

Robert "Bob" J. Capps

October 30, 1926 - March 13, 2014

Robert Jesse Capps

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Robert J. Capps, 87, died on Thursday, March 13, 2014 in Kent, WA. He was born on October 30, 1926 to Edgar D. and Mildred (Kelson) Capps in Tacoma, WA.

He moved to Wenatchee in February, 1933 when his father was transferred by Puget Sound Power and Light Company to the new Rock Island Dam. He attended schools in Rock Island, East Wenatchee and Wenatchee and was a member of the 1945 graduating class of Wenatchee High School. During high school, he was a member of Company E, Washington State Guard, entered the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served overseas on the U.S.S. Markab, receiving his discharge in July, 1946. A member of the U.S. Naval Reserve, he was recalled to active duty in August, 1950 and served in the Korean conflict (aboard the U.S.S. Graffias) until November, 1951.

Bob was employed by Alcoa from December, 1951 and retired in February, 1989 after 37 years' service. An avid Scouter, he served as Cubmaster of Pack 80 at Whitman School for two years. He then became Scoutmaster of Troop 2 at the First Presbyterian Church, a position he held for 17 years. During this time 24 boys achieved the rank of Eagle. He attended three National Jamborees and participated in six 50-mile hikes. He attended Camp Bonaparte 13 summers, following which he attended Camp Brinkley (at

Monroe) for 10 summers as a camp commissioner.

A member of Riverside Lodge #112, F. & A.M., he was a former member of Central Christian Church, Post 10 of the American Legion and the Drum and Bugle Corps.

He was married to Mabel Eastwood on August 29, 1953, and they made their home in Wenatchee.

Survivors include his children, Toby (Janairie) Capps of Renton, WA. and Holly Capps of Vancouver, WA.; three grandchildren, Kyle, Ashley and Kelli of the Seattle area; great grandson, Braxton Capps; his sister, Dixie Boyden of Ephrata. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mabel L. Capps on August 31, 2007 in Wenatchee.

Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at Jones & Jones ~ Betts Memorial Chapel with Interment following at Wenatchee City Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers, the family has requested a contribution to Camp Bonaparte, Grand Columbia Council, BSA, or Chief Seattle Council, BSA in Robert J. Capps' name, as this was the organization he loved so much for the past 49 years. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert "Bob" J. Capps



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - March 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

“ As one of the scouts from Troop 2 in the early to mid-70s, I would like to share a few thoughts and memories of Mr. Capps.

Although we were all Boy Scouts, and many of us became Eagle Scouts, not many of us were angels. We were high-spirited kids with lots of energy, and so there were definitely some incidents. I remember one scout, who was melting together the frayed ends of a nylon rope at Camp Bonaparte, turned an entire tree into a blazing torch and caused a camp-wide muster. Luckily the fire did not spread. Another time at Camp Bonaparte, a black bear broke into one of our tents, took a box of crackers, and ate it in plain sight of the panicking scouts. And then on one of our annual fall canoe trips from Riverside to Tonasket on the Okanogan river, a couple of scouts tried to shoot the rapids at Okanogan Falls, rather than portaging around the falls like they were supposed to, and capsized, and tents and sleeping bags floated down the river, and a cook set and some other items sank.

And during these moments, and many others, there was Mr. Capps, always calm and collected, always equal to the occasion and ready to deal with every crisis, fishing the wet scouts out of the river, collecting the capsized canoe (except for the time we hit a rock and wrecked the canoe), helping gather up the floating tents and sleeping bags, and doing everything else that was required. At these times, and all the time really, Mr. Capps was very patient. He was probably a lot more patient than some of us deserved. I don't remember him ever raising his voice, but I will always remember his calmness and patience.

He also had a great ability to organize events, and energy to make them happen. Troop 2 was famous for its outings. Even beyond the fall canoe trips on the Okanogan, and the winter and spring jamborees, and the summers at Bonaparte, we went on a lot of campouts on the Columbia river, and up Swakane Canyon, and other nearby places, and of course there were the famous 50-mile hikes that started at the top of Stevens Pass.

Like most of my fellow scouts, I always assumed that all these great outings just kind of happened. I never gave much thought to the amount of organizing that went into them, all the arrangements that had to be made, food bought, cooking and camping gear gathered and checked, transportation to and from the sites, parents called to help drive, and so on. So that is another thing I remember about Mr. Capps, his selflessness and willingness to volunteer his time and effort on behalf of other people, in this case, the scouts of Troop 2.

So Mr. Capps will be missed, but he will also be remembered, and I will remember him as a role model, a man who led by example more than words. I'm sure many other scouts of Troop 2 have similar warm thoughts and memories. It was a good time for all of us, and he helped make it all happen. - Brent Hannon

Brent Hannon - March 28, 2014 at 01:16 PM

TC

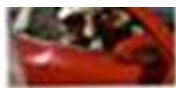
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Toby Capps - March 18, 2014 at 04:52 PM

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Toby Capps - March 18, 2014 at 04:42 PM

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“ Dear Capps' Family...

I remember Bob well; we worked at Alcoa at the same time; his favorite saying when I asked every day how he was doing would always be, "busy, busy, busy." He had a wonderful smile and he smiled all the time. We won't forget him. My condolences to all of you.

Carolyn and Bob Anderson

Carolyn Anderson - March 17, 2014 at 03:00 PM

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“ Dear Capp's Family,

Your parents provided many hours and years devoted to the youth of our community. They were fantastic in their mission! The words....."Well done good and faithful servant" appropriately fit Bob and Mabel.

Sincerely,

Earl Tilly

Earl Tilly - March 15, 2014 at 12:38 PM