know that we are now in the process of installing the elevator after all these years. Bart contributed monetarily to our Vacation Bible School for several years up to and including this past summer. He loved kids.

The Bartletts were gracious hosts, and I fondly remember visiting in their home a number of times. Bart was always very proud of his garden and berries. He made wonderful jams and jellies, and pies. He did a lot of woodworking, and I have a piece with wooden tulips on a little stand that Bart made. It will be something nice to remember him by. Bart will be greatly missed.

To the family, I am sorry for your loss. I pray that the Lord will give you comfort and piece during this time.

Sincerely,  
Beverly Schaad

**Beverly I. Schaad** - November 13, 2018 at 11:34 AM

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“ I have allot of good memories with the Bartlett family in Cheney, growing up on Erie street. Elmo and Mariam were always good to me. Judy and I enjoyed talking to Elmo on our walks past their house. We always looked for him sitting on the front porch smoking his pipe. Bob, sorry I missed the service, I wasn't aware of his death

until I got the Freepress yesterday. I will smell Elmo's pipe tobacco for the rest of my life, I am sure of that. I am certain Elmo is wearing his overalls, ball cap, and smoking his pipe at this moment.

Phil and Judy Grafious  
Cheney, Washington

**Philip Grafious** - November 09, 2018 at 11:15 AM

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“ Our hearts and prayers go out to the Bartlett family at the loss of "Bart". We have many fond memories of your Dad and Mom and our parents over the years. So sorry I didn't see the notice before today.

Sincerely

The Goertz Family  
Jerry, Bob, Cheryl, Dawn and Megan



**Jerry Goertz** - November 07, 2018 at 02:32 PM



“ I will add my own brief note to the "family" note above Jerry submitted for us all. I remember fondly Bart and my dad and their good natured bantering in the post office and Bart calling my dad, "Herbie". There was a lot of respect between the both of them. I surely hope you family members can find some measure of comfort in everyone;s condolences. I don't care how old we get--losing a parent is especially difficult and I'll keep you all in my prayers. My deepest sympathy.....cheryl Goertz tuck

**Cheryl Tuck** - November 26, 2018 at 01:13 PM

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“ Douglas Ladwig lit a candle in memory of Elmo Lee Bartlett



**Douglas Ladwig** - November 07, 2018 at 11:03 AM