



Benjamin Thurman

September 17, 1943 - March 29, 2020

Benjamin Thurman, a resident of Metaline Falls WA, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, March 29, 2020. Ben is survived by his wife, Sharon (Cartwright) of 54 years, his two children Sue Smiley (Brian) and Thad Thurman (Angie), eight grandchildren, and his sister Judy Critchfield. Ben was born in Spokane Washington on September 17, 1943, to Gladys & Charles Thurman. He graduated from West Valley High School in 1961. He then went on to college, married Sharon in 1965, and graduated from Whitworth College in 1966 with a degree in Biology & Education. Ben then earned a Master's Degree at the University of Idaho. He began teaching in Kettle Falls, WA, and then taught for the majority of his career at Medical Lake High School, retiring in 1992. Ben grew up attending Hillyard Baptist Church with his family and gave his life to the Lord early in his life. Ben's faith was central to his life, and he passionately served the Lord in various ways. He especially loved teaching Sunday School, leading Bible Studies, and serving as an Elder and a Deacon in the church. In his free time, Ben especially loved riding his motorcycle, exploring the outdoors, fly-fishing, hiking, camping, restoring and driving his Model A Ford's, and cutting firewood. Ben loved spending time with his family and sharing his love of nature with them. Ben was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2001 and never allowed it to take away all that life had to offer. He never complained and was an encouragement to many as he fought hard and finished well. Ben will be deeply missed by his family and many friends. A Celebration of Life service will be Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 2:00 pm in

the Cutter Theater, 302 Park St., Metaline Falls, WA. Gathering after the service will be at the Lillian Bailey Elementary School's Multi-Purpose Room across the street from the Theater.

Tribute Wall

TT

“ Today, hearing of the fires in Medical Lake on tv that I saw someone being interviewed.. saw last name as Thurman.

I googled to learn that Ben Thurman passed, I am sorry to learn about this. but Dave and I remember being in Sunday school to invite his class to a BBQ at his folks house on Mount Spokane. This was May 18th, 1980. We were processing out from u.S. Airforce to move from Washington to Grissom AFB, Peru, Indiana. On the 25th, but on this particular date..it was when Mt. Saint Helen blew and instead of taking 1.5 hours to get home but 3 hours.

We were fine back then just wanted to say, where we were when Mt. St. Helen's blew. Blessed we knew your family.

Terri Tuckness - August 20, 2023 at 09:04 PM

VL

“ I took Biology from Ben Thurman back in 1975ish. Had a terrible time making a bug collection (forgive me bugs!) but hung in there. I also remember him as a man of faith. I also attended the Medical Lake Community Church. All my family has passed away now - Vernon, Neva Jean, and Vernon Jr. O'Farrell but the Lord has promised me we will all meet again and what Glory that will be. Rest in Peace Ben.

VL - June 04, 2023 at 05:11 PM

LV

“ I have been thinking of you today Mr. Thurman, as I have been teaching my students how to use microscopes and accurately draw what they see. Next up is photosynthesis- thankfully I understand it better after 30 years of teaching, than I did in 9th grade biology class! Wish you were around to chat with about teaching biology.

Lorna Barr Vu - February 01, 2023 at 01:44 AM

TI

“ My condolences and prayers are with you. Mr Thurman played a pivotal role in my formative years at MLHS. His work ethic and high expectations were legendary! A little bit of him shines through me as I teach my science students! RIP Mr Thurman and THANK YOU for ALL you did! Tina Core

tina - June 04, 2020 at 11:16 PM

MS

“ Dear Sharon, Thad and Sue- We are so sorry for your loss! We both so enjoyed our fellowship at Medical Lake Community Church and Ben's Biblical teachings. We especially enjoyed our small group studies and gatherings at your home on the Waukan Road. Mike still remembers Ben's teaching excerpts from Romans and how caring and sentimental Ben could be about others. We wish you and your family well and look forward to seeing Ben again when we make that heavenly journey. Sincerely with Christian Love- Mike and Colleen Schmidt

Mike Schmidt - May 13, 2020 at 06:22 PM