



Alan Douglas Schurman

September 29, 1942 - February 23, 2019

As a young boy, Alan Schurman's family collected and restored old tractors, saving them from the junk man. In 1950, Alan's father, Paul Schurman held the "First Steam Threshing Bee on the West Coast," displaying and operating old farm equipment.

In 1951, Alan's uncle, Clyde Schurman and his father, Paul Schurman, saved and restored a rare Compound Russel Steam Traction Engine, documented in an article published in Iron-Man Album magazine of July 1951. Alan was only eight years old in 1950, just a spectator. Over time, his father's and uncle's love of old machinery became Alan's passion.

Alan graduated from the Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls Oregon, with a degree in Engineering, and became a teacher at Clark College in Vancouver.

Years later, Alan became the manager of the Schurman family machine shop, founded by his father. He worked there until retiring, then used his engineering and

metal

fabricating skills to restore antique tractors and engines. He also collected old iron.

Starting in 1995, Alan hosted the "Antique Tractor, Engine Show and Flea Market," held annually in July at the Schurman Iron Ranch, Ridgefield, Washington.

In 2016, Alan was elected to the National Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association, Hall of Fame, "honoring those who have made significant contributions to the collection, preservation, and exhibition of antique tractors, engines, and equipment."

Alan's skill in restoring rare tractors to original condition was widely known. Tractors restored include those made by; Holt, Best, Yuba, Samson and Bean.

Recent

projects include a 1918 Holt 120hp Caterpillar, and a 1917 Samson Sieve-Grip tractor.

Alan's most ambitious project, started seven years ago, was the reconstruction of

three large Best 75hp tractors, each weighing 14-tons. Alan started with just half of the

needed parts. He fabricated all missing parts, including the; sprockets, transmissions,

final drives, tracks and frames. One tractor required the construction of massive 7.5 foot

diameter wheels. This monumental project was nearing completion when Alan passed.

In restoring old tractors, Alan's skills were legendary; both as an engineer, and as

a machinist and welder. He was loved and deeply appreciated by those that knew him,

and respected by all who shared his passion for old machinery. He was a man

of
integrity, honesty, a man willing to share his knowledge and willing to help
others.

Someone that will be sincerely missed.

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Alan was a mentor to so many. He freely gave away his knowledge to anyone who asked. He instilled a love of antique engines and equipment that will stick with me the rest of my life.

Ben Holland - March 10, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ My fondest memory of Alan is watching him interact with the youngsters that were ready to learn what he was about to teach. Who else would take the time to show someone how to gas weld new cast iron onto a valve face and turn it down to fit and run a tractor in less than a half hour? Not many in any school. Alans contribution to the hobby he loved spanned every known corner of the interest. I hope to see you later Alan... I'll bring a fan. Larry Cronin

Larry Cronin - March 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Tribute Store - March 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ryan and Misty Smith - March 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Patty and Wayne, Evie and Randy, Steve, Doug and Eileen - March 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Jack Remillard I met Alan in the early '90's a year or so after I recovered from a bout with Cancer. I was looking for someone to rebuild my Model A engine, and found a life time friend. What a huge loss to Marcella and Family. The world of antique machinery has lost a legend. He was such a gentleman with everyone he met. I'm so thankful I got to see him this last fall. I'll miss him terribly.*

Jack Remillard - March 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ *Alan was truly an amazing man. He easy, gentle demeanor and incredible knowledge will be greatly missed. His family is in my prayers. Ellen Lancaster*

Ellen Lancaster - March 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ So many wonderful times.I will never forget the thrill of riding on the Rumley!!! Alan was so generous to share the treasures of the Iron Ranch.Thank You, Gina Conway

Gina Conway - March 02, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ We were so saddened to learn of Alan's passing. Please accept our condolences. Alan was like a dad to me and like a grandfather to David. Alan was a great guy who will be greatly missed. Rest in Place my friend and we will see you again someday. The Boyce Family

The Boyce Family - March 01, 2019 at 12:00 AM

WT

“ I was sadden to hear of Alan's Passing but know he is with the rest of his family and i will see him again. He is no longer suffering and is pain free with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! RIP my friend until we meet again!

Wayne Thackery - March 01, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ My condolences to the family. Please be comforted by the Bible's promise of the resurrection. John 5:28,29, Acts 24:15.

Sandra - February 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM