



## Dr. Donald Fager

June 1, 1923 - December 24, 2015

Dr. Don Fager June 1 1923 – December 24, 2015 Age 92

Don was born and raised in Oak Park Illinois.

He played cornet for the Presbyterian Church along with his two brothers.

Don was a Boy Scout at age 12 and eventually achieved rank of Eagle Scout. He spent many summers at camp and took numerous leadership roles including camp bugler. He loved the outdoors and developed life long love of nature.

He continues his education in 1942 at Coe College in ROTC Navy and also Gustavus Adolphus College in 1943 as Company Commander of fifty sailors. He was accepted to Northwestern Medical School in 1944 and was sent to Bremerton, WA for one summer of training where he visited Mt. Rainier National Park on a weekend leave and knew he had to come back to the beautiful Northwest after completing medical school and his Navy duties. He spent two years on Navy medical ships during the Korean War. After that he was Chief Resident at Children's Memorial Hospital back at Northwestern (age 30).

Don moved to Wenatchee with his wife Betty Fager in 1954 to join the Wenatchee Valley Clinic as a Pediatrician for 25 years. They raised five children: Donna Parsons, Susan Hunter, Craig Fager, Maureen Willams, and Scott Fager.

Don served as Director of the YMCA, Chairman of the Wenatchee Mountain Rescue Association, Medical Advisor for the Mission Ridge Ski Patrol, Instructor for the National Ski Patrol in Avalanche and Ski Mountaineering.

The natural world was very important to him. He married Thea Fager in 1984 and they continued to enjoy it through hiking, climbing, canoeing, sea kayaking, scuba diving and skiing. Don gave generously to the YMCA, Boy Scouts of America, The Wenatchee Valley College of Nursing, The Community Foundation of North Central Washington, and Chelan Douglas Land Trust.

To honor Don's wishes, no funeral service will be held. Those who could like to pay their last respects and honor Don's memory may kindly give a donation to one of the charities above that he was passionate about. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at [jonesjonesbetts.com](http://jonesjonesbetts.com). Arrangements are by Jones & Jones – Betts Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall

SG

“ SUE FAGER- NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE (NEW ZEALAND?)  
FROM- STEVE GOULD- SOUTH DAKOTA, - VINCENNES,  
INDIANA-  
NMC BASKETBALL- COAST GUARD GYM - ALAMEDA, CALIF.  
ALL THE BEST - TO SUE FAGER.

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**STEVE GOULD** - September 18, 2021 at 03:29 PM

CM

“ I met Dr. Fager at the Eastmont YMCA swimming pool. His swim workout was usually one of many physical activities that he had planned that day including playing tennis. He was incredibly interesting and fun to talk with. He shared with me some of the stories from his early days in medical practice. Being a "less seasoned" physician it was always inspiring for me to hear how he took care of patients during times when less medical resources were available. It was an honor to get to know Dr. Don and to read about his contributions to the community. He will be missed.

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**Chad McBride, MD** - January 20, 2016 at 06:10 PM

MB

“ I first met Don in the late 1970s, the first day I worked on the Mission Ridge Ski Patrol. He and I both went to the rescue of a young lady with a broken neck. It was only later that I discovered the off-duty patroller I was working with was also a long-time doctor for the patrol. In the decades that have followed, we worked together as medical instructors for the patrol, went to many ski patrol meetings together, camped together in the deep snow along the slopes of Mission Ridge and handled more accidents than I can remember. Many of us called him Dr. Don, but he was always one of us. He spoke our language. He always worked to help us get better. He was always positive and encouraging. There is a meadows on Mission Ridge that bears his name. I don't think any of us patrollers can ever ski through there again without fondly remembering Dr. Don

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**Marv Barham** - January 11, 2016 at 03:19 PM

JZ

“ Dr. Fager took great care of our family of nine kids. I remember him very fondly. Condolences from the Zanol family.

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**John Zanol** - January 05, 2016 at 11:11 AM