



Leo Allen Williamson

November 15, 1924 - March 8, 2011

Beloved by many family and friends, Leo Williamson passed away on March 8, 2011 at the VA Hospital in Portland, OR. Raised in Nebraska during the 1920's and 30's, he often regaled his children with tales of the farm life. With a sparkle in his eyes, he would share stories of his pony Pal, and his favorite dog, Moody, along with tales of his many mischievous childhood adventures. He left the farm as a young man to attend a Bible college, but his love of animals, his joy of working in the soil, his belief in honest hard work, and a streak of boyhood impishness never faded. Over his eight decades of life, he held various jobs, including serving in the Navy as a baker on a destroyer escort during WWII and ultimately owning his own court transcribing business in Alaska during the 1980's. He lived in several states, always preferring to be near mountains where he could hunt and hike. His love of nature was continually shared with his loved ones on camping and backpacking trips, especially in California and Alaska. His other passions included writing, reading, gardening and baking, all of which he loved to share with those around him. As a father, he raised six children over the course of two marriages of first 30 and then almost 35 years. He leaves behind a gap that simply cannot be filled and a love that will always be remembered.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I was sad to discover on this May day that Leo had passed away in March. Having lost touch with him when he moved from Alaska, I was searching online today to see if I could find him and see how he and Nancy were doing. An article in Alaska Magazine told me that he was in Vancouver, WA. But I was a little late. I know Leo had a strong faith, and I know that he is just off on a wonderful new adventure. My prayers are with those he has left behind, his wife Nancy, all of his children, and other family and friends. I know you have all lost someone very special. I first met Leo in the early '70's when I went to work as a court reporter in the office that he managed and worked in as a transcriber. I would describe Leo as my mentor. I benefited from all his knowledge of the court reporting business. Three years later I moved back to Alaska,, where I had grown up, to work. Shortly after, I encouraged Leo to move to Alaska, because we could use someone with his experience and talent. He and I and another court reporter eventually purchased the business I was working for, and Leo continued his excellent work as a transcriber and kept the office running smoothly. I remember when Leo met and married Nancy and the exciting birth of their son. Leo was very proud of all of his children and talked of them often. I can still hear Leo's laugh and the twinkle in his eyes. He had a love of life and an interest in many things and was very easy to talk to. I picture him sitting, relaxed, at his desk, with his bushy beard, and his fingers flying over the keyboard. I will treasure the memories of my friend Leo. Jeannie Snodgrass

Jeannie Snodgrass - May 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FG

“ A good Christian friend, I will miss him. We had many good times together in our younger years and I loved him in our Christian walk together. I know I will see him again in the next life.

Floyd Garrison - March 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ Uncle Leo--I was proud to be able to call you Uncle. An articulate and astute person in speech & writing. It's a pleasure to have his writings & a blessing to have his family stories in print (writings that appreciate with time). It was such a pleasure to have gone fishing with him as a lad--especially in his pickup camper. It was a privilege to visit with him in California--both at Santa Rosa & downtown San Francisco. I was delighted to hear about his Alaskan adventures--from hunting to acting. But I especially enjoyed the correspondence we had in these later years and I came to respect his faith and spirituality. Uncle Leo--you are missed.

Nephew Tom Williamson - March 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Nancy, and the entire family. I have fond memories of my Uncle Leo. He was loved and will not be forgotten.

Ruby Williamson Farrell - March 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Sending my prayers to all of you. Grief is a hard thing, but if you know Jesus, He will be there with you as you go through all the hard times. As christians we still hurt and grief but we have the Hope of seeing them again. I know Leo is with Jesus. Love and Prayers, Sandy, Romans 8:28

Sandy Hill - March 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ Thank you Leo for documenting my weirdness. Love and hugs to the whole family.

Heather McFarland - March 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ For Nancy and all the family, I send all my love and support. I have many wonderful and fun memories of Leo - laughing together (rolling on the floor laughing) in your condominium in Anchorage about a change Nancy made to my salad dressing recipe, sharing our love of Louis L'Amour and all the westerns, camping together, and sharing gardening stories (so thankful for his advice on gardening). Glad you both made it to Quincy since your move back west. He will be remembered. All my love.

Linda Cayot - March 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ My Dad will be missed in so many ways that it is impossible to list them all. I think the biggest thing about him was the the size of his heart. It was big enough to encompass 4 children that were not biologically his own with love, and family. He taught me what it meant to be a man, and gave me many of the values I hold dear to this day. He nurtured my love of food and cooking, and though I joined the "wrong" service I felt proud to be a cook in the Army. That I was somehow following in his footsteps. Food was a huge part of his life. While hiking the Resurrection Pass trail on the last day of a seven day trip he spun hamburgers out of clouds to keep a footsore 10 year old moving.

Grant Williamson - March 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LZ

“ My memories are very special of Uncle Leo. I have all his stories and several letters he has written me. I will miss corresponding with him and talking to him on the phone. I am thankful that God put me in his family.

Lois Zimmerman - March 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ My prayers, thoughts and love are with you all at this time. I have lots of wonderful memories of my dear Uncle Leo. Getting to work with him in SF was a wonderful pleasure. Spending time with him and Nancy in the dark hotel during a storm a few years ago in Des Moines will always be a treasured memory. I love you all and am praying for your healing.

Vicki Homewood - March 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ I am remembering Uncle Leo and all the fond memories of him, especially from my childhood, as I only saw him a few times when I was an adult. The memories will keep him alive in our hearts. My love to all of you.

Ruth Williamson Flyte - March 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Dear Nancy and all six cousins; I am so sorry about Uncle Leo, he was a very special man!! I'm so glad I got to be with him about 10 yrs. ago, I'll treasure that forever! I always loved when you all would come visit in the summer or over Xmas vacation. Dagna and Verlie, remember when we hiked a hill out here and he let us shoot his gun?? I thought he was so awesome!! My thoughts and prayers are with all of you! Love, Glenda

Glenda Williamson - March 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Our thoughts, love and prayers are with you at this time. I fondly remember Uncle Leo singing "Evening Prayer" at church in Lexington, NE. One line of the song; "Oh guide me and love me and my keeper be; dear Lord forgive" is especially comforting at this time. We can picture Uncle Leo in the presence of the Great Guide and Keeper...receiving the gift of a joyful forever life.

Marcia Williamson Koch - March 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM