



Fred Leonard Olson

March 2, 1931 - April 12, 2016

FRED LEONARD OLSON March 2, 1931 ~ April 12, 2016 "Fred was a wonderful husband, father, and good friend. He will be missed and never forgotten." Fred Olson of Vancouver, WA, passed away April 12, 2016. He was born March 2, 1931 to Esther and Linus Olson in Portland, OR, later residing in Orchards, WA. Fred graduated from Union High School and went on to earn an Associate in Arts at Clark College in Vancouver and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at Lewis and Clark in Portland. Later, Fred attended Harvard for Business Administration. Fred served in the Navy for several years. He was the President of Consolidate Metco and retired from Freightliner as the Vice-president of Manufacturing in Portland. Fred was a charter member of the Elks and a member of the American Legion. He loved traveling and golf and was a great fan of the Mariners and going to Arizona to watch spring training. Fred is survived by his wife, Lois L. Olson; son, David L. Olson; step-children, Ray Zwahlen, Terry Marvin, Kathi Hall; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Sharon Olson (1995); and step-daughter, Cindy Gates. Services will be Fri., April 22nd, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Vancouver, WA. Please sign his guest book at: www.columbian.com/obits.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 09:36 PM

EN

“ We will never forget when we were travelling in the US in 1991 hoping to find our relatives with Swedish roots. Its a long story but we were very lucky to meet Aunt Hilda who dialed up my fathers cousin Fred. Fred came over from Vancouver to Camas to meet with us. He took us on an unforgettable tour along Columbia River, Multnomah Falls, Mt Hood and many more. After that, we keep in contact for 25 years. One of the most memorable events was when Fred came to visit us in Sweden in year 2000 to see the homeland of his parents. Thanks to my father, we were able to travel through time and show Fred where his ancestors had resided. One highlight was the family reunion, when Fred had the opportunity to meet his Swedish relatives. Fred will live on in our memories. Our thoughts are with the family during this difficult time. Eva (cousins daughter), John, Bengt (cousin), Ulla-Maj and Marianne (cousin).

Eva Nilsson - May 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Met Fred in Hi School, Big guy with a big heart i used to run up to him in full football uniform , jump up and Fred would catch me, as he would any one in need. He later became a neighbor in Felida and a customer in Our little shop. Much love and memory here. RIP Fred. Prayers for comfort and healing for the family

Don Lutz - April 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Met Fred in Orchards Grade School. Have very good memories of fun we had during summer and then High School. He was always fun to be with and a very kind person.
My condolences to family.

Larry Jones - April 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Except for the time when Fred had gone over to Con Met to be their President, Fred, basically had been my boss for most of my 26 years with Freightliner. He was a good man in almost any way you want to say it. He was a fair and reasonable person and good boss. I enjoyed being around him and joking with him. Most of the time he laughed at my jokes and he did a good job of putting up with my non-PC comments. Kate and I will always remember him and we will miss him. Our deepest condolences to Lois and the rest of the Olson family. Marty and Kate Price

April 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ May God give you comfort during this painful time. Love Maria

Maria Gonzalez-Leon - April 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I worked with Fred at Freightliner for over 20 years. He was an outstanding executive, mentor, person, and friend. He always had time for any co-worker regardless of their title or position. He will be missed but never forgotten. Prayers for his family.

Duane Burckhard - April 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM