



Greg J. Lyons

July 15, 1952 - January 6, 2020

Gregory James Lyons passed away unexpectedly and much too soon on Monday, January 6, 2020. He is grieved by his wife, Rebecca Lyons and four children Katie Nelson (Max) of Atlanta GA, Kellie Cornish (Adam) of Highland, CA, Jason Lyons (Salinas, CA) and Marisol Lyons (Wenatchee) and five grandchildren, as well as his brothers Jim Lyons (Nancy), Matt Lyons (Pat) and sisters Linda Strobek, Cynthia Kraut (Jonathan) and Jeriann Miranda (Dan).

Greg was welcomed into this world on July 15, 1952 by Jim and Jane Lyons and his two older sisters. Greg was thrilled to be the older brother when his three younger siblings joined the family. He grew up playing football, exploring nature, testing the limits of his parent's patience, and perfecting the art of a well-executed prank on his siblings. To his brothers and sisters, Greg was a source of balance to their tribe; he was the comedian, the storyteller, the host. An absolute shark at the poker table, Greg only ever bet imaginary things when he played with family (his sister once lost seven million dollars and her private jet in a single evening).

His children attribute their own successes to Greg as he instilled in them an unwavering work ethic. Greg himself worked hard and strove to be the best. His career was marked by long stretches of sustained effort and dedication towards ambitious goals, which he met time and time again. He led improvements and expansions for his employers in the agricultural industry and excelled at building and leading high-volume, high-profit product teams through innovative product development and a personal sense of duty to each internal and external customer he served.

Greg had a great big voice, but he appreciated silence. Spending time on his balcony with his wife and a glass of wine was his perfect end to a long day. He enjoyed nature and abandoning every comfort of modern life to see what the land could offer him. He loved a good hunt, both in business and in sport. He delighted in solving problems, but he believed firmly in teaching others how to solve problems for themselves.

Greg stopped at yard sales and lemonade stands and he was the fellow traveler you hoped would be nearby when you had car trouble or were lost in a foreign city. Greg carried a mechanical pencil everywhere and took notes during conversations, careful to understand what mattered most to the person he was talking with. His firm handshake was as good as an executed contract. Greg evaluated the weather patterns for their effect on crops and global food sources, and processed ideas out loud for correcting an early frost or an overly harsh winter on the cherries or the orange groves. He always worried about and had a deep respect for farmers. Greg believed that a bad day could be turned around by rocky road ice cream. The punch line of many of his jokes and the ending of many of his stories remain a mystery because he'd laugh so hard telling them that he couldn't finish.

Greg's absence will be felt whenever there's a funny story that isn't told, a bottle of wine that isn't shared, a golf game that isn't played, a hunting trip that isn't taken, a bet on a Seahawks game that isn't made, a salmon that isn't caught, or a deck of cards that isn't dealt. It will be felt whenever his wonderful, contagious laugh isn't there to be heard.

He was known to joke that when he died, he wanted to come back as one of his daughter's dogs. It is the hope and belief of many who loved him that today, he is carefree, full of joy, and being held close in loving arms.

Greg was preceded in death by his mother, Jane Lyons-Macy, and father, Jim Lyons.

A celebration of Greg's life is planned for Saturday, March 7 at 2:00 pm at First United Methodist Church in Wenatchee. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Greg's memory to the Washington Apple Education Foundation (2900 Euclid Avenue, Wenatchee WA).

Comments



“ To Greg's five siblings he was the prong on the gear that equally balanced our lives. All six of us; the classy one, the hippie, the comedian (Greg), the geek, the cowgirl and the cop; we are all so different yet bound tightly together by love, loyalty and family history. Going forward there won't be a time when Greg's absence won't be mourned; the damaged gear made obvious by a funny story left untold, a bottle of wine not shared, a golf game not played, a hunting trip not taken, a Seahawk's game not be on, a salmon not caught, a poker game not played, Greg's wonderful, contagious laugh unheard and a long phone call not made, talking about everything and nothing. You will be missed for the rest of our lives dear brother. All of our love to you until the earth is dust...



Cynthia Lyons - February 22 at 01:22 PM



“ I knew Greg his whole life and all but 3 1/2 years of mine. He came home from the hospital and mom let me hold him while I sat on the couch. I thought that he was the most beautiful baby in the whole wide world! I fell in love with my brother, Greg right then and there. Through these many years he was still my beautiful baby brother only we added funny, a get into everything kid, a tease and prankster. As adults he was an advise giver on numerous topics of which he knew much, my golf partner, my friend and my BIG brother in so many ways.
The hole is gaping wide in my heart in all of our hearts.
See you, love you, miss you Greg.
Your forever sister, Linda.

LINDA STROBECK - February 22 at 12:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



LINDA STROBECK - February 22 at 12:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Katie Nelson - February 11 at 10:59 AM



“ Greg what an amazing guy you were, Even if I only had the privilege to know you for the past 3 years, you made a lasting impression on me. Your positive outlook on life and business, your love of people- employees, customers- and all the advice you shared with me through your own personal journey will remain with me forever. If I had to chose one anecdote is the dinner you organized at your home, when twice you poured salt in my coffee instead of sugar, by mistake... or so I thought! Rest in peace my friend.

JORDI FERRE - January 28 at 04:45 AM



“ I had a chance to talk with Greg briefly at our local Rotary Club's Holiday party, about hunting in Montana. We said we'd talk more later. We'll meet again, Greg, I'm sure! Rest in peace!

Wayne Massing - January 13 at 06:10 PM



“ Greg was a wonderful neighbor and friend to Vicki and I. As everyone knows he was quick to help and provide a knowledgeable opinion. He was very proud of his family and told wonderful stories. The neighborhood was very thankful for his sense of humor, generous hospitality and summer parties. He had a way of bringing everyone together and feel comfortable. And his energy... He was usually up at the break of dawn working hard in his yard making all of us look lazy! He is very missed.

Steve Johnson - January 12 at 02:09 PM



“ Greg was a great friend to many in the Wenatchee fisherman's group. We will miss his smile, his contagious optimism and his great stories.



Michael Thresher - January 08 at 01:42 PM



“ We went through high school together and a year of college before I enlisted in the Army. He was my best friend. I will miss his sense of humor and he always made me laugh. He was so supportive when I was going through some difficult times in my life when I lost my brother. Will always think of him as a great friend. We had alot of great times together.

Wendell Wammack - January 09 at 07:07 PM



“ I will miss you Greg Lyons. I will miss your wisdom when I need a sounding board. You were a mentor and friend as well as one of my best managers. You gave me my first set of golf clubs. You taught me a lot about business, were one of my biggest supporters and helped shape who I am professionally today. Your passing is a tremendous loss for myself and the fruit industry. Thank you for everything. Thank you for always believing in me and encouraging me. I will never forget you. My thoughts are with your family.



Emily Bautista-Herd - January 07 at 04:22 PM