



## Leonard H. Foster

May 9, 1918 - February 29, 2012

Leonard H. Foster passed away peacefully in his sleep on February 29, 2012. He was born on May 9, 1918 in Duck Range, BC Canada. In 1922, he moved with his family to Everett, WA and in 1924 entered Garfield Grade School in Everett where he attended school until 10th grade. In 1934, Leonard's family moved to Blaine, WA, and he graduated from Blaine High School in 1936. Upon graduating, Len entered an apprenticeship at Everett Sheet Metal. After finishing, he took a job as a sheet metal mechanic in the Bremerton Naval shipyards. On April 17, 1943, he married the love of his life, Lenore May Johnson. Leonard joined the Navy on April 1, 1944, and served as a radar man on a submarine chaser in The Aleutian Islands. In 1949, Len and Lenore established Foster Sheet Metal in Kennewick, WA, which became a prosperous business. He proudly served on the Kennewick School Board for multiple terms in the late 1960's and early 70's in accordance with his strong belief in public education. Len and Lenore raised their four children on a small piece of acreage in Kennewick where they dedicated themselves to providing the most enriched lives for their children that they could. Animals, music, the arts and travel were paramount to them, and they instilled a love of all of these in their children. Len was very active in the sheet metal industry, serving as President of the local SMACNA chapter and appointed to a position on the National SMACNA board. He was very proud of the apprentices trained in his shop. Leonard retired in 1986 and sold the business which is now Apollo Sheet Metal. After retiring, Len and Lenore moved to their home on Badger

Lake, WA, eventually building a home and living at The Fairways Golf Course neighborhood in Cheney, WA. Preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Lenore, on February 6, 2003, son Loren, on December, 20, 2009, his parents, Louise and Horace, sister, Irene (Coles), and half siblings, June and Ed. After Lenore passed away, Len was fortunate to have the companionship of his dear friend, Joyce Mitchell, who preceded him in death on October 6, 2011. Len is survived by his daughter, Peggy Foster Hexum (Mark), of Finley, WA, son, Bill Foster (Erin), of Cheney, WA, daughter, Tina (Scott) Ocheltree of Bellingham, WA, thirteen grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and pal, Toby, his Yorkshire Terrier. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Kennewick, WA, at 2 p.m. on March 31, 2012.

# Tribute Wall



“ *In the mid-1970s I worked for Morrison Refrigeration and Heating (owned by Tom Morrison). I had the opportunity to meet Len Foster...spent some time talking with him and was impressed with his openness...he appeared quite willing to talk with one of the "little guys" in the business...I've been gone from the Tri-Cities for over 35 years now...but my memories of him will never be gone. God Bless you Lyn.*

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**Rob Winder** - November 10, 2023 at 01:31 PM

WH

“ *Dear Family: Please accept my condolences for the loss of your father. He was one of only two uncles of mine and a special brother to my mother June Foster Loudon. I fondly remember a family reunion your parents held in their home overlooking the Columbia many years ago. It was a dream of your Aunt Irene's and you were quite young. Your father was especially kind to us when my mother died in 1988 and came up for the service. It is with regret my husband and I cannot attend his service given a prior commitment. Warmest regards, Wilma Loudon Harp*

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**Wilma Loudon Harp** - March 29, 2012 at 04:36 PM

PE

“ *We will surely miss the fond memories we shared with Len and Lenore - The fun trips to Hawaii, Palm Springs, Oregon; golfing; card games and laughter. There will definitely be a huge void of your presence at the weekly breakfasts Len - Rest in Peace our dear friend. Love, Ruth & Paul Evans*

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**Paul & Ruth Evans** - March 28, 2012 at 04:54 PM

DS

“ Bill, I was so sorry to hear about your Dad. He was such a special person as were both of your parents. I have special memories of visits to the Badger Lake Cabin. My favorite memory of your Dad is when he let me drive his brand new 280 "Z" car (I drove it from the cabin to downtown Spokane)! You and your family will be in my prayers. Please give Erin, Tina and Peggy my best. Love and friendship, Donna

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**Donna (Phillips) Stout** - March 14, 2012 at 06:57 PM

CE

“ Such a very sweet man; he will be missed dearly. May you rest in peace Len. My sympathies to the family. Charlene Evans

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**Charlene Evans** - March 14, 2012 at 06:16 PM

LR

“ we are so sorry about Len. Bruce said he gave him great guidance and was/is truly a special person. his legacy lives on. i love that original building, we just keep adding on, because Len started something so great. i hope you all are ok. if there is anything we can do let us know. we love you, Bruce andLorrie Ratchford

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**Lorrie Ratchford** - March 11, 2012 at 01:27 PM