



William Padoshek

July 10, 1924 - July 21, 2018

Our father was born on July 10, 1924 to William and Anne (Isaacson) Padoshek in Wenatchee; where his grandparents, Martin and Sophie Padoshek, were amongst the founding families. Our Dad enjoyed a lifelong love affair with his hometown and spent as much time here as possible. He graduated from Wenatchee High School in 1942 and was accepted into the Army Air Corps pilot training program. He served in the pacific theater, flying a C47 and island hopping to evacuate wounded from battle zones. Flying was a boyhood dream come true and some of his fondest memories were of those days. After leaving the service, he graduated from Occidental College in southern California. Next it was on to New York City and his first job in television as a cue card boy for his brother-in-law's prime time variety show. A short time later he returned to Wenatchee to marry our Mom, Lola Wesslen-also a Wenatchee native and WHS alumni. Mom and Dad spent their first years of married life in NYC before moving back west to California. Dad was always a quick study.

Along the way, he worked behind the scenes at Las Vegas shows, Los Angeles news, sports, game shows and even a country western music show. His wide variety of experience in early live television led to him becoming a television Producer in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. He produced shows for Ralph Edwards, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Steve Allen, Pat Boone, Red Skelton and the Lennon sisters among others. In the 1970's he started his own production company, mainly writing and producing; but often directing,

editing, even working the camera himself. His company specialized in creating short promotional and educational films for corporations such as Northwest Orient Airlines, Marriot Hotels, Santa Fe Drilling and Toyota. He loved traveling for those projects and found himself hanging off oil rigs in the North Sea, standing under planes taking off in Japan or walking through Grecian ruins. When he finally retired from the film business, Dad's greatest joy was to pack up the car with Mom and head for Wenatchee to spend time in the house where he grew up. Although he spent more of his life in California, Wenatchee was always home.

Daddy said many times that he was born at just the right time, in the perfect place and that he couldn't imagine any better life. We would have to agree. Dad was preceded in death by his parents, sister Bette Lou, his wife of 59 years- Lola and a daughter, Christen Leveque. He leaves us a legacy of love and the lessons of character, integrity, humor, personal sacrifice and the importance of family. He was greatly loved by his daughters, sons-in-law, six grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and nieces and nephew.

A family graveside service will be held Friday, August 10th at 10:00am at the Wenatchee City Cemetery.