



Earl Swift

June 21, 1926 - May 22, 2013

Earl Swift (age 86) of Lamont, Washington passed away May 22, 2013 in Spokane after he fell in his home and suffered a brain injury. Mr. Swift was born June 21, 1926 in Roseburg, OR to Harley and Agnes Swift. The family moved to the farm in Lamont when he was an infant and he lived there the rest of his life. This year, the farm has been in his family for 100 years. Earl was a graduate of Lamont High School, class of 1944. He farmed with his father until Harley's passing in 1961. He continued farming on his own and with his children until he died. He married Glorian Gail (Gay) Sarchet from Lamont on November 25, 1948 at the Sprague Community Church. Together they farmed and raised their 7 children. Earl came to know his Lord and Savior at a tent meeting in Oregon when he was 17. He spent his life serving Jesus Christ as a deeply devoted family man, farmer and church leader. While growing up, he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and was a scout leader as an adult. Earl loved music and played the accordion and harmonica (at the same time) at Grange and Lamont events and sang in barbershop quartets in high school and in gospel quartets as an adult. Earl (along with his family) intently served Lamont Community Church his whole life. He was involved with a major remodel of the church building itself early on and served as board chairman many years, always with a passion for missionary outreach around the world. He was currently chairman of the board for the Spokane County Jail Ministry as he had been for the past 17 years. Lamont community was important to Earl; he was a member of the Lamont Grange, the Lamont Grain

Growers, had served as Fire commissioner, and was a lineman for the local phone company in its beginning years. Many years found him leading hunter safety classes and 4-H clubs. Lifelong he befriended and mentored many in Christian leadership. For fun Earl loved hunting and fishing and traveling to visit relatives, and got to spend many hours doing so with family and friends. One of Earl's most heartfelt joys was writing letters of encouragement and personal visits to those who were hurting, which impacted many lives. He was a man deeply loved and respected by many, devoted to his Lord and his family, and will be greatly missed here on earth. But we know Earl is presently celebrating with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in Heaven, and we rejoice with him! Earl Arden Swift is survived by his children; Gail (Lonnie) Butcher of Kennewick, WA, June (Gary) Wollweber of Edwall, WA, Susan (Craig) Swanson of Lamont, WA, Roger (Sonny) Swift of Tum Tum, WA. Chet (Ardis) Swift of Lamont, WA, and Dawn (Melvin) Bradley of Seattle, WA. Sister; Irma (Harry) Davis of St. John, WA. 15 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren, many treasured in-laws, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 56 yrs, Glorian (Gay) Swift, their son, Guy Swift, infant brother Roy, his sister, Donna Swannack, and son in law, Dan Hill. Memorial contributions may be made to Lamont Community Church or Spokane County Jail Ministries in his memory. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Friday, May 31, at the Cheney Funeral Chapel. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 1, at Maccabee Cemetery in Sprague followed by a memorial service at 2:00 p.m. at Fourth Memorial Church in Spokane.

Tribute Wall

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“ Our thoughts and sympathy are with Earl's family. We have been out of town and were unable to attend the memorial. Earl was my neighbor and a very special person! I never knew him to talk badly about anyone. After my Grandson drown in Rock Lake Earl sent me a uplifting, compassionate letter that meant a great deal to me. About two years ago another letter arrived on my birthday. It was great. Earl had a gift for letter writing, he must have put a lot of thought into it. Over the years I occasionally saw Earl waiting in his car for someone, he would be reading the Bible. He was a fine man and will be missed.

CLINTON AND KAY MILLER - June 07, 2013 at 08:13 PM

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“ Swift family, We pray with you at the passing of Earl - but also rejoice with you in his glorious meeting with his Saviour - Jesus Christ. We know Earl is at home in Glory - reunited with all those he loved and have gone before him. We pray now for all of you (and us) as we grieve the loss of his company with us here. We hope that the memories and the lessons he taught through his gentle, spiritual leadership and daily example carry you through those low times when you are missing him the most. The impact his life had on our family alone has been tremendous - we thank you for sharing him with all of us. In God's Love - Peace be with you all.

Ron and Tammy Miller - May 29, 2013 at 11:01 AM