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Donald Schaefer

March 22, 1936 - March 27, 2017

Goodyear, arizona - Don Frederick Schaefer

3/22/36-3/27/17

Don was born 3/22/36 in a farmhouse in Jameson, Oregon. He is the son of Kathryn and Fritz Schaefer. They moved to the Willamette Valley in 1946. He graduated from Lebanon High School in 1953 and Linfield College in 1957. He played professional baseball for the Salem Senators from 1957 - 1960. He loved and was very proud of his children Casey and Tracy.

In 2004 he married his loving wife, Pamela. They lived in Goodyear, AZ until his death.

He taught history, coached freshman football, JV baseball and varsity baseball at Reedsport Union high school for 3 years. He then became a history teacher and varsity baseball coach at North Salem High School in 1961. During his 15 years of coaching high school baseball, he won 8 District championships including 4, final- four state playoff finishes, 1 state runner-up and 1 state championship. He loved teaching and coaching and maintained many friendships with his players and fellow coaches through the years.

He left education in 1975 and entered the field of labor relations. He was with Blair Services briefly and then joined Cascade Employers Assoc. where he represented a wide variety of entities.

In 1988 he joined the local Government Personnel Institute where he finished his career in 2000.

At one time or another Don negotiated over 5000 labor contracts, innumerable settlements, grievances, government complaints and various other conflicts involving public subdivisions. It was a gratifying career during which he made many friends on both sides of the table.

He enjoyed all sports, officiating high school and small college football and basketball for 16 years. He played golf for many years where he made numerous good friends.

He was inducted into the North Salem High School Hall of Fame, Oregon State High School Baseball Hall of Fame and the North Salem High School baseball field was named Schaefer Stadium in his honor.

He has led a very optimistic life blessed with innumerable friends. His only regret in life was not being able to spend a greater proportion of it with his best friend and loving wife, Pam.

Over the years, Don traveled to Canada, Hawaii, Virgin Islands, Mexico, Scotland and several European countries.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela; daughter Tracy Schaefer Montoya and husband Lee, granddaughter Melissa; son Casey Schaefer and wife Rosemary; stepchildren Maile Helton Keliikoa, Kai Keliikoa and step granddaughter, Taylor Helton.

A gathering of friends to celebrate his life will be held at Salem Golf Club, Wednesday April 12, 2017, at 1:00.

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