



## Kenneth Paton

July 10, 1937 - April 7, 2025

Kenneth William Paton, born on July 10, 1937, in Wenatchee, WA, peacefully passed away on April 7, 2025, at the age of 87. A cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend, Ken's life was filled with love and adventure.

In 1957, Ken married his best friend, Kay Marchel, marking the beginning of a lifelong partnership filled with shared dreams, adventures, and achievements. Together, they founded Arlberg Sports Inc. in the summer of 1958, a business that became a cornerstone of their community and a testament to their love for the outdoors and downhill skiing.

Ken was a private bush pilot whose passion for flying mirrored his adventurous spirit. His love for the outdoors was infectious, earning him the affectionate title of "The King of Fun." Ken's stories, rich with humor and warmth, were legendary among friends and family.

Deeply involved in his community, Ken was a significant part of the Mission Ridge Ski Resort and the Mission Ridge Ski Team. His commitment to his community and the sports he loved left a lasting impact on all who knew him.

Ken is survived by:

His wife, Kay Paton

Heidi & Glenn Smith (daughter & son-in-law)

Scott & Nalini Paton (son & Daughter-in-law)

Kealani, Cai, & Boulder Yamamoto (granddaughter, grandson-in-law, great-grandson)

Cole Paton & Savilia Blunk (Grandson & daughter-in-law)

He was predeceased by his parents, Kenneth David Paton and Norine Shotwell Paton, and his sisters, Patricia Paton Sawyer and Elizabeth (BettyAnn) Paton Roberts.

In keeping with Ken's wishes, a celebration of life will be held with his immediate family.

Ken's vibrant spirit and generous heart will be cherished and remembered by all who were fortunate to have known him. He would want everyone to continue in his path of prioritizing the importance of time with loved ones and sharing in the activities that bring us joy and happiness.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dear Kay and Family*

*Yes our region has lost a valuable supporter of many good things about living in NCW. I purchased several pairs of skis and accessories from Ken and it helped me get safely down the hills at Mission Ridge and other exciting areas.*

*I was always impressed with his honesty and enthusiasm for the outdoors and the products that he promoted to give the public the best items of gear to safely enjoy the great outdoors that we live in.*

*Sincerely*

*Earl Tilly*

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**Earl Tilly** - April 17, 2025 at 06:11 PM



“ *The community lost a great man, visionary, and cornerstone to the values that make the greater Wenatchee Valley such a great place to live, work, and honor the recreation available. He leaves a legacy of family love, commitment to community, and leadership excellence. Thank you, Ken.*

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**Gene Sharratt** - April 15, 2025 at 11:53 AM