



## Neil McKinley Crocker Jr.

June 7, 1947 - April 2, 2011

Neil McKinley Crocker JR. died tragically in a motor vehicle accident on April 2nd 2011 in Cougar, WA. Neil was a union ironworker for 30 years. His work was his passion. If he wasn't working he was helping someone out. He deeply enjoyed watching his grandchildren play sports and buying gifts for the people he loved. He was a generous man with a big kind heart willing to help anyone at anytime. Neil is survived by his mother Rose Neal Crocker; sisters, Susan Zajicek, Lynn Marie Garza and Donna Ellen Crocker; the love of his life, Lois Crocker; daughter, Taya Justice (Ron); two sons, Neil Crocker III and Kevin Crocker (Rae Lynn); seven grandchildren, Jonathan, Amanda, Matthew, Mia, Ian, Keira and Chance. Services will be held Sat. April 9th at 3p.m. at Evergreen Memorial Gardens with a celebration of life immediately following. PLEASE SIGN NEILS GUESTBOOK AT: [www.columbian.com.obits](http://www.columbian.com.obits)

# Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

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**Evergreen Memorial Gardens** - July 03, 2025 at 07:28 PM

DG

“ Dear Uncle Neil, I never got a chance to meet you in my adulthood but I sure did meet you twice in my childhood and I will never forget the gratitude you showed us by welcoming us into your home in Washington State. I'm your sister Lynne Marie Garza oldest son Daniel Perez Garza, I was 8yrs old when your late sister Neilaine Crocker Bauman Purchased Amtrak Train Tickets for me and my two other siblings Jamie Perez Garza, and late Brian David Garza and my mother Lynne Marie Garza. It was one of the best trips I could ever remember West Palm Beach, FL to Vancouver WA . The longest train ride of my life but the opportunities and caring family patiently awaiting our arrival was worth every mile. Upon arriving you greeted us with big hugs and some stuffed teddy bears. The weather was so cold I've never felt cold quite like that. Driving through thick tall trees, rocky cliffs, wet and winding roads, even spotted a few deer along the way. I remember pulling up to the house and stepped out of the car and into my first ever snow. Amazed and curious I was not properly dressed for this experience so we were quickly rushed into the house where we where shown our room beautifully decorated in light blue paint, fresh cleaned carpet and lots of toys, games, atari video game, a TV, and plenty of books to read. Uncle Neil and aunt Lois I can't thank you enough for saving us from my abusive father David Garza who tried to physically hurt my mother and us boys. You brought life back into us and a sense of security as uncle Neil would say he better not show up here if he knows what's good for him. I woke up that morning to light snow falling and I couldn't wait to get outside and play in it, make snow angels. Aunt Lois made us breakfast and we were waiting on Cousin Taya and Kevin to come over so we could all go out and explore the area. It was so beautiful. I do remember all my family from my mother's side. I wish we were close would love to catch up I've always thought about you all and miss you all so very much. I have flown to Washington State several times but could never locate anyone. Please if you read this reach out to me my mother Lynne would be so delighted that we are able to connect once again. I'd hop on a flight immediately to visit. Hope



*all is well and uncle Neil rest in peace and watch over us 🙏🥹.  
Bring us together so we can cherish the past and the future. God  
bless*

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**Daniel Garza** - March 24, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *We will miss you Neil. Our thoughts with the family and his many friends. Dr. Dave and Miss Paula*

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**David and Paula Lee** - April 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Neil was the nicest, big-hearted man. It was an honor to know him and to be able to call him family. He was a big part of the Fitzgerald family and will be missed dearly! RIP Neil - we love you.*

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**Becky Fitzgerald - Lutt** - April 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Neil was one of the most knowledgeable and skilled Ironworkers that I had ever worked with. Neil had a very unique way and an amazing ability to pass the old school ways onto the next generation. It was a true pleasure to have had the opportunity to know and work with Neil. He will be missed*

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**Robert Reams** - April 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of Neil's family. What a wonderful friend. He will be sorely missed by us.*

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**richard and jackie marcotte** - April 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Neil was definitely one of a kind and will be missed

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**Jeff Carlson** - April 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ My Dad, Larry Fitzgerald, and Neil were very close friends for almost 30 years, since 1982 when they worked on the KOIN tower in downtown Portland together. Neil was like a part of the family and will be missed so much. He was such a caring, sweet and generous person. We love you Neil!

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**Stephanie Emerson** - April 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM