



Ellis F. Darley

November 2, 1915 - March 9, 2012

Ellis F. Darley, 96, died Friday, March 9, 2012 in Spokane, WA. Ellis was predeceased by Delight, his wife of 70 years, in December 2009. Ellis and Delight retired to Cashmere in 1978 where they enjoyed hiking, cross-country skiing and gardening, often sharing their fruit and vegetables with friends and neighbors. After earning his doctorate in plant pathology in 1945 at the University of Minnesota, Ellis studied and solved an economically important fungus disease that was attacking rubber trees on Firestone Rubber Company's plantation in Liberia, West Africa. In 1949, after a year at Colorado State University and another year in Guatemala with the US Department of Agriculture, Ellis landed his dream job at the Citrus Experiment Station in Riverside, CA. This well-known facility is now part of the Riverside campus of the University of CA. Ellis was a pioneer in the study of the effects of air pollution on plants. He and his colleagues discovered the chemicals in automobile exhaust that reacted with sunlight to produce the toxic components of smog. He later studied the impact on air quality of burning slash left by logging in Oregon and Washington. Ever the scientist, Ellis operated an official weather station in their yard in Cashmere. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all their friends in Cashmere and Wenatchee for their many years of shared adventures and friendships. They had a great ride.

Ellis is survived by three children, Marshall Darley of Athens, GA, Paul Darley

of Bainbridge Island, WA and Ruth Ellsworth of Spokane, WA, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-children.

Tribute Wall

LA

“ Ah, I just found out that Dr. Darley has passed away. I worked with him at UCR, and still pass by their old house in Riverside when visiting other friends. He was a fanatic about bicycling, and as his retirement/going-away, I designed the bicycle-wheel mailbox for their new house. I am glad to know he stayed active. - Laurie

Laurie Ann - December 26, 2012 at 05:45 PM

SB

“ I had been aquatinted with Ellis for some time because he would check the irrigation ditch behind our house sometimes. I also worked at the local pharmacy and would see Ellis and Delight when they came in. By the time my Mother-in-law was in Epledalen Delight was next door, but we always enjoyed talking with Ellis in the dining hall. When my Mother-in-law was transferred next door we lost contact with him. They were such a great couple. There are some people who just shouldn't leave this earth.

Sandy Baker March 20, 2012

Sandra Baker - March 20, 2012 at 02:31 PM

PK

“ Remembering both the Darleys from Wenatchee World hikes!!
Girlfriends and I referred to them as "the Darlings". They were so
dear, Ellis and his stories, and Delight who was so perfectly named!
She was a delight. They shared such true joy and love for each
other.

*I remember they chose one of my photos of them for their
Christmas card one year.. We all loved them and will miss them and
will remember them always.*

Pat Koehler

Patricia J Koehler - March 19, 2012 at 12:43 PM

SH

“ I met Ellis years ago and Delight later when I ran into them at
the local grocery store. They were such fun to talk to. Starting in
winter, Ellis and I would start teasing each other about whose corn
was already the biggest and continued that joke for years. He had a
wonderful sense of humor and always had something fun to talk
about. He took such good care of Delight as she started losing her
sight. We loved driving up by their home before they had to move so
we could see their beautiful flower and vegetable gardens. It was a
privilege to know them both.

Sandy Howard - March 17, 2012 at 05:45 PM

KH

“ I first met Ellis and Delight on the Wenatchee World hikes. I was fortunate to have done more than one hike with them! Ellis was always first up to start the campfire and get the coffee on for Delight's first cup, which he would serve to the tent. I so much admired their love of life , people and their level of fitness and sense of adventure for their age at the time. I did stop at Epeladen one time when I was in Cashmere but he was having memory issues and I never went back but I thought of him often. I loved their stories especially those of the early years with the travels and small children. What wonderful memories you all have of a remarkable couple. My thoughts are with you all. Kathy Herron

Kathy Herron - March 16, 2012 at 04:59 PM