

Duane Howard Larson

March 29, 1931 - February 13, 2011

Duane Howard Larson

Duane Howard Larson of Wenatchee, WA passed away peacefully February 13, 2011 after a battle with cancer and pneumonia.

Duane was born March 29, 1931 in Bisbee, ND to Gunder and Ella Larson. Duane and his family lived in Bisbee, ND until 1938. During 1938 the Larson family moved to Ballard, WA, where he was raised and educated. Duane served in the United States Coast Guard from 1947 until his retirement as a Lieutenant in 1973. Following his retirement from the Coast Guard, Duane was a Bus Driver and Trainer for the Renton School District.

During his lifetime Duane had many interests such as participating in Jeep Clubs, Off Road Racing as a Driver, traveling throughout the country in his motor home and taking regular trips to Ireland and Europe. Duane was also an avid sports fan of the Seahawks, Mariners, and Manchester United. Duane and Margaret were members of several social clubs such as the American Legion, Eagles, Elks, and the Moose Lodge, Duane loved to help others by working on their cars and engines, doing home repair and construction, and especially loved to assist anyone who had a stranded car in a snow bank or a ditch using his jeep and winch.

Duane is survived by his wife of nineteen years, Margaret (Simpson) Larson. Additionally survived by son Michael Larson (Brenda) daughter Michele Benckert (Mike), and son Dean Larson. Duane was preceded in death by his wife of thirty six years Mary Areta (Slagle) Larson and Son Dennis Larson. Also Survived by stepson Patrick Simpson (Tammi). Duane has nine grandchildren, three step grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Services are as follows:

Thursday February 17, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Jones & Jones ~ Betts Memorial Chapel, 302 9th St. Wenatchee, WA. Visitation will be Wednesday from 2-6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Interment will be Friday 10:15 a.m. February 18, 2011 at the Tahoma National Cemetery 18600 SE 240th St. Kent, WA 98042.

Remembrances and donations to: Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center or your meaningful Cancer Research Charity.

Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Tahoma National Cemetery

18600 SE 240th
Kent, WA 98042

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 16. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home
302 9thStreet
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 662-1561
dante@jonesjonesbetts.com

Service

FEB 17. 1:00 PM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home
302 9thStreet
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 662-1561
dante@jonesjonesbetts.com

Tribute Wall

KL

“ I remember going to the property, many wonderful memories that is where i got my first flower from a boy. Grandpa chased that boy down in the fields the night before, he was trying to scare me and a friend. Grandpa told the boy if you think a girl is cute dont try to scare her. Be a gentleman and introduce yourself. And thats what he did the next day with wild flowers in his hands :) Love you grandpa.

Kelsy Larson - March 06, 2011 at 12:17 AM

AR

“ How fun it was to get re-aquainted with Duane and have the opportunity and pleasure of meeting you Margaret. when we lived in Estes Park and again at the YMCA Larson Reunion. Spending time with Duane brought back so many good memories of growing up surrounded by lots of Aunts, Uncles and Cousins in North Dakota. Thank you Margaret for your enthusiasm about family and becoming a part of ours - also for your wonderful, caring, love and support during both health and illness of Duane.

Our love and prayers, cousin Almina and Irv Ringdahl

Almina Ringdahl - February 22, 2011 at 09:32 PM

CL

“ We were so glad that you looked us up while in Phoenix and that we had a chance to have a nice visit. We are also glad that we have had chance in the past few years to get to know Duane again. Curt spent a lot of time with him while a child but kind of lost track later. He was a fun person to be around and we enjoyed him so much. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Margaret, and all of the family. Duane's cousin Curt and Lydia Larson

Curt Larson - February 22, 2011 at 06:14 PM

JL

“ Duane you touched the lives of many people with your smile and generosity - we will miss you greatly - you were just like part of our family.

While we are mourning the loss of our friend, others are rejoicing to meet him behind the veil.

*Your dearest friends
James & Berdadette Lynch, Cabra, Ireland*

James Bernadette Lynch - February 22, 2011 at 06:33 AM

SH

“ Sorry to hear about your loss. We are thinking of you. Love Sean and Ann Marie xx

Sean Mc Greevy, Hilltown - February 20, 2011 at 03:41 PM

DN

“ Margaret, so sorry for your loss. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. Take care. Love Dennis and Attracta xx

Dennis and Attracta Mc Givern, Newry - February 20, 2011 at 03:36 PM

JH


“ We have some lovely memories of both of you especially our last christmas together. My prayers and thoughts are with you Margaret. Love Josie and Jackie xxxx

Josie and Jackie Mc Greevy, Hilltown - February 20, 2011 at 03:32 PM

MA

“ *Deepest sympathy. Margaret, you and Duane's family are in my thoughts and prayers. Love Mother Attracta, St Clares Convent, Newry*

Mother Attracta - February 20, 2011 at 03:24 PM

 Eileen
Campion
Bailey

“ *R I P Duane. a real gentleman. will be missed by many.*

Eileen Campion Bailey - February 19, 2011 at 11:06 AM

BQ

“ *Greatest sympathy to Margaret on the sad loss of her husband Duane, he was a true gentleman and loved entertaining. We will both remember him in our prayers.*

Barney Patricia Mc Quaid - February 17, 2011 at 02:49 PM

FI

“ *FINTAN MAGINN.I was very sorry to hear about duanes passing.duane was a fun loving character and it was always a pleasure to be in his company.i had manys a good drink and nights banter with duane.It was really sad that he didnt get back to ireland,as everyone was so looking forward to seeing him. my thoughts and prayers are with margaret and all of duanes family at this very hard and sad time for them.*

fintan rathfriland ireland - February 17, 2011 at 02:22 PM

YL

“ *Never a truer word said Duane you are one of life true gents...we looked forward to spending time with you and Margaret when to came to your other home in Ireland. We will miss you especially for the wonderful evenings we spent together over dinner in yours, my goodness you sure knew how to host the perfect evening.*

Thanks Margaret for introducing us to such a wonderful man, I am so sorry for your loss, he will always be with you.... remember Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.

*Forever loved
Yvonne & Kieran*

Yvonne Lynch - February 17, 2011 at 07:18 AM



“ We will miss Duane having a cup of coffee with us in the office and getting us to search google maps so he could show us all the places he has been throughout his travels. He particularly enjoyed zooming in on Wenatchee to view the house and RV while he was here in Ireland. He often commented that he wanted to see Shauna and Micheal married but we know he will be watching over them on their Wedding Day in 2014.

We spent many an enjoyable night with Margaret and Duane painting the town red at various parties and they were always welcome guests at our Christmas parties. Duane will be sorely missed not just by Shauna and I but by all the workers. Margaret, we are all thinking of you and are so sorry we can't be there to support you but we look forward to seeing you on your next trip home although it will be a sad journey.

Love from Louise, Shauna and all the Boys at Mill Contracts,
Hilltown

Louise & Shauna - February 17, 2011 at 06:05 AM

DS

“ Dear Duane, Your last little outing to our Chelan house, was a gem. Margaret would take you anywhere to keep your spirits up, and just seeing you looking so good, and making a joke or two made OUR spirits sore. We'll miss that cute glint in your smiling eyes when Margaret walked in the room, AND...when you won at Crib. By the way, we're broke!! All our Love, Dave and Sally Stuart(Bowron)

Dave Sally - February 17, 2011 at 12:01 AM

ML

“ *Mike and Brenda Larson: Dad, thanks for always being there for us! You are the BEST DAD ever! We will always Love you forever!*

*Your Son and Daughter-in-Law
Mike and Brenda*



Mike Larson - February 16, 2011 at 08:16 PM

BD

“ *Dear Margaret and the Larson Family, I am so sorry for your loss Dwayne was one hell of a guy. A true gentlemen never complained just would go with the flow. He always new that when he came to Chicago he would never have a dull moment and always had a full belly at Mom's house. Dad enjoyed his company also. I am so going to miss him he will always have a special place in my heart. I will never forget the good times we shared and the great memories I have of him and Margaret, I do feel better knowing that he will not suffer any more and he is at peace now. If there is anything at all we can do here in Illinois please do not hesitate to ask. Margaret he and my dad have their hands full now protecting and watching over mom and you. Dwayne you will never be forgotten because we all loved you dearly, go rest in peace now.*

Beano Tom Dabulskis - February 16, 2011 at 05:41 PM

MG

“ We are very sorry to here about Duane's passing. We will remember the nights we enjoyed with him and Margaret at Michael and Gloria's house. Rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with Margaret and your family at this sad time. Bernie and Micky Gallagher and Family

Micky Bernie Gallagher - February 16, 2011 at 03:06 PM

JS

“ Margaret, we have enjoyed our friendship with you and Duane throughout the years. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We extend our Peace and blessings to you, Duane and the Larson family and are here to offer any support you might need. Duane, you will be missed

Jim and Linda Simpson - February 16, 2011 at 12:42 PM

AJ

“ Duane we are saddened at your passing and have many lovely memories to cherish. Yourself and Margaret entertained us on many an occasion with good good food and conversation. Myself, Marty Amy and Matthew loved to see you 'home' in Ireland and loved your fascinating stories and American phrases such as 'sidewalk' and 'block'! Things will sure seem strange without you by Margarets side but we all love her dearly and will take care of her for you. Rest in peace, Amanda, Marty Amy and Matthew Johnston, Cabra, Ireland

Amanda Johnston - February 16, 2011 at 11:57 AM

GC

“ We were truly saddened at the loss of Duane, he was a true friend and was like a father figure to Michael and I. Duane and Margaret spent a lot of time with us while in Ireland, Duane liked to keep busy whether it was spraying the fence, accompanying Michael in the van on his daily site visits or working together on one of his many “projects” at their house in Cabra.

Many parties were enjoyed with Duane and Margaret at their home and at ours. Duane was often in Chef Mode manning the barbeque, followed by a few Jamesons and sing songs in the bar. He really loved the Irish way of life and was an honorary Irishman to us. Duane and Margaret were regulars at the workers Christmas Parties and were greatly missed by everyone in December.

Michael and I travelled to Wenatchee in 2007 and it was great to meet many of Duane and Margaret’s friends and family. Duane was very proud of his entire family circle and talked of them often.

Duane was so kind and considerate to us that we always welcomed seeing him at every opportunity. His passing will not only leave a void in our lives but in the hearts of everyone who knew him and we cannot begin to imagine the pain that Margaret is going through, but we would like to thank Margaret for bringing him into our lives.

*Rest in Peace, Love Gloria, Michael, Maria and Micheal Crilly,
Hilltown, Ireland*



Gloria, Michael, Maria & Micheal Crilly - February 16, 2011 at 06:49 AM

BM

“ We will miss you being next door. You were always smiling... such a gentleman and always there to lend a hand. You and Margaret have always been so generous to everyone. Your door was always open for neighborly visits at all times. I will miss knowing I could come and talk anytime. I will miss your Christmas parties....will miss you!

Becky, and Ryan Mullin - February 15, 2011 at 06:16 PM

CD

“ Just wanted to say that we will miss you Duane. You were always so nice to myself and Ruairi and we always enjoyed the time that we spent with you and Margaret when you came over to Ireland. As others have rightly said, you were a true gentleman and we are so glad to have known you. Lots of love, Charlene Simpson and Ruairi Donnelly.



Charlene and Ruairi Donnelly - February 15, 2011 at 04:29 PM

PM

“ Pat and Kitty McGuane It was always a real pleasure to be in your company Duane as you were always a true gentleman and we especially enjoyed being with you and Margaret in Ireland both North and South .Rest in peace and God Bless .See you around sometime and we will have another one sometime .

Patrick Kitty McGuane - February 15, 2011 at 01:52 PM

EL

“ I remember when Grandpa would have all of us grand kids in the jeep driving all over the hills in brewster. We would all take turns driving the jeep. Of course grandpa would be there making sure we didnt make a wrong turn. He kept the jeep geared low so we couldnt go that fast but we didnt care, we just had a great time driving the jeep spending time with grandpa! Miss those days, they were the best! Love ya grandpa, we will all miss you very much!

Your Grandson Erik

Erik Larson - February 15, 2011 at 01:00 PM

KS

“ Karen Simpson
Duane you were a true gentleman and you were always working and enjoying life to the full you told me when i started driving to use my mirriors so i wouldnt hurt my back!!not many people know that i was the first person to no that you were home with antie margaert in ireland and no one believed me. And from then you have filled out lives here in ireland with such joy and happiness.

You never got to see me in my own home but no doubt that when margaret comes home she will be down and we will all have found memories of you with the simpson family. You no that when antie margaret come's home she will have any amount of people to look after her i wil promise you that.

Duane always love a whiskey on the rocks and the number 1 place he loved was the simpson when we were altogether.also loved meeting all the locals in hilltown duane was know by many people here in ireland and that was many thanks to magaret we are so very happy that we had the pleasure of knowing him..

rest. in.peace

you are always in are hearts duane and will never be forgotten
love you neice karen xxxx

karen simpson - February 15, 2011 at 10:25 AM

AS

“ Duane you have been a very good friend for over 18 years. You were loved by all my family, my children, my grandchildren (you were like a grandad to them) neighbours and outside friends. Your presence in my house was wonderful, you were always smiling, happy and willing to help. Margaret was your best friend who loved and cared for you throughout all your good times and more recently your illness. Look after her and give her strength. Our time with you during our visit last summer was how we would like to remember you - the good old times. We always had great fun together and we will never forget that. You will always remain in our thoughts and will be talked about regularly within our family circle. Watch over us and keep us safe. You will never be forgotten.

Rest in peace.

Love,

*Art & Mary Simpson
Hilltown,
Ireland*

Art & Mary Simpson - February 15, 2011 at 06:21 AM

CS

“ Margaret, Sean and myself are saddened to hear of the loss of Duane. He will be sadly missed and enjoyed his nights out and we enjoyed his company on nights out during the short time we knew him.

We are thinking of you and your family at this sad time in your lives.

Christine Rice & Sean McGowan, Leitrim, County Down, Ireland.

Christine & Sean - February 15, 2011 at 04:07 AM

FR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Francis, Lorraine, Orlaigh & Shannon Rice - February 14, 2011 at 06:21 PM

FR

“ *Duane, we are glad that you have been part of our lives and us a part of yours also. We will miss you greatly and offer our sincere condolences to Margaret and your family. It was always a pleasure to have you visit our house and fulfill us with your never ending bank of stories from your time on the high seas and what life was like for you and Margaret in the States. Never one to drop in for a few swift half one's, it could not be said you stood on ceremony, you would always have offered to get stuck into a bit of work, namely tiling our WC for Lorraine and I while we were on our honeymoon, with your signatures inscribed into the wall for all to see for many years.*

Ireland will have lost one of it's greatest visitors and we thank you for your wit, charm and selective hearing upon your visits. As you know, it wasn't always a free meal in our house as you had to get stuck in during feeding and lambing season, but you can keep a watchful eye from above now.

The girls have talked about you endlessly over the last few days and have assured us that you are in heaven watching over them from afar. Thank you for our memories of you, albeit them cut short.

Francis, Lorraine, Orlaigh & Shannon Rice, Dromara, County Down, Ireland.

Francis, Lorraine, Orlaigh & Shannon Rice - February 14, 2011 at 05:35 PM

MS

“ Duane, you will be greatly missed by us all over here in Ireland. We were so looking forward to your visit, the girls were really excited to be seeing you both again. Unfortunately this excitement has now turned to sorrow and we are all in mourning at your passing. We have great memories of the time we spent with both you and Margaret over a few whiskeys and beers. You even turned your hand to work now and again by helping us tile our bathroom. May you rest in peace and watch over us all especially Margaret.

Love you always,

Mark, Ali, Zoe & Eva Simpson



Mark, Ali, Zoe & Eva Simpson - February 14, 2011 at 04:30 PM

BS

“ *Margaret*

Just want to let you know that we are thinking about you and still praying for you. Duane was a great man and he has left a lot of memories here in Chicago that believe me we will never forget.

We will miss Duane and his laughter and he would always just go with the flow and never complained about anything that you gave him or asked him to do. He used to love to come to Chicago because he knew that he would be left alone and that you would be the one that we were picking on.

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

We love you Maggie and take care of yourself during this hard time. We are here for you if you need us.

*Love you
The Schmitt Family*

Bernadette Schmitt - February 14, 2011 at 02:40 PM

MG

“ *5 files added to the album Memories of Ireland*



Maura Garrett - February 14, 2011 at 02:18 PM

MG

“ Margaret and the Larson family:

I am so sorry for your loss. Duane was a wonderful man. Always had a smile on his face and would always help anybody in need. I have so many wonderful memories of him and it is with a heavy heart that we have to say goodbye.

His love of life was a lesson that we should all learn. His laughter - his wonderful smile - his kind nature. When Duane and Margaret entertained, you knew you were going to have the time of your life. Nothing was impossible. Everything was attainable.

I will miss him dearly. But take comfort in knowing that he is at peace now. No more suffering. He is now looking down on you and protecting you.

Duane, you were one of a kind. A true gentleman. You are truly missed... today and always.

*Love,
Maura Garrett*

Maura Garrett - February 14, 2011 at 02:15 PM