



Roger Lee Dirkes

June 29, 2017

Roger Lee Dirkes of Richland, WA passed away June 29, 2017 at the age of 64 years. Roger was born to Ronald and Bonnie Dirkes in Fairfield, MT. A competitive athlete throughout life, Roger was an all-league basketball and baseball player, and was selected to the All-Pac 8 Baseball Team in 1975 at WSU. He was a member of the U.S. National Baseball team, and was drafted by the Minnesota Twins. Roger coached sports teams of each of his children. After college, he spent 33 years as an Environmental Engineer Battelle PNNL in Richland. His intelligence was trumped only by his compassion and love for his family. Always ready with a story or joke to bring joy to those around him. Roger was an avid “green thumb”, home culinary artist, and reigning cribbage champion. He was a man at home in the mountains and on the banks of their rivers and lakes. An avid outdoorsman, his schedule outside the wilderness revolved around the department of Fish and Wildlife’s list of regulated seasons. The Tucannon River was one of his long time destinations and was his favorite. The gravel roads that traverse its watershed were etched in his memory. The outdoors fed his soul, whether he was reluctantly watching his kids jump in fishing holes or enjoying a campfire and game of Chinese checkers, or observing the view of the land in the comfort of his home by the side of his “Dahlin”. Honorable and genuine, bookended his character. He was someone special. Roger was preceded in death by his father, Ronald Dirkes, his mother in-law, Dorothy Young and his grandson, Remie Blanc. In addition to his wife Patti, Roger is survived by his son Adam (Kristel) Dirkes; daughter, Emily Dirkes (Ronny); step-daughter, Amy Parks; grandson, Grayden Dirkes; sisters, Karen (Barry) Harmitz, Janet (Jon) Buerstatte; mother, Bonnie Dirkes; father in-law Leo Young; nieces, Chloe and Aubrey Buerstatte; and numerous family and friends. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. An open house, Celebration of Life, will be held at his home on Sunday, July 16th from 1:00-4:00pm.

For condolences please visit www.AskHillcrest.com

Events

JUL 16 **All arrangements will be sent to service at the families home.**01:00PM

Hillcrest Memorial Center

9353 West Clearwater Avenue, Kennewick, WA, US, 99336

Comments



“ Roger was a great guy, quiet but a super athlete and I wish I had known him better. I played high school hoops at Shadle with him and will forever carry his memory with me .love you Roger!....Rick Nelson

rick nelson - July 23, 2017 at 03:18 AM



“ Roger was a great guy. I worked with Roger in "Environmental" sciences for about 6 or 7 years in the early 90's. We had fun working together. He was honest and always considerate of others. He made you feel like you were part of his family. He was part of "The Good-Guy Club" at work. It was an honor being his friend. His friendly charm will be missed by all.

Marshall Almarode (509) 582-5627. Cell

Marshall Almarode - July 15, 2017 at 11:32 AM



“ To Roger's family, please accept my heartfelt condolences. I had the pleasure of working with Roger for over 30 years, so many great memories. Hope those special memories you cherish can bring you comfort during this difficult time, so very sorry for your loss. --lynn

Lynn Bisping - July 11, 2017 at 12:16 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Hillcrest Memorial Center - July 10, 2017 at 01:59 PM



“ Art E. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Roger Lee Dirkes.



Art E. - July 07, 2017 at 02:45 PM



“ My heart is broken for this loss. Roger was one of the best guys that I have known in so many ways. He was humble, a gentleman and a great friend. He was also one of the greatest competitors and athletes that I have played with and competed against. I will miss him so much and our group of guys will not be the same without him. All of my love and comfort to you Patti. We will be with him again. Wally Peterson

Walley - July 06, 2017 at 11:37 AM



“ Our best buddy. So much laughter and joy you brought to us and this world. We are missing you so much and will love you and your dear family forever.
TCUI BFF

Louanne Graham - July 06, 2017 at 12:09 AM



“ 28 files added to the album Family & Friends



Hillcrest Memorial Center - July 05, 2017 at 06:07 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Roger Lee Dirkes.





“ Roger was like a ray of sunshine. I worked with him at Battelle (PNNL). I am so sorry for your loss. He will be missed.

Debbie Long - July 04, 2017 at 12:54 AM



“ I have many fond memories fishing and camping on the Tucannon River with Roger. I am so sorry for your loss.

Barb Gillespie - July 03, 2017 at 08:46 PM



“ Barb Gillespie lit a candle in memory of Roger Lee Dirkes



Barb Gillespie - July 03, 2017 at 08:44 PM



“ Diane Whitlow lit a candle in memory of Roger Lee Dirkes



Diane Whitlow - July 03, 2017 at 07:21 PM



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Wally Peterson - July 05, 2017 at 09:35 PM



“ My condolences to all, to Adam and Emily I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I worked at the lab for many years and talked to your dad often. Your mother and I were very close. Please pass my condolences on to her. Cindy Hernandez

Cindy Hernandez - July 14, 2017 at 01:41 PM



“ Roger was a star 2nd Baseman for the Cheney Studs in 1974. I was the Bat Boy on that team and I idolized him. I even got his autograph at the end of the season, knowing it would be worth a lot when he made it to the bigs...I put it in my baseball encyclopedia on page 1000 which was also where Babe Ruth's entry was. I think it says a lot about him that I remember him so well while only knowing him for a 3 month baseball season.

As a lot of people have mentioned, he really did treat people well, even a lowly 13 year old Bat Boy. RIP Roger.

Mike Ballard

Mike Ballard - February 07 at 06:26 PM