



Bruce C. Witham

February 21, 2012

The end of the most remarkable life of Bruce C. Witham, 56, occurred on February 21, 2012, surrounded by the love of his family. He was born in Lewiston, Maine, to Bill and Betty Witham. In his youth he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and in his later teens he became a sax player for the Jones Orchestra and the radio deejay known as The Big BW. He worked as a scorer at Oxford Plains Speedway, which started his love for NASCAR. Also in his late teens he joined the fire department in Norway, Maine, where he proudly served as a firefighter for over twenty years, which he considered his life's greatest accomplishment. He owned his own construction company and became the project manager for Saddleback Mountain Ski Area in Rangeley, Maine. Prior to moving to Washington State, he was a supervisor at C.B. Cummings, a wood products mill. In Wenatchee, Washington, he joined the Odom Corporation/NW Select Wines in sales, later becoming an On-Premise Fine Wine Manager. He always referred to himself as a jack-of-all-trades and a master of none.

A lifelong avid outdoorsman, he greatly enjoyed hunting, fly fishing, trapping, skiing, and snowmobiling, always returning to his beloved hunting camp in Maine. Having discovered Lummi Island in Washington, he realized his lifelong dream and purchased his boat Mrs. Jones, where he spent many enjoyable hours crabbing, fishing, and prawning in the San Juan Islands. Unknown to most, he had several small roles in community theatre. He was a steadfast supporter of his beloved New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox.

He loved to travel, especially to Mexico and Hawaii, but at home he became an accomplished gardener and cook and loved to entertain his many friends. In service to his community, he was a Mason in Maine and a member of the Exchange Club in Wenatchee.

Seventeen years to the day of his death, he married the love of his life, Deborah. They met at Christian Ridge Farm in Maine where he had come to paint the farm, never left, and never painted the farm. They eventually purchased White Mountain View Farm where they raised cows, chickens, turkeys, goats, and pigs, kept bees, and made maple syrup. They relocated to Wenatchee, Washington, to be closer to family.

He is preceded in death by his parents and survived by his wife Deborah Witham, M.D. and numerous family and friends, along with his devoted dog, Sam.

The Final Final, a Celebration of Life Open House, will be held on March 3, 2012, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Cottonwood Room, ESD Building, Olds Station, Wenatchee. Services will be held in Maine at a later date when he will be taken home for his final resting place. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Bruce's memory to the Boys and Girls Club Lummi Island Extension and to the Norway Firemen's Relief Association.

Near the end of his life he asked if he would be a good angel. He will be The Best.

Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee.

Tribute Wall

KI

“ Bruce was my childhood crush. I use to listen to him on the radio at 11 years old. He would accept my calls at my young age for a music request. Very special person. He respected all ages in his work environment.

kim - April 09, 2016 at 09:13 PM

CR

“ I just found out that Bruce has passed. I spent the afternoon crying, laughing, and remembering our times together. He and I grew up together listening to songs, making model race cars we saw at Oxford Plains, chasing girls, Boy Scouts, fishing, chasing girls, hiking, fly tying, ice fishing, chasing girls, bicycling, playing the sax, chasing girls, fly fishing, snowshoeing,,,did I mention chasing girls? Yeah, he and I were as close as two could be during the growing up years from age 11 to 16. I feel so blessed to have had him in my life during those times. My prayers to Deborah.
Curtis Reynolds; fellow Eagle Scout and the closest friend he had.

Curtis Reynolds - April 11, 2012 at 05:30 PM

AS

“ I was saddened and surprised to hear of Bruce passing. Through school, he was everyone's friend, I recall his loyalty to Scouts, can still picture him in his uniform, his interest in hunting, especially when he was injured with a bullet in his shoulder, which looked very sore for quite a long time, his enjoyment playing sax, his genuineness -- always humorous and always so pleasant, sunshine-y, honest, such a fine, good person! So friendly and was a handsome, intelligent teenager. Although I haven't seen him since HS, I will miss him, just knowing he is gone, especially so soon. It is lovely to hear of his life as an adult, and the love expressed in his obituary. My deepest sympathies to his wife, Deborah, and to the family, for your great loss.

Annie Somers

Annie Somers - March 07, 2012 at 12:52 AM

DR

“ Bruce was a wonderful cousin and I loved him very much. Even though he was a little older he never treated me like i was an annoying little cousin. He always had a big smile and hug for me no matter where we might run into each other. I will miss him. Deborah, I was very happy when you two got married. I think that you were very good for each other. Love you lots. Deborah Renney

Deborah Renney - March 05, 2012 at 08:48 PM

DM

“ We bought the house next to Bruce's parents [Bill and Betty Witham] and got to know Bruce quite well. Bruce was always very pleasant to be around, and even when living out of state he did well in keeping current with his folks here in Maine, and visited often. Bruce was everything to his parents. Bill and Betty were positive, warm and caring people, qualities they instilled in Bruce. We were truly saddened to hear of his passing, and will keep Deb in our prayers.

Dan and Becky Mosley

Dan Mosley - March 05, 2012 at 01:32 PM

BP

“ Bruce and I grew up together in a wonderful neighborhood. There so many memories rushing upon all who knew Bruce. Here is one from his early days. In our neighborhood was a one room school house. During one year at school there were four boys named Bruce. When the teacher called on a Bruce we would all answer. Later on the teacher told me how this drove her nuts.

Bruce Pierce - March 03, 2012 at 10:11 AM

SW

“ Sue Wickson lit a candle in memory of Bruce C. Witham



Sue Wickson - March 02, 2012 at 07:02 PM

SW

Deb, so, so sorry to hear about Bruce. My thoughts and prayer headed your way!

Sue Wickson - March 02, 2012 at 07:04 PM

SL

“ I had the pleasure of working with Bruce at the Odom Corporation, when he would call me needing something he always said "it's your favorite person". Little did he know he was one of my favorite people to find at the other end of the call. You will be missed! My thoughts and prayers go out to his family.



Sue Lunz

Susan Lunz - March 02, 2012 at 11:37 AM

LK

“ 1 file added to the album Bruce and Gang



Liz Khoo - March 02, 2012 at 12:03 AM

LK

“ 2 files added to the album Bruce Witham



Liz Khoo - March 01, 2012 at 11:54 PM

JO

“ Bruce will be fondly remembered.
Jim & Linda Odom

Jim Odom - March 01, 2012 at 05:23 PM

LC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lisa Crawford - March 01, 2012 at 04:52 PM

LM

“ So sad to lose Bruce. I always enjoyed talking with him when he brought the animals into the Vet. I miss seeing your kitties and Sam. I will say a special prayer for him and the whole family. I know he is smiling down on us.

Louise McEwen

Louise McEwen - February 29, 2012 at 02:49 PM

KL

“ Kati Lucas lit a candle in memory of Bruce C. Witham



Kati Lucas - February 29, 2012 at 02:18 PM

ES

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Elizabeth Springer - February 28, 2012 at 05:03 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Bruce Witham



Mike Spaulding - February 27, 2012 at 01:00 PM



“ Ellen Park lit a candle in memory of Bruce C. Witham



Ellen Park - February 27, 2012 at 12:50 PM



“ *Bruce was a wonderful man and a best friend to my entire family! He will always be remembered for his great sense of humor and one that could always put a smile on everyone's face. May he rest in peace and smile down on us each and every day! We love you Bruce and our memories of you will last a lifetime! XXOO*

Karen Hamblen - February 27, 2012 at 11:43 AM



“ *Karen Hamblen lit a candle in memory of Bruce C. Witham*



Karen Hamblen - February 27, 2012 at 11:39 AM

BB

“ *To Bruce's family...I heard through a mutual friend that Bruce had passed away but didn't know where he was living now. I've been searching for information and found my way to this site. My deepest condolences to all of his family. I graduated with Bruce in 1973 from Oxford Hills High School in Maine. Bruce was one of my favorite people, he was a really nice person and great sax player in the band. After graduation, every time we'd run into each other we'd have a great conversation, catching up on life. So sad to hear of his passing, my thoughts and prayers to all of his family. Barbara Bean Bishop*

Barbara Bean Bishop - February 25, 2012 at 07:18 AM