



Wayne Miller

April 12, 1936 - May 16, 2019

Wayne Miller, 83, of Vancouver, WA, passed away May 16, 2019. He was born on Easter Sunday, April 12, 1936 to Florence and Jesse Miller. He grew up in Portland, OR and graduated from Grant High School.

Wayne met the love of his life, Marilyn Childs while on a triple blind date with his buddies. He chose the ballet dancer! They were married and still in love for 56 wonderful years. Wayne was Marilyn's selfless caregiver during the last years of her life.

Wayne's passion for automobiles began at age 12 when he purchased a Model A Ford roadster for \$25.00. His father allowed him to drive it up and down the driveway. Wayne's friends could often be found hanging out at the Miller garage working on car projects.

In his early years of marriage, Wayne served in the National Guard while working at Freightliner.

Wayne and his business partner started and ran Classic Motors in Hazel Dell from 1966 to 1973. Wayne was the used car manager at Bob Kendall Chevrolet until his retirement in 1998.

Wayne built numerous classic cars from frame to completion. He shared his love of all things automotive with his sons and grandsons. There hasn't been a

year that the Miller men haven't had a stall at the Portland Auto Swap Meet.

Wayne enjoyed buying, selling, and getting a great deal. He was a true salesman. He had a knack for finding the ideal car and car parts for the right price. Wayne found pleasure in cooking. His specialty was breakfast, but he could make a mean meatloaf and steak too. His grandmother's cast iron skillet was a valuable tool in his kitchen.

Wayne also enjoyed jazz, reading, antiques, YouTube and auctions. He was easygoing and could find the humor in simple everyday situations. He kept us entertained with his quick dry wit. Wayne was a true gentleman and man of faith.

Wayne will be greatly missed by his family and friends, but we know he is dancing, laughing and cruising with his dear Marilyn once again.

Wayne was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn; and his granddaughter, Kaitlin.

He is survived by his sons, Jeff (Nancy) and Mike (Tracy); daughter, Wendy Miller; and grandsons, Peter (Erika), Ethan and Wyatt.

A Memorial service will be held Saturday, June 8th at 10:00 a.m. at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, 1101 NE 112th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98684.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 04:27 PM



“ *I had only known Wayne about a dozen years, all though I had heard about him for 50. He hired me to do some fabrication on one of his cars, and I was delighted by how well he was prepared, and knew just what he wanted, along with being a real gentleman. Aside from his great skills as being a car builder, the thing about Wayne that impressed me the most, was the family he raised, and how he cared for his Wife Marilyn, very few men could match him in that regard. I regret not knowing him longer, he was a great friend. I captioned this photo, "Baby Face Miller" ! Marty Strode*

Marty Strode - June 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM