



Roger L. Porter

May 31, 1935 - February 14, 2025

Roger L. Porter, beloved husband, coach and friend, passed away on February 14, 2025, at the age of 89 in Boring, Oregon. He was born on May 31, 1935, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Willard and Vera Porter. In 1946, the Porter family relocated to Vancouver, Washington, where Roger graduated from Vancouver High School in 1953. It was during high school that he and six other friends formed the "Slo Poks" car club, a club that remains the oldest and largest of its kind in the United States. Roger designed the club's plaque and jacket emblem, which continues to be used to this day. Roger's love for education and sports led him to attend Whitworth and Clark College before earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Lewis and Clark College in 1957. He also played football for the Pioneers under the guidance of Coach Joe Houston. Following graduation, Roger answered the call of duty by joining the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served honorably. Upon discharge, he moved to Portland, Oregon and began his career with the Union Pacific Railroad Traffic Office. However, Roger's true passion for football never waned. While working for the railroad, he returned to school, earning a Bachelor's degree in education from Portland State University. Between 1962 and 1969, Roger coached football and taught art at David Douglas High School, where he led the Scots to a State Championship victory in 1965. During his time at David Douglas, he met Joan Fast, the love of his life and future wife, who was an English teacher at the school. Roger and Joan married and spent 54 wonderful years together until Joan's passing in 2024. Roger's football coaching career continued to

flourish as he and Joan moved to Eugene in 1970, where he coached under Jerry Frei at the University of Oregon while earning his Master's degree there. In 1972, Roger began coaching football and teaching art (ceramics, design, and metal/jewelry) at Mount Hood Community College. Under his coaching, the team won the NWAACC League championships in 1975 and 1977. Roger was inducted into the NWAACC Hall of Fame in 2005, a testament to his dedication and success in football coaching. He retired in 1993, completing a 31-year career in teaching. Roger was an accomplished artist, with his works exhibited and sold in galleries over the years. He had a warm sense of humor and a quick wit that left a lasting impression on all who knew him. He was a true Gemini - a man of two sides. He loved football, Schnauzers and blueberries. He was tough yet sensitive at the same time. Roger is survived by his sister-in-law, Judy (Jim Cornett), sister-in-law, Carol Hagerman, and brother-in-law, Jerry Fast (Linda). He is also remembered fondly by Stafford and Laurie Mays and their sons, Parker and Taylor, who knew him as Grandpa Coach Porter. Roger's legacy will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and the countless lives he touched throughout his career as a teacher, coach, and artist. He will be deeply missed but never forgotten. A Celebration of Life will be held at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, March 22, 2025 at 12:30pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Roger's honor to the Oregon Humane Society. Rest in peace, Coach Porter.

Tribute Wall

JT

“ Met Roger at the Union Pacific Traffic Dept.in 1960. We have been friends since . Even though I have been in Atlanta for over 50 years we stayed in touch. We both had an interest in cars & football. Good guy. Will miss him

John Trout - August 10, 2025 at 02:45 PM

RH

“ Roger was a cousin of my grandmother here in Iowa. I went to visit him and Joan when I was about 13. It's been 35 years and I still remember his dog wally and the adventures of that trip. To this day I use a ceramic cup that he made. Rest easy and say hi to grandma ginny.

Ryan Hill - April 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DV

“ I was a childhood friend of Roger who lived across the street from me in Vancouver. Many good memories when we were kids. Rest in peace Roger.

Don Vance - April 11, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Coach, you were great! You were responsible for giving me the chance to play senior year and became a good friend over the years! Easy to talk with, funny, and a genuine good guy! I so enjoyed our conversations on the phone over the last 20 years! I hope to see you on the other side so we can do the same again!
RIP

 Dick Hooff

Dick Hooff - March 30, 2025 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ *Roger and Joan,*

You two were such great neighbors and will be truly missed. I will always cherish our conversations we had, I won't forget all the goodies you gave to Bronx (our Bulldog), the nice blanket Joan made for Renee and I, the corvette ride, and lastly the Coors light beer you always left on the porch after the back lawn got mowed. Rest In Peace.

Gavin and Renee Price (old neighbors)

Gavin Price - March 22, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Roger was most long-time friend I ever had. He and I shared several aspects of our lives, graduating from the old Vancouver High School (Roger 1953, me 1954), the Marine Corps, the Traffic Office of the Union Pacific Railroad in Portland, and teaching in the public schools. We kept in touch from high school on.*

Roger was a true friend, keeping in touch over the years, mostly by phone, as I lived in New York and later in Utah. His calls were a source of amusement for my wife and I, as his humor and memories were unique.

When we traveled to the Vancouver-Portland area we always got together with Roger and Joan in Boring or at a restaurant. Staying in touch with valued friends was very important to Roger. I loved talking football with him, and learning about mutual friends. Roger was one of a kind, a true friend who I will always miss. David Pehlke (Pelican) Rog always called me that. Ann Arbor, Michigan

David Pehlke - March 13, 2025 at 12:00 AM

Jl

“ You are all in my heart today.



Jillith - February 28, 2025 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ A former Marine and a great football coach at all levels .
SAM WHITEHEAD

Sam Whitehead - February 26, 2025 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Roger, you were the life of the party!

Jack Stambaugh - February 19, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens
Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

A Memorial Tree was planted for Roger L. Porter - February 17, 2025 at 12:00 AM