



## Edward R. Shirk

January 16, 1935 - April 27, 2019

Longtime Wenatchee native Edward Shirk passed away on Saturday April 27, 2019. He was born in Wenatchee on January 16, 1935 and lived in numerous communities throughout the west coast while his father worked on several dams and other major construction projects. His fondest memories were from his time living in Grand Coulee where he made lifelong friendships. Ed was a standout basketball player at Grand Coulee and later Brewster High School. He told many funny stories of games he played in the Okanogan, in towns like Molson, Riverside and Twisp. After graduation from Brewster High School in 1954 he attended Wenatchee Valley College and started his 36 year career with the Washington State Department of Transportation at the age of 19. His first job was on the survey crew working on most of the major road projects in NCW but his most memorable work was surveying the route for the new North Cascade Highway. A job that required hiking into the undeveloped wilderness area with pack mules as they laid out the route for the new highway. Ed studied to become a professional engineer getting his license and worked for many years as a project engineer at the DOT, retiring in 1990.

Ed was very involved with the Wenatchee Amateur Hockey Association serving for many years as association president and also served in various capacities with the Pacific Northwest Hockey Assn. He was instrumental in helping get Wenatchee's first covered ice arena at the foot of 5th Street. Ed and his wife Helen were longtime Wenatchee Wild fans and season ticket holders

Helen and Ed owned and operated a Wenatchee “institution”, Ernie’s Grocery on South Miller street for many years. He enjoyed working on remodeling and updating the store and meeting the regular customers who made Ernie’s a second family.

After retiring Ed enjoyed playing golf and was a member of the Men’s League at Three Lakes Golf Course. He and Helen enjoyed spending winters at their home in Palm Springs playing golf and traveling to visit family and friends. They loved to travel and took many trips including cruising the Caribbean and Europe.

Ed will be remembered for his sense of humor, quiet strength and sense of confidence. Always the engineer he sought out practical solutions to all of his endeavors.

Ed was predeceased by his mother Anna and father Joseph. He is survived by his wife Helen; his son Douglas Shirk and wife Carrie and grandson Colby; daughter Kim Stallings and husband Larry, grandson Shane and great grandchildren Mason and Nahla; and his son Drew Shirk and stepdaughter Nikole Page. He is survived by his former wives Judy Clipps and Lynn Louise and many relatives in Canada.

Funeral services will be held at a family graveside ceremony.

Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to the Wenatchee Amateur Hockey Association in Ed’s name.

# Tribute Wall

AB

“ Twelve years ago my husband and I were fortunate enough to meet Ed and Helen Shirk by chance one afternoon at a home event in Seattle. Turned out we were staying in the same hotel, we met again that same evening and our friendship began. Although we live in the East Neuk of Fife, near St Andrews in Scotland, we have met up with Ed and Helen again and again and kept in contact by email and social media.

*Ed and Helen set foot on the world famous Old Course in St Andrews when they visited with us while their cruise ship berthed in Scotland.*

*The last time we got together was in Seattle two years ago this month. We had been to Seattle before but had never visited the Space Needle. We had a great day there and visited a fabulous glass exhibition by Dale Chihuly next door.*

*Next day we took a boat, captained by Helen's brother, out on Lake Union, what a wonderful experience, Ed keeping us entertained with his knowledge of Seattle and all the waterways.*

*Precious memories of happy days spent in their company. Ed was a great raconteur and very interesting man.*

*We both feel blessed to have known Ed and enjoyed his wonderful company over the years. Our deepest condolences to Helen and to the family.*

*Ann & Alan Bence. 💔*



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**Ann Bence** - May 06, 2019 at 08:05 AM

HS

*Such grand memories! Thank You Ann and Alan. 🥹*

**Helen Shirk** - May 29, 2019 at 09:54 PM

CM

“ *It is with sadness to acknowledge the passing of Ed but a great fondness to recall the many things I was fortunate enough to enjoy taking part of and sharing with Ed through many years. We shared the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat coaching Youth Baseball together, watching Wenatchee Panthers football (especially during the heyday years), bowling for several years and as a co-worker for many years. Most importantly, the friendship.*

*Always thought of and considered Ed to be an honest, fair, reasonable and kind person.*

*Heartfelt thoughts and prayers to all of the family.*

*Chuck Meischke*

**Chuck Meischke** - May 01, 2019 at 08:44 PM

HS

*Ed enjoyed your friendship, Thank You. Chuck*

**Helen Shirk** - May 29, 2019 at 09:58 PM