



Edward Neil Van Horn

January 27, 1948 - December 28, 2020

NEIL VAN HORN, 72, passed away on December 28, 2020 in Vancouver WA.

He

was born in Albany OR on January 27, 1948 to Floyd and Gertrude Van Horn.

He joined

His older brother Gary, and a few years later, sister Roberta, completed the family.

The family moved often, following Floyd's work. They lived in Sweet Home OR, Port

Angeles WA, Tacoma WA, Portland OR, Grants Pass OR and Albany, OR.

Roberta,

Gary and Neil were their own best friends.

Neil graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1966. While in school. Neil also

worked at the local mill which his father managed. Neil also completed a year of college.

In 1967 Neil enlisted in the US Army and fought in Viet Nam in the 6th BN of the 31st

Infantry. He was honorably discharged in 1969 with the rank of Sergeant.

In 1968 Neil married Marci Ponzoha, the mother of his children. They later divorced

In 1970, Neil's son, Dominic, was born and in 1973, his daughter Kristin was born.

He loved his children fiercely.

In 1969 Neil joined the Portland Police Bureau where he developed his strong dedication to the investigation of Drug Cases. Neil served on a DEA task force.

In 1977 Neil was hired by the Drug Enforcement Administration and remained in

Portland for several years until he was hired by the US Customs Service where he

retired in 2002. During this time he served on the ROCN task force. All the while, in

each agency, he continued his drug investigations.

In 1996 Neil and Marilyn Nicholson Ley were married in the home they remodeled for

20 years. This was a labor of love for them.

Neil was a skilled craftsman and woodworker. Together Neil and Marilyn remodeled

several homes and built two more. One, a cabin at Fishhawk Lake. They built their dream

home in Woodland WA in 2008. Neil finally had property and a huge shop to house his

collector cars and motor home.

Neil and Marilyn toured the US each year from about 1990 in the motor home to vacation and research genealogy. Neil loved his dogs and took them with him.

Neil was also an outdoorsman, be it fishing, hunting or relaxing in the sun and water of Mexico. He would try anything or go anywhere.

Neil developed so many friends in all of these facets of his life. He was liked by all. He was a good, generous man.

He was predeceased by his parents, Floyd and Gertrude Van Horn

Surviving Neil are his wife Marilyn Van Horn, daughter Kristin Van Horn, son Dominic Van Horn (spouse Rachel), brother Gary Van Horn, sister Roberta Roche (spouse Jerry).

Five grandchildren: Chloe and Ian Rienecker and Abigail, Jonas and Wyatt Van Horn.

Also several nieces and nephews.

Family services will be at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Vancouver. Neil will be buried with military honors beside his parents. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to any Humane Society or the Alzheimer's Association

Tribute Wall

RL

“ Next time I get to stand on the overturned car in the water and you get to go underwater to get the girl out.

Robin Long - January 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Neil was such a pleasure to work with at ROCN. I also remember all of the fun times at the holidays parties ROCN would have at his beautiful home. Neil you will be truly missed!

Phyllis Peterson - January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Neil was always so nice to my grandchildren and great nieces. I remember when he was teaching Jossie to fish

Kathryn Cardona - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Neil was always patient and helpful to me as a young investigator in DVD. I'm grateful for what he taught me. He made his mark and left a great legacy.

Jim Ferraris - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I have to be careful how I say this, Marilyn you will remember. At my "buy sh** for John party after my divorce party I was unwrapping presents. I got mostly toilet paper and condoms. I was wondering what to do if I ran out of the second item. Neil said "don't worry you can always wash them and reuse them". The laughter went on and on.

John Brighton - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ There were only a few times that we worked together and one of them was with Leo. Neil was a very talented investigator and when we were done he got back into the car and we left. I have often wondered what somebody thought when they were doing a remodel and found weird wires and stuff. When I think about those times It makes me smile. He was always with a smile and a little twinkle in his eye that made you wonder what he was working on. And know that he was always working on something!

Martin Rowley - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ So many great memories with you and Neil. Mexico, Bahamas little side adventures etc. The classic memory I have is when I went to the retirees golf tournament in Reno and Neil and I concocted a scenario to play on Greg Pluchos. We got a old golf club and inserted it into Greg's golf bag on a water hole and Neil asked Greg if he could borrow one of Greg's clubs for his next shot. Greg agreed and Neil purposely hit a bad shot into the water, pretending to be mad Neil grabbed the old club and said a few not so nice words and threw the club into the water. Greg was speechless and almost in tears as he thought it was his prized club. Neil kept apologizing over and over and poor Greg was like a lost puppy. We had put Greg's club in one of our bags so he would think it was in the lake. Many laughs at the end of the round. Neil will be missed by many but his legacy will forever carry forward by those who loved him.

Doug Kosloske - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

SR

“*ROCN was probably the high point of my career. Working with you and the other members of good, good people made it so. I appreciate our short time together. Very special. Our "boys trip" to Central Oregon hunting rats, fishing, exploring and sight seeing is such a fond memory to me. You were a class act, a craftsman, loved 'vintage ', and I admired that. Thanks for the good memories Neil.*

Scott Ryon - January 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

KD

“*With Love, Jason and Kim*

Kim Darling - January 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RF

“*With caring thoughts,*

Ron Vian & family - January 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LR

“*Neil will remain in our hearts forever, he was such a good man. Marilyn remember we love and care about you and will always be her for you.*



Love, Dan, Mary, Kara, Kellie & River - January 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM