



Bruce L. Foxworthy

December 30, 1925 - January 17, 2015

On Saturday, January 17, 2015 Bruce LaVerne Foxworthy, 89, scientist and writer, recycled into the cosmos that had fascinated him throughout his life.

Born in Spokane on December 30, 1925, Bruce grew up during the Great Depression in the Entiat River Valley of Central Washington. There, he developed his lifelong fascination with Nature and his love for what he called the “voices of the river.” He was the son of Gerald L. Foxworthy, longtime apple rancher and trucker in the Entiat area, and Alma L. (Bedient) Foxworthy. His paternal grandparents, Lillian (Denman) Foxworthy and Bruce Lynn Foxworthy, were early settlers in the Entiat Valley from the Midwest, arriving at “Old Entiat” on a Columbia River steamboat in 1902.

Bruce attended the former Vaughn and Ardenvoir Schools in the Entiat Valley, and graduated from Entiat High School in 1943. He then enlisted in the Navy, serving on a destroyer in the Western Pacific until the end of World War II.

After receiving his degree in Geology from the University of Washington (1946-50) Bruce joined the U.S. Geological Survey for a career as Geologist and Hydrologist that spanned more than 33 years and took him throughout the U.S. and to several foreign countries. During that period he married and became the father of two daughters and two sons. The latter part of his technical career included management of earth-science research, consulting

for other agencies, and technical writing and editing.

In retirement, Bruce had the great good fortune of finding and marrying his high-school sweetheart, Cleo (Buckley). Along with sharing travels and camping with Cleo, he continued consulting and a wide range of writing. He authored or coauthored 10 books, 9 book chapters and numerous articles, research reports and short stories. His last book was a popular memoir of growing up in the Entiat Valley through the Great Depression.

Survivors include wife, Cleo; sons, Rick and Michael; and step-daughter, Marcia Higgins.

Bruce valued clear expression and innovative achievement. He seemed to be just as pleased with the achievements of friends and coworkers as with his own.

Private Family Service will be held. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

JC

“ I’m so sorry I never met Bruce. I only just now have found and read his book of growing up in the Entiat valley during the depression. In the book he mentions his closest friend Bobby Schermerhorn. I never heard anyone ever call my dad Bobby. My dad and grandparents would have loved this book. It has been a very personal treat for me.

Jody Clark - January 17, 2024 at 01:47 PM

DM

“ What a pleasure to have known Bruce since the late 80's. I worked with Cleo at Labor and Industries back then and the both of them just glowed with happiness. They were good friends to me through the years. When my son was young we would visit them at their home on Baker St and Bruce would always "sneak" a little money to my son and say don't tell your mom! Bruce was the nicest person and very intelligent. He autographed his "Making Do and Hanging On" book to me simply saying "For Debbie, dear friend" and he looked at me and said "I really mean that". I will miss Bruce dearly and my prayers and thoughts go out to my friend Cleo and their family.



Debbie Mitchell
East Wenatchee

Debbie Mitchell - February 01, 2015 at 11:32 AM

RS

“ Mr Foxworthy, I was truly lucky & honored to have come across your book about growing up in apple country during the great depression (and it was even a signed copy). This book completely changed the way I looked at the valley that I grew up in. Your writing technique and memories that you wrote down, made me view a place that I already thought of as beautiful, as an even more amazing treasure. You were truly an amazing and talented Man, and it would of been an honor to know you, even though I feel as if I do after reading your books. Rest In Peace Good Sir, and to the Family my deepest condolences, the world has lost a great man.

Ryan Sprauer
Cashmere WA

Ryan Sprauer - January 24, 2015 at 07:20 PM

CB

“ Dear Family, I was so sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He had an amazing life. I am grateful he wrote his book about growing up in hard times in Entiat, where I grew up and went to school. It brought back so many memories. Bruce's mother and my mother were very close, I knew the family well. Rest in peace, Bruce.

Connie Bair - January 23, 2015 at 09:47 PM

AS

“ Dear Family, I remember Bruce very well. My uncle Verlan Moore also lived up the Entiat and our family and his were very close in the early days and Bruce and Verlan stayed in touch for all of these years. I have a copy of his last book about growing up in the Entiat Valley during the Great Depression. Bruce came to see me a couple of years ago to look at some of pictures that I had of Verlan and our Moore family. I am Anne Scott. My mother, Verlan's sister, was Addie Moore, Claypool Quigg. I am going to reread his book again. It brings back a lot of great memories. I called Verlan this evening to tell him of Bruce's passing.



God Bless, Bruce.

Anne Scott - January 21, 2015 at 09:19 PM

ED

“ I so admired Bruce, and felt honored to know him even briefly. His memoir "Making Do and Hanging On" of the Entiat Valley will long be read by the patrons of the Entiat Branch of the North Central Regional Library. It is written with humor, honesty and conveys a sense of what really matters in life. His life is a great example to be curious about the world, faithful to one's dreams, and dedicated to hard work. I am so glad he was recognized and acknowledged a few years back as an Honored Graduate of Entiat High School. His message to the students was to realize that growing up in a small town does not minimize the opportunities you have in life. He spoke the truth. I will miss him.

Esther Dalgas - January 21, 2015 at 05:26 PM

FC

“ Dear Family. We are so very sorry by the passing of your beloved Bruce. I remember him and his parents while growing up in Entiat. His mother and my mother were very close friends and she named my youngest sister after his mother.

God speed Bruce and rest in peace.

Foster & Dorothy Copeland

Foster & Dorothy Copeland - January 20, 2015 at 04:10 PM