



Elroy C McDermott

December 22, 1933 - November 14, 2021

Surrounded by his children, Elroy C. McDermott peacefully passed away on November 14, 2021. He is survived by his daughters Christie L. McDermott, Shelly Tracy (Von R Tracy), Lorraine Jones, (Loyal Allen), Elizabeth Jones, his son, Patrick E. McDermott (Angie McDermott), his 19 grandchildren, and 39 great-grandchildren. Elroy was born to George Fisher McDermott and Berniece Casperson in Clifton, Idaho on December 22, 1933. He is survived by nine of his brothers and sisters whom he loved dearly. Elroy spent his early years herding sheep along with his father and sister; his mother was extremely ill and would watch as her family worked the sheep, sometimes from a covered wagon and other times from a cart Elroy would use to pull her. His mother passed away when Elroy was 13 years old. He graduated from high school in Dayton, Idaho in 1952 where he participated in football, basketball, baseball, and was also student body president his senior year. Elroy then attended Weber State College in Ogden, Utah on a basketball scholarship, for one year. He left Weber to fulfill a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, from 1954 to 1956, in Tennessee and other east-central states.

Upon returning home he met and courted the love of his life, Darrelyn Owens. They married in the Logan, Utah Temple for time and eternity. Elroy graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics in 1960. In 1961 Elroy and Darrelyn moved their small family to Bozeman, Montana to direct the LDS Institute of

Religion and to begin graduate studies at Montana State University. His master's degree was attained in 1963 and his Doctoral degree in Economics, in 1965.

From 1965 to 1997 Elroy was an administrator and professor at EWU. While there, he was Chairman of the Department of Management, President of the Faculty, Chairman of the Academic Senate, Washington State Chair of the Council for Faculty Representatives for Public Higher Education, and later the Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration (1994-1997). Elroy was an honored recipient of the Trustee's Medal, which is the highest recognition given by the University. He always did his best to serve his colleagues, students, and community. In 1997 he retired 31 years after beginning his career in the Cheney area. Elroy and his son, Patrick E. McDermott then opened Premier Mortgage NW, a Mortgage Bank, and Development Company in Spokane WA. They helped many families, businesses, and individuals from 1998 to 2010.

Elroy's spiritual life mirrored his work ethic in teaching and leadership opportunities; he was called to be Bishop of the Cheney Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and years later, Stake President of the Spokane West Stake. He loved serving others, which was evident in all he did. Elroy loved his Savior Jesus Christ and diligently worked to emulate Him daily. At the end of his life, he looked forward to reuniting with his sweetheart of 61 years who had passed away 3 years earlier. Funeral services will be held on December 4, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., with a viewing at 9:00 am. Both will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 10405 W. Melville Road, Cheney, WA 99004, located across from the Fairways Golf Course. Zoom link for service is <https://zoom.us/j/91652886723>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

DEC 4. 10:00 AM (PT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Melville Rd.
10405 W Melville Rd
Cheney, WA 99004

Tribute Wall

DW

“ Sorry to hear about Elroy. He was my advisor for my MBA at Eastern back in 1977 and a great supporter. Had him for several marketing related classes. Also, worked with him sometime after when he was President of Spokane West Stake when we were involved with the Boy Scouts back in the day. God bless him.

*Dick Westerman
Spokane*

Dick Westerman - November 30, 2021 at 03:31 PM

MR

“ Please accept my condolences in the death of this fine man. I was a student of the college of business in the late 1950's, where I met Dr. McDermott as a professor. I complete my undergraduate work, then a Masters degree. During the Master's course work I was given a Teaching fellowship to teach business math and business statistics. Dr. McDermott welcomed me to the staff and became a mentor that I came to like very much as a person, as well as a professor. He was always encouraging during my Masters course work and the following year when I was appointed as an instructor in the college of business. While I did not maintain contact with him after I entered the business world, I did hear of him from Dr. Grant Thomas, the Dean of the College of Business that I did occasionally see socially and when I taught an occasional class while I had a business in Spokane.

I maintained a very high degree of respect for Dr. McDermott, who I never felt comfortable addressing by his first name give my respect for him, his ways and position on the staff. My heart goes out to his family who has lost this fine man, but I would offer that I know that I am only one of thousands who will have similar memories and thoughts of this man, who achieved greatness in his life.

Michael K. Ragland - November 26, 2021 at 05:12 PM

KW

“ I spent many hours in the McDermott home during my grade school years. I remember fondly the years Elroy spent as our bishop. My love to all the family.

*Kent & Celia Williams
Evanston, Wyoming*

Kent Williams - November 24, 2021 at 03:25 PM

WW

“ *Much love to you all. I thought the world of your dad. Wonderful that he's reunited with your mom.*

Wade Williams

Wade Williams - November 24, 2021 at 01:27 PM

KP

“ *Very sorry to read of Elroy's passing. My sincere condolences to the family.*

I have great memories of his years of involvement from Cheney Ward in our Church region and multi-region sports programs. I recall his calming, reasoned demeanor, advice and positive input in our yearly competitive basketball and softball tourneys. He is missed.

Kenn Priebe

Kenn Priebe - November 24, 2021 at 10:48 AM