



Raymond Hickey

October 1, 1927 - April 14, 2010

RAYMOND HICKEY October 1, 1927 - April 14, 2010 "Ray always had an open door, a listening ear, a generous handshake and a caring heart." On April 14, 2010, while at his Washougal, WA residence, Ray Hickey, 82 years old, peacefully entered through the gates of heaven. Ray was a leader in the business community, a philanthropist, a mentor to our youth, and a wonderful role model. He was born in Victor, Montana, October 1, 1927 to Wesley and Clara Hickey. Ray joins his parents, 9 siblings (7 sisters and 2 brothers), and one son, John Boutinen, that preceded him to their eternal resting place. Ray grew up during the depression on his family's farm in Victor, Montana, and later moved to Idaho. One of his siblings saw an ad in the newspaper for a deckhand position. He was hired by Tidewater Barge Lines in 1951 as a deckhand. Ray worked his way up through the company and eventually bought the company. He retired from Tidewater in 1996. Tidewater was a vital part of Ray's life and Ray was a vital part of what Tidewater is today. Ray was very proud of publishing his book "Don't Tell Me It Can't Be Done", chronicling his work ethic, character, and values that made him so special. As an enlisted man in the USMC, Ray spent time serving in Tientsin, China with the 1st Tank Battalion. He was stationed there from 1944-1945. He was very proud of his service to his country and encouraged others who were interested in serving. Ray was a true sports fan, sticking by his teams win or lose. After attending an Engineering Trade school in Chicago he became a lifelong "Cubs" fan. Ray even had two cats named "Cubby" and "Sox" for his beloved Chicago teams.

He enjoyed watching sports on television and attending games. The Blazers, Seahawks, and Mariners were games he liked to attend when he could. It didn't matter where he was, every Sunday he had a "pool" going during the football season, and always had a Super Bowl "pool". He enjoyed swimming, spending time on his property and spoiling his animals (which include llamas, donkeys, and goats). Ray truly loved his family and friends and time spent with them was cherished immensely. He would always call everyone afterwards and say what a special day it was for him. Ray loved with such a big and generous heart. He was a wonderful father and grandfather. Ray is survived by his children: son, Wes Hickey, his wife Diane, and granddaughters, Mackenzie and Sierra; daughter, Cindy Nesbitt, her husband John, and grandsons, Trevor, Nathan, Dawson, and granddaughter, Jasmine; daughter, Linda Hickey and granddaughter, Solana; first wife, Jean Adair; Debbie Boutinen and Megan Boutinen. He is also survived by numerous, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Visitation will be from 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Friday, April 23, at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, 1101 NE 112th Avenue, Vancouver, WA. A funeral for Ray will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Vancouver First Church of God, 3300 NE 78th Street, Vancouver, WA. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. Reception will follow. Interment will be private. Donations can be made to the YWCA Clark County, Doernbecher Children's Hospital Foundation, or the Ray Hickey Hospice House.

Tribute Wall



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Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 08:23 PM

DR

“ My Mother was Doris Bolin, a sister to Raymond. The Hickey family was close and fun-loving. My Mother loved all her sisters and brothers but Raymond was her favorite. She was always so happy to see him or hear from him. I lost touch with Uncle Raymond and my other Hickey family members when Mom died and have missed them very much. Growing up, I always loved and admired Mom's family. They were truly a great family. Grandma Hickey was always stern but with a good heart. Grandpa Hickey was as nice a person you'll ever meet. Go with God, Uncle Raymond. I know you're in Heaven and once again with all your family. I'll always remember you with love.

Dorothy Bolin Rhodes - January 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Sorry to hear of Ray's passing. When Bob passed away last October, Ray came to visit me. I thought how thoughtful of him but that was Ray, always thinking about the other person. Over the years Bob had sought out Ray's advice and it was always good advice. Ray will be missed. Cheri Shaw Columbia Electric

Cheri Shaw - April 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Linda, Cindy and Wes I was sorry to hear of Ray's passing. It was a privilege to have been one of his doctors over the past 15 years. He was always upbeat and positive even when ill. I enjoyed our many talks about the Mariners and Blazers, through good years and bad.

duane lundeberg,md - April 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Linda and Family I'm so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. He will be missed by so many because he was such an extraordinary man. I feel so honored and blessed to have been your suite attendant at Safeco Field.

Carolyn Beaulaurier - April 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Dear Linda and Family, I want to extend my condolences to you and your family upon the death of your father. Linda, I was your first grade teacher when you attended Walnut Grove Elementary School. I remember your blond curly hair and your studiousness and quietness. I was aware of your father's position with Tidewater Barge. I always think of your family when I drive past the little brick house you lived in at the top of the hill. I have followed your dad's career via the newspaper and know how active your family has been throughout the years. I did talk to your sister Cindy about you at a Confluence Project event. Having lost both of my parents, I understand some of the grief you are going through. As you well know, your father had a great life story. I expect that your services today are going to be a wonderful celebration of his life and legacy. My sincere best wishes go out to all of you. Sincerely, Sandy Hayslip

Sandy Hayslip - April 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Cindy, John and family What a wonderful Father and Grandfather you shared your life with...I know you all must be very sad at this time. Wanted to let you know that the we have been thinking of you all. May God bring you comfort and peace. Love The Stockmans

Kerri Stockman - April 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ I would like to express my sincere condolences to the family of Ray on the recent passing. Ray Hickey and the legacy he left will never be forgotten. May he rest in peace and I pray is reunited with his loved ones that passed before him.

Ron Rowe & Family - April 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KZ

“ Ray Hickey was incredibly kind to me when I knew him. He helped me when I was in law school, and I have carried his generosity and kindness with me in my work as a public servant -- for the courts, and now with the US Attorney's office. He had a great smile, and a wonderful, hopeful spirit. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Kelly A. Zusman - April 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Ray, I had the true pleasure of being your banker for four years. During that time, you taught me many lessons on how business should be done. Honesty, trust, cooperation, communication and a healthy dose of passion for work were all attributes you lived everyday. I have admired your constant work in the community and sharing of your gifts. It is not a cliché in any way to say we all will miss you and that constant smile!

Tim Stempel - April 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ I worked for Union Oil Co. and Tidewater was a "house account". Union Oil mgrs. realized the value of assigning Sales Dept. trainees to the Tidewater and both companies got positive results. Mr. Hickey was well respected on the river by his employees and customers. I got to deal directly with Mr. Hickey on three occasions during my marketing career with Union Oil. I've got good memories of the Cpt. Lew S. Russell, Jr. and keep an eye on her in the Multnomah Channel. Ray Hickey is the Gentleman of the River.

Bob Waine - April 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Uncle Ray, from early on you were always special to me. You were my hero then and you still are. You have touched so many lives and your love and friendship will last forever. Your friends and family and all the people that you touched will always remember-Ray Hickey-a gentle kind and generous man.

Ron and Penny Kovick - April 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Mr. Ray Hickey, Gone but never to be forgotten. I was his Captain, it was such an honor & privilege. He called us his friends. Rest in Peace

Capt. Scotty & Clara Fletcher - April 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Dearest Family Members, With the passing of Ray Hickey,our special friend, we send our deepest sympathy to each one of you in his family. Ray was a dear, dear friend & we are thankful our friendship began with the connection with the Seattle Mariner's & his suite #16 that Moose sold him. Ray not only used his suite for his own pleasure to invite his family & friends but considered it a privilege to invite those less able to enjoy seeing a Mariners game in a luxury suite. We believe Ray now has the best "seat" in the "house" to see the Mariner's! To say that Ray was one of a kind with a special unique warm generous heart, is truly an understatement! There are no words to express our deepest feelings! We loved Ray so much! We believe death will not erase the friendship we shared with Ray, a friendship we will cherish & treasured forever! With God's Love & Blessings And Ours, Moose & Dorothy Clausen

Moose & Dorothy Clausen - April 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BN

“ Ray You lived the American Dream. With all your hard work and dedication it paid off for you and for thousands of other people. It was a honor to be your Captain. It was my privilege and honor to have you as my friend as well as a friend to the Nidick Family. We will miss you forever You will never be forgotten With Our Love Bill and Dee Nidick And Family

Bill & Dee Nidick - April 19, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Our Hearts Goes Out To All Family And Friends.... I Have A lot Of Good Memories Over The Years Working With And For " Ray " On The River.... May You're Legacy Live On For Ever

Ramon Morton - April 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *Enjoyed working with Ray at TBL.A very special man I will never forget.*

Fred Cloe - April 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *From your niece who always loved you.You can be proud of the legacy you have left all of us. Not many people can compare to your kindness, generosity and compassion for those who truly needed it. You are the "voice in the wildnerness" for children, the elderly and their families. What a tribute to your life. I know that the first person you met was your mother, Clara..how much she loved you and how much love you gave her in return. She was so proud of you! We all are, especially those of us who have had the privilege and honor of knowing you.*

Gail Williams - April 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM