



Thomas R. Saltsman

September 21, 1941 - September 21, 2015

Thomas Raymond Saltsman, 74, passed away at his home in Wenatchee, WA. on his birthday, September 21st, 2015. He was born in Tonasket, WA. on September 21, 1941 to Jackson R. and Esther Louise (Talbot) Saltsman. Following high school in 1959 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged in 1961 after serving overseas. He worked briefly as a tool maker for Boeing before relocating to Wenatchee. On June 13th, 1970 he married Mary K. Conners of Tonasket, WA. They have resided in the Wenatchee area for the past 45 years where they raised their family. He spent his career working in the fruit industry including the state department of horticulture and most recently Witte Orchards where he retired in 2009. Tom was an avid fisherman and loved spending time outdoors especially camping with his family. He was a self-taught craftsman and enjoyed undertaking home improvement projects and auto restoration. His other interests included John Wayne movies, grilling and working in his shop. He was a humble man and a generous provider who valued family, friendship and hard work. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Mary; brother Gerald E. of Hayden, ID; sister Doreen Fruit (David) of East Wenatchee; sister Barbara Renner (Derald) of Wenatchee and his sons Paul C. (Amy) of Savannah, GA, Patrick M. (Karyn) of Seattle and John T. (Ellen) of Seattle and 2 granddaughters, Alicia Kathleen of Savannah, Ga and Kate Frances of Seattle and many lifelong friends. His family extends thanks to Gale, Sue, Bill and the many others that provided care this past year. In lieu of flowers

donations may be made to the Wenatchee Valley Humane Society. Tom's family and friends will gather at 1:00 P.M on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at Ohme Gardens to celebrate his life. Please express your thought and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Joes-Betts Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

SEP **29**. 1:00 PM (PT)

Ohme Gardens
3327 Ohme Rd
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Thomas R. Saltsman



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - September 25, 2015 at 11:48 AM

MB

Beautiful.....

Marky Bowling - September 26, 2015 at 11:27 AM

BS

*This is a great memory of Tom's life. Thanks for sharing this with us.
Bobbie Schaller*

Bobbie Schaller - September 26, 2015 at 08:25 PM

DL

“ *I'm grateful for the pictures of Uncle Tom's life in the video - you can see his love of his family and the joy his hobbies brought him. I think he had one of the best smiles I've ever seen. I never knew if he was laughing inside at all the silliness in others or in life or he was concocting how he'd really like to respond. Maybe he was concocting a scheme of some sorts. (Like the bud light cans in Oralee's story - love that!). I always wondered what trouble he and dad might have caused Gramma and Grampa as young boys. I wish I knew him more but grateful to see it looks like he had a full and happy life.*

Danette (Saltsman) Layne - September 26, 2015 at 12:15 PM

RP

“ We have had the privilege of living next to Tom & Mary the past 18 years and they are the best neighbors anyone could ask for. Tom was a very kind and generous man and he will be greatly missed.

The Phelps family

Ray Phelps - September 25, 2015 at 09:13 PM

RW

“ We were truly blessed to have been able to grow up with the Saltsman family, and the Conners Family, and to be friends through all these years, through school and married life. Tom was one great guy. He was always ready to have some fun. He was always ready to step up and help if that was needed. He was the salt of the earth. We are sad that we were not able to spend more time with Tom and Mary these past few years. Our hearts go out to the family and they have our sincerest sympathy.

Gene and Roberta Weller

Roberta Weller - September 25, 2015 at 11:39 AM

OW

“ *My favorite memory. We had a lunch room upstairs at Witte's packing shed where I worked for Tom. A group of us were complaining to Tom about how dark it was over our lunch table and that we needed some light. The next morning when we came to work we discovered that he had strung up a group of Bud Light cans over our table. We learned to be more specific about what we wanted after that. I still chuckle to this day when I think about it.*

Oraleen Walls



Oraleen Walls - September 24, 2015 at 12:29 PM

BS

I am so sad for the loss of your loved one Tom. He was such a great guy and he always had a smile. This is a great picture. This is such a sad time for you Mary and your family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Wish I lived closer at this time so I could be there. Love you.

Bobbie Schaller - September 26, 2015 at 08:04 PM

TS

Back in the early 1990s when I was driving cab in San Francisco, some Arab-born customer got into my cab with a couple of his friends one day. This highly friendly Arab spoke great English.

During our typical cab-ride conversation, it came up that he lived a few years in Wenatchee, WA. "Oh!" I said. "Whaddya know! I have a cousin with the same name as mine who lives there! I haven't spoken with him in years."

"What's his name?" the stranger asked. "Maybe I know him."

"Tom Saltsman," I said.

"You've got to be kidding!" he almost shrieked. "I know that guy. I used to work for him. You'd better call him. He's your cousin! You Americans! I swear! So snotty."

I did call him. I make sure this Tom Saltsman of San Francisco sent his first cousin Tom Saltsman of Wenatchee a Christmas card the following Christmas. Thanks to that Arab, we stayed in touch until Tom's passing.

Sometimes our supposed enemies have better sense than we do.

Tom Saltsman - October 16, 2015 at 05:47 PM