



## Neil S Hohisel

March 8, 1936 - May 18, 2010

Neil S. Hohisel

Wenatchee, WA

Neil S. Hohisel, 74, a resident of Wenatchee for the past 30 years, passed away on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at Central Washington Hospital, after a struggle with pulmonary fibrosis. His wife and all his children were at his side. He was born March 8, 1936, in Detroit, MI to Roland E. and M. Arlene (Fraser) Hohisel. He received his education there, graduating from Mumford High School in June of 1954. He attended Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. He was married on September 8, 1956, to Arlene R. Hodge of Detroit in Westminster Presbyterian Church. After earning a degree in Forestry in June of 1959, Neil and his wife moved to Kamiah, ID with their infant daughter, Ann. In 1961, son, Dale, was born and in 1964, son, Gary, was born to the family, both in Orofino, ID. Subsequent moves in his U.S.D.A. Forest Service career took the family to Dillon and Kalispell, MT; to Sandpoint, ID; and to Wenatchee in 1979. Assignments before Neil's retirement included development of recreation input for the Wenatchee National Forest Land Management Plan. He retired from the Forest Service in 1993, and continued to serve as Logistics Chief for a unified command fire overhead team during forest fire seasons. He spent weeks at the Yellowstone Park fire of 1988, and on the Tyee Fire in 1994. In later years, he administered firefighters' tests and he spent time setting up work camps after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. For over a decade, Neil and his wife served as Hosts for the Forest Service at the

Lochsa Historical Ranger Station in Idaho, the district where he began his career 50 years ago. He was a former member of the Jaycees, active in band and music parents' organizations and worked with the Cub Scouts. He was a volunteer with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, worked in the archives of the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center for many years, and helped with the Wenatchee Valley Riverfront Railroad. His interests included trains, aviation, astronomy, stamp collecting, history and hiking. He was an old-time piano player, sometimes joining his father, Roland, who played banjo, to entertain at various events. His entire family enjoyed square dancing for many years and he and his wife danced and traveled with several Wenatchee square dance clubs. Retirement years have been filled with travel, volunteering and visiting with his grandchildren. Neil and his wife celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2006, at a family event in Leavenworth, planned by their children. Survivors include his wife, Arlene, of the family home; daughter, Ann Arlene Hohisel of Littleton, CO and her spouse, Steven Sawyer; son, Dale Roger Hohisel and his spouse, Laurie of Kent, WA; and son, Gary Andrew Hohisel and his spouse, Kimberly of Tacoma, WA. A brother, Lee Hohisel and sister, Laura Knight, both of Naples, FL also survive Neil. Neil was Grandpa to Matthew, Jacob, Lake and Pepper Ann Hohisel; and step-grandchildren, Zoe and Ezekiel Westbrooke. Other special relatives are his cousin, Frank Jay Cameron of Sequim, WA and brother-in-law, Kevin Hodge of Howell, MI. A Memorial Service will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 22, 2010, at the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center, 127 S. Mission Street, with any friends welcome. In lieu of flowers, donations to [PulmonaryFibrosis.org](http://PulmonaryFibrosis.org) would help others with this disease and honor Neil's giving nature. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home of Wenatchee, where you may express your memories of Neil at [jonesjonesbetts.com](http://jonesjonesbetts.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **22**. 5:00 PM (PT)

Wenatchee Museum  
127 S Mission  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ Happy Birthday Dad. It's been 10 years since we got a hug and kiss from you. We truly miss you and wish you were here to join us on the annual mystery trip (vacation). I miss baking and cooking for you. There's so much going on that we want to share with you. WISH YOU WERE HERE! XXXOOO Laurie & Dale (the boys miss you too).



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Laurie Hohisel - March 07, 2020 at 10:04 AM

LH

“ Laurie Hohisel lit a candle in memory of Neil S Hohisel



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Laurie Hohisel - May 19, 2019 at 02:13 AM

LH

“ We miss you dad. It's been 9 years ago today since you were called for assignment. Dale and I know you watch over us. We enjoy watching our family videos with the wonderful visits and vacations we shared. We're happy and grateful for the many years we had with you. Thank you for the money from heaven that you have dropped down for us. We've found a lot of change and \$20 on our Anniversary in Maui at the outdoor mall and another \$20 a couple of days ago for Dale's birthday at the Calaveras County Fair. You must be a real asset up there. You're always close to our hearts and bring warm smiles to our faces. Matthew and Jacob miss you too. XXXOOO Dale and Laurie

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Laurie Hohisel - May 19, 2019 at 02:12 AM



“ Neil was the Resource Assistant at the Entiat Ranger District when I began work there in 1988. I had the good fortune of working with Neil at the Entiat District for four years. Neil was a true gentleman. Always kind, humble, helpful, unassuming; Neil made all others around him feel warm and welcomed. His character was solid. He treated others well. He never said a disparaging word about anyone. He was never proud or selfish. He spoke fondly of his wife Arlene, and that alone said a lot about him.

A few years after his retirement, Neil was back helping the Forest Service as Logistics Chief and Camp Manager on the large Tyee Fire as well as other incidents. He did this job very well and he was a joy to work with on fire assignments.

Off and on over the past few years I used to see "Neil the Train Conductor", and we would visit and catch up when he volunteered at the Miniature Train station. Neil got to meet my two young sons, also train buffs, and I could tell he was obviously having a great time "Working on the Rail Road".

Neil told me that he and Arlene vacationed in Washington D.C. a few years ago and took a tour of the Forest Service's Washington Office. When the Tour Guide heard Neil was a retired Forest Service employee, he told Neil that the Chief of the Forest Service wasn't using her office that day, and asked Neil if he'd like to sit in her chair. Neil told them, "Yes!", and as he told me this story he wore the biggest grin I ever did see!

Neil will be very much missed by his Forest Service Family. It was an honor to work with such a genuinely nice, real, and kind person as Neil.

May God Bless You Neil, and Comfort Your Family with Fun and Fond Memories.

With all my sympathy,

*Margi (Gromek) Peterson*

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**Karen Van De Mark** - May 21, 2010 at 01:48 PM