



Eugene "Gene" Richard Lorenz

January 1, 1947 - July 10, 2013

Eugene (Gene) Richard Lorenz Born: January 1, 1947 Died: July 10, 2013
Eugene (Gene) R. Lorenz passed away in Vancouver, WA, after many years of chronic heart, lung, and kidney disease. He is survived by his wife, Sandi Allinger of Vancouver, his only daughter, Erin Kathleen Lorenz-Taylor of Hillsboro, OR, and his two grandsons, Cyrus R. Taylor and Linkin J. Taylor, both of Vancouver, WA. Gene Lorenz was born January 4, 1947 to Walter and Hattie Bassel Lorenz, both of Vancouver. He lived his entire life in Vancouver, Washington. Gene graduated from Fort Vancouver High School in 1965. During his high school years, Gene was actively involved in the photography club, was a student photographer for the school's yearbook. Gene also was a very active member in his high school's reunion organization participating in the planning of the many high school reunions over the years for Fort Vancouver's Alumni. Upon graduation from high school, Gene attended Clark Community College and obtained his Associate Degree in Fine Arts. Gene planned to further his education by attending Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, CA. However, Uncle Sam had other plans for Gene. While waiting for his classes at Brooks Institute to begin in the Fall, Gene was drafted into the Army. Gene completed two tours of duty in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged at the rank of Lieutenant. Gene returned home from Vietnam and within a few months, he began his course of study at Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara. Gene graduated from Brooks in September, 1972 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Professional Photography.

After graduating from Brooks Institute, Gene returned to Vancouver and began working for Bruno Studio's as a school photographer. At that time, Bruno's had studios in Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia, Vancouver, Portland, Mall 205, Beaverton, Eugene and Medford. In early 1975, each of the existing Bruno Studio locations were sold to individuals who retained the Bruno name. Gene purchased the Vancouver Bruno Studio in partnership with Charles Winningham. Gene quickly became known as "Mr. Bruno" throughout SW Washington area elementary, middle and high schools. In addition to school pictures, Gene was also an extremely talented portrait photographer as well as a premier wedding photographer. Gene rarely, if every went anywhere without his favorite cameras. Everywhere and every place Gene went was a "photographic opportunity" (Photo Op). Gene's interests were not confined to just photography. He collected, restored and repaired cameras. He was also a member of the Beaver Chapter in the Ford Model A Club of America. He once purchased and completely restored a 1930 Ford Model A 2-Door Sedan, which he and his daughter enjoyed many Sunday drives and activities with the club. In addition to his love of photography, he also loved gardening and had a very impressive Koi Pond in his backyard that he built and created himself. He named this little pond "Our Little Lake Lorenz". Gene also considered himself to be a "master" chef and was particularly good at barbequing and smoking just about any kind of fish, fowl and beef. Gene Lorenz's always smiling face was loved by many and will be missed by all. Gene was interred at Evergreen Memorial Gardens 1101 NE 112th Avenue, Vancouver, WA on Thursday: July 18th at 3pm. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held for Gene on Sunday: August 18th at 4pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 9900 SE Mill Plain Blvd. Vancouver, WA.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 09:23 PM



“ *My dad always saw the good & beauty in everything- I think thats why he photographed it all- literally EVERYTHING! He was a jack of all trades, & contradictory to the saying, he also mastered them all! He was a genius at his every endeavor & freely educated any & all who would listen- even some who wouldnt! I regret all the time I didn't spend with him in his last days. I miss him every day -& I haven't been the same since he died. I love you dad & I can't wait to see you again. I haven't done a very good job at taking care of Sandi for you in your absence, as I can barely take care of myself. Sandi is ok though & has the support of many friends & her family. I don't know why I'm writing this as if you are going to be reading it- maybe its therapeutic for me, Im not sure. I love you & miss you everyday dad. I'm sorry for not being the best daughter I could be. Mistakes seem to be the main theme of my life. May you peacefully rest in God's Kingdom now and forever on dad. I love you.*

Erin K. Lorenz - August 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ My dad always saw the good & beauty in everything- I think thats why he photographed it all- literally EVERYTHING! He was a jack of all trades, & contradictory to the saying, he also mastered them all! He was a genius at his every endeavor & freely educated any & all who would listen- even some who wouldnt! I regret all the time I didn't spend with him in his last days. I miss him every day -& I haven't been the same since he died. I love you dad & I can't wait to see you again. I haven't done a very good job at taking care of Sandi for you in your absence, as I can barely take care of myself. Sandi is ok though & has the support of many friends & her family. I don't know why I'm writing this as if you are going to be reading it- maybe its therapeutic for me, Im not sure. I love you & miss you everyday dad. I'm sorry for not being the best daughter I could be. Mistakes seem to be the main theme of my life. May you peacefully rest in God's Kingdom now and forever on dad. I love you.

Erin K. Lorenz - August 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I am deeply saddened to hear about Eugene; he is an icon in my life ever since Arnada Elementary. I have so much appreciated over the years his dedication to photography and am eternally grateful for his efforts to record the moments in time that are so precious to us. I will miss him and the reunions won't be the same without him and his slide shows.

Janis Wheeler Pederson - July 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ To Sandi, Erin, Cyrus and Linkin: I'm very sorry for your loss. I have several fond memories of Gene during my childhood and then also the few times I got the pleasure of seeing him years later. He was very caring, always smiling and happy with a cheerful laugh. I'll always cherish the photo he took at Bruno Studios in the 1970s of my sisters and I. I'm thankful for knowing him.

Beverly Moran-Petterson - July 21, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ To Sandi, Erin, Cyrus and Linkin: I'm very sorry for your loss. I have several fond memories of Gene during my childhood and then also the few times I got the pleasure of seeing him years later. He was very caring, always smiling and happy with a cheerful laugh. I'll always cherish the photo he took at Bruno Studios in the 1970s of my sisters and I. I'm thankful for knowing him.

Beverly Moran-Petterson - July 21, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Gene was a great guy. He was always cheerful and a kind man. We have many fond memories of him. He was a loving husband to Sandi. We shall miss him.

Jill & Lanny Cawley - July 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Gene and I used to date in high school and remained friends for several years. I have not seen him for many years and often wondered how his life was. He was a very good man and excellent photographer. Now he can rest in peace and add to his beautiful portfolio from Heaven. My condolences to his family. Linda

Linda Hauff Campbell - July 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ I worked with both Gene and Chuck in the 90's. I have many fond memories of them. Gene, in particular, was very prevalent in my life at that time. I went on several photo shoots with him at school functions and dinners at his house. He was a great cook (nobody made liver and onions like him!) and an incredible person with a big heart. I am very saddened by his passing.

Lori Culley - July 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I have been thinking of you Sandi. I know this must be a difficult time for you. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

karen miller - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ Dear Sandy & Family... I'm so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. My hope for you is that you can support each other at this time and reflect on the good things and experiences that Gene's life taught you. Comfort and Peace! Peggy

Peggy Leinweber - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Thoughts and prayers for Sandi and the whole family! Gene was such a great guy! He will be missed!

Delanah - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ Sandi, my prayers are with you. Gene was a loving and kind man. I'm happy for the time you had together. He is now in the Lord's loving arms.

Sharon Eveland - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *Sandi, Many prayers for you. I know Gene would like you to be happy, your love for each other is eternal.*

Melanie has sent you a heart. - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *Sandi We are so sorry for your loss. Its so hard to think of you without Gene by your side. We love you both. We will miss Gene and all his kindness!*

Mari and Don Wallingford - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ *My self and Ivan Sr send our prayer's and thought's to Sandi. We grieve with you in your loss. We are here for you when ever you need us. Love You Sandi. Ivan & Georgia.*

Georgia Johnson - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *My condolences and prayers go out to Gene's wife Sandi to his ONLY child (my daughter), Erin and Gene's only grandchildren, Cyrus and Linkin. Gene always had a smile on his face and a camera in his hand. Gene's suffering is over and he's off to a new adventure and many more "photo-ops". Rest in Peace Gene.*

Merlene G. Cobb - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *We love you both. My heart hurts for you, Sandi. Gene is in a place where he feels no pain now. Our love goes with him. Doug and Jamie*

Jamie Reudink - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ We are so sorry for the loss with Gene's passing. Our heart and warmth goes out to Aunt Sandy and Gene's family. Gene also loved trains, and we remember fondly the train set he gave to our boys, Nathan and Noah. Much love, Mark and Mikhaila Reudink

Mark and Mikhaila Reudink - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ I loved Gene for many years. He was always positive caring and giving. He was very sick for years and never complained. His last words to me were "You are so beautiful".

Sandi - July 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM