



## Dr. Jay D. Roeter

December 15, 1930 - August 27, 2021

Dr. Jay D. Roeter passed away peacefully August 27, 2021, at Ella's Adult Family Home in Wenatchee, Washington at the age of 90. He was surrounded by family during in his precious last days. He will be deeply missed by his 5 children and their spouses, 11 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren, surviving siblings and countless friends and family. Jay was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Joan Irene Roeter, August 19, 2013.

Jay was born December 15, 1930, in Alder, Washington one of ten children. Later they moved to a small dairy farm in Rice, Washington. He graduated from Kettle Falls High School where he was active in sports including football, basketball and boxing. Jay and Joan modelled devotion to family, community and country and that remains their legacy. Jay served 4 years in the US Navy as a radarman during the Korean War. Later he married Joan and went on to Dental School at the University of Washington graduating in a record 6.5 years while they were raising 3 young sons. After graduation they moved to Wenatchee in 1960 where Dr. Roeter began his pediatric dental practice during which time they added two daughters. Jay enjoyed pediatric dentistry touching thousands of young lives up to his full retirement at age 78. He was board member of the Washington Dental Service and served on the SmileMobile Dental Van providing dental services around for low-income patients facing challenges accessing dental care. Jay was active in the local Exchange and Rotary clubs where he exhibited a sense of humor and public speaking prowess serving as 1987-1988 president of the latter. Jay thought it

important to be involved supporting local and national political candidates and even served as a delegate at a regional convention. Jay and Joan were members of Holy Apostles and St Joseph 's Catholic Church where at the latter, Jay assisted in mass for many years. In 1971 Jay and Joan took their family on a yearlong European adventure where they lived in Switzerland as Jay practiced pediatric dentistry for the Swiss government. Jay coached his boys in Little League and regularly took his kids skiing at Mission Ridge singing to Neil Diamond and John Denver 8-track tapes on the way up and down the mountain. Jay loved his family and made it a point to be involved in their lives such as sponsoring not just one but two family reunion trips to Hawaii. He took his grandsons salmon fishing in Canada one of which later became an accomplished fishing guide. He loved to bird hunt and did so with his sons, grandsons and beloved Brittany, Cami. Skilled also in orthodontia, Jay, called Papa by his grandkids also did many of their braces and, unprompted, contributed to their college saving funds. Jay belonged to a poker club that met monthly for 50 years. He loved to golf and play racquetball with numerous friends. He and Joan enjoyed traveling, especially to Hawaii. Jay was an avid U of W Husky Football fan and when he wasn't attending in person he never missed watching on TV with his longtime friend and former Husky fullback, Ed Sage.

Jay is survived by son Mike (Cathy) Roeter of Bellevue, WA., son Mark (Lisa) Roeter of Brush Prairie, WA., son Steve (Sandy) Roeter of Cashmere, daughter Lisa (Ross) Hurd of Wenatchee and daughter Jennifer Roeter of Edmonds, WA.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

OCT 1. 2:00 PM (PT)

Wenatchee City Cemetery  
1804 N. Western  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

# Tribute Wall

CP

“ I have great memories of Dr. Jay Roeter as he was my dentist while growing up! He was kind, fun, and made visiting the dentist very easy for a child. He took great care in explaining what he would be doing and of course, there were those wonderful little prizes at the end of the checkup! Dr. Roeter was an excellent pediatric dentist and I'm grateful for his care in those early years. Later in life, we met his son, Mike, and Cathy as our sons attended the same college back east. Great family, Dr. Roeter!! You will be missed!  
Cassandra (Smith) Peterson

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**Cassandra Peterson** - October 04, 2021 at 02:58 PM

KY

“ I remember Papa taking us hiking in the Cascades and swimming in Lake Chelan. I remember hunting and fishing trips that were usually short on game, but successful nonetheless. I remember how easily he could make us grandkids laugh and his quick-witted humor. But mostly I remember that Papa was a man who loved his family and made sure we knew it. I'm going to miss him, and will never forget him.

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**Kyle** - October 01, 2021 at 12:45 PM

LP

“ I have always felt blessed to know and to have been able to spend time with my Uncle Jay. . He was such a fun inspirational Uncle. Always challenging us to do our best but also making any activity fun. I was just one of his nieces but he was always generous with his time. Miss his wit and sound of his voice

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**Linda pearson** - September 25, 2021 at 03:41 PM

GS

“ Jay was one of the first to welcome our family to the Wenatchee area in 1991. We were fellow Rotarians. I admired his sense of humor, positive attitude, kindness toward others, and devotion to family and community. We had the ability to lift any audience with his wit and humor. The picture I have of Jay is one of integrity and character. I was a better person in his company. His picture, on this site, is exactly how I will remember him . . . smiling and enjoying family and life.

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**Gene Sharratt** - September 19, 2021 at 07:12 PM

DV

“ I was sorry to here of Dr. Roeter's passing. He was the first dentist I remember seeing as a child. When I was about 10, I had a bad reaction to the anesthesia. After that, I refuses having any anesthesia for any dental work. At age 17, I came in to have a cavity filked. The hygienist took me into a room to get me numb. I told her that I didn't want anesthesia, which Dr. Roster confirmed. When he was getting ready to Do the procedure, he asked me if I wanted to try nitrous oxide. He said it w could make me feel like I'd several martinis without the hangover! I have never forgotten that and, when I think of him, I always smile. May God be with you as you grieve his loss.

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**Dawn Clements Viebrock** - September 03, 2021 at 06:09 PM

ET

“ Dear Roeter Family,

*Our thoughts are mixed to learn of Jay's departure. He was a neighbor, a friend, a fellow Rotarian, and political supporter.*

*I was always impressed with Jay's special wit. He could twist subjects without prior notice and make all of the Rotarians laugh.*

*Sincerely,*

*Earl and Barbara*

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**Earl Tilly** - September 01, 2021 at 01:59 PM