



In Memory of **Stuart Colby Reynolds**

August 15, 1926 - January 2, 2017

Stuart Colby Reynolds went home to be with the Lord in the wee hours of January 2nd, 2017. He passed peacefully after a battle with a rare blood cancer. He had been in the hospital for about three weeks, and then in hospice care for the week prior to his death. He had been visited by many family members and friends during his illness.

Stuart lived a long life (90 years) and was born in Concrete Washington on August 15th, 1926. His parents were both older when he was born, so he came from a true pioneering family of the upper Skagit Valley. His father, Roland C. Reynolds had moved to the Skagit Valley area in 1900 with his extended family, and his mother, Cordelia (Trudeau) Reynolds had migrated to the area with her family shortly thereafter. Pioneer spirt was in his blood you might say, as he could trace his ancestors in North America from both his father and mother to the early mid- 17th century. Perhaps because of the relative remoteness of the area at the time, it afforded great opportunities for hunting and fishing. He enjoyed both of these outdoor activities throughout his entire life.

Stuart had an older brother, LeRoy Reynolds, who became the youngest Post Office Master in the United States at the time back in the 1920's, and an older sister Eleanor. Eleanor married Joseph Lang, also from an early settler family in the area.

Stuart graduated from Concrete High School in 1945. He was a star athlete in football, basketball and especially baseball, during his prep years. Also, during his high school years he met the first love of his life, Marjorie Ann Richmyer. She grew up in nearby Birdview, but attended Hamilton Schools until that district closed the High School in Margie's junior year.

As most young men of that era, he joined the army right out of high school. As fate would have it, WW2 ended that May through August and Stuart was assigned to

occupation duty in both Korea and Japan. In October 22nd of 1945, while home on leave, Stuart and Margie were married.

Since he was a gifted pitcher, Stuart was able to play baseball in the armed forces league in Asia during some of his stint in the army. His team won the Asian Armed Forces Championship. This was no small feat as there were many Major League players in the service at that time. When he came home he was drafted by the Dodgers Organization and later traded to the Cardinals organization. He played professional baseball in Santa Barbara and Los Angeles area's until he injured his throwing arm during a game.

After baseball, Stuart came back home to Concrete and worked at the Lone Star Cement plant for several years. Stuart always knew what he wanted to be in life. His first choice was to be a professional baseball player, and if that did not work out, then become a police officer. Stuart joined the Skagit County Sherriff's office in about 1955, as a Deputy Sherriff for a couple of years. In 1957 Stuart was accepted by the Washington State Patrol (WSP). After training, coincidently, there was an opening for a trooper position in the Skagit Valley and he was able to remain in the area. In 1963 he accepted a job to train new cadets at the WSP Academy in Shelton Washington.

Stuart made Sargent in 1968 and the family moved to Ephrata. His next assignment was Lieutenant for the Special Crime Unit in Olympia. He and Margie then moved briefly to Kennewick (they were empty nesters by this time) for an anticipated Captain assignment. That promotion materialized a year later in Everett and he and Margie loaded up the moving truck yet again. Stuart's last promotion took him back to Olympia in about 1981 until his retirement from the Patrol in November of 1983.

During his working career, Stuart belonged to the Lions Club and also volunteered for the Knights of Columbus as he was a devout Catholic. He continued to be involved in his retirement.

Stuart became an avid golfer in his forties, so it seemed a natural thing that he and Margie would become snow birds and live during the summer months at their home in Tumwater and spend the winter months in Florence Arizona. Both Stu and Margie loved their time in retirement playing golf and enjoying all the activities that went on at the village in Florence. Unfortunately, Margie was stricken with cancer and passed away in 1992. They were married for nearly 47 years and had five children.

It seems God has a plan for good people and later that year Stuart became reacquainted with an old friend and classmate at the Good Old Days celebration in Concrete Washington. Stuart and Helen Leonard (Humphries) had been neighbors from childhood through graduation of high school. In fact, their mothers Cordelia and Alice had been old friends and the Reynolds siblings and the Leonard siblings had also been friends growing up. Helen had lost her spouse a few years earlier as well, so it seemed a natural and beautiful blessing that Helen would become the last love of his life.

Stuart and Helen resided in Des Moines Washington for several years before eventually relocating to Sumner Washington. They continued to enjoy the snow bird life as Helen was also an avid golfer. Upon Stuart's passing they were married for 24 years.

Stuart was preceded in death by his mother, father, sister and brother, as well as his first wife Margie. He is survived by wife Helen; son Randy and wife Rosie; daughter Janie Pedefferri and husband Joseph; son Craig and wife Annette, son Kevin and wife Mary Ann; son Kelly and significant other Linda. Helen's children Ann and husband Glenn, son Steve and wife Leigh, daughter Cathy and significant other Mike. Stuart is also survived by numerous Grand Children and Great Grand Children.

Rosary

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 | 10:30 am

St Andrew Catholic Church

1401 Valley Ave, Sumner, Washington 98390

Driving Directions

Funeral Mass

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 | 11:00 am

St Andrew Catholic Church

1401 Valley Avenue, Sumner, Washington 98390

Driving Directions