



Ed Olson

May 29, 1935 - March 23, 2009

Ed Olson, 73, Bismarck, passed away unexpectedly on March 23, 2009, in Cape Coral, FL. Services will be held at 11:30 AM on Monday, March 30, at Church of St. Anne with Rev. Ed Wehner officiating. Visitation will be held from 4:00 – 7:00 PM on Sunday at Eastgate Funeral Service, Bismarck. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church on Monday. Ed was born on May 29, 1935, to Carroll and Jane Whittey Olson in Wadena, MN. After graduating from Cretin High School in St. Paul, MN, he earned a degree from Minnesota School of Business in Minneapolis, MN. He married his lifetime love, Barbara Wichmann on October 20, 1956. Ed's career in the trucking business began with Cummins Diesel Sales in St. Paul, MN and Fargo, ND. In 1971, he became a partner in the White Truck dealership in Bismarck. Two years later he became the sole owner and renamed the business Trucks of Bismarck. Among his many business accomplishments, Ed received the Freightliner Dealer of the Year in 1979 and was a finalist of the ATD/Heavy Duty Trucking Truck Dealer of the Year Award. Ed was very involved with the North Dakota Motor Carriers Association and served as President from 1994-1996 and served on the Board of Directors since 1979. He was honored with the "Pioneer Carrier of North Dakota" award by the ND Motor Carriers in 2004. Ed was also a lifetime member of the Bismarck Elks Club. He attributed his success to hard work, honesty, and fairness in his dealings with customers and employees. Ed was a very compassionate, caring person; always concerned about the needs of others and willing to stop

and chat with anyone. Ed enjoyed spending time with family and friends at their lake home near Brainerd, MN. He served as Portage-Crooked Lake Association President and remained active with their projects. He and his brother-in-law, George Kueppers, enjoyed woodworking and were lovingly known as the "Crabby Crafters." Ed was an avid Minnesota Vikings and NASCAR fan and had a love for reading, watching movies, and fishing. His faith was always an important part of his life. Ed's outgoing personality, sense of humor and words of wisdom touched all who knew him. Ed was an extremely loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. Ed will be deeply missed by his family including his wife, Barbara; his daughter, Carol Rick Opp; his son, Mark Lindy Olson; three granddaughters, Laura Nick Henkelman, Kelly Opp, and Leandra Olson; one brother, Dick Libby Olson; one brother-in-law, George Kueppers; one brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Delmar and Kay Boyken; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents; and two sisters, Laura Kueppers and Kathie Schmitz. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorials to the Ruth Meier's Hospitality House, Bismarck, or Wild and Free Wildlife Program, Garrison, MN.

Tribute Wall



“ MARK AND FAMILY, WE WERE SO TERRIBLY SORRY TO HEAR OF ED'S PASSING. JUST KNOW THAT YOUR FAMILY IS IN OUR THOUGHT'S AND PRAYER'S.

LARRY & CAYLA JONES - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Ed Olson

March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so very sorry this tragic event happened and can understand the confused emotions at this time. My Barbara endured much the same accident of nature just a year ago. Please be patient with God, and yourselves. I shall be with you in spirit.Love to all, Bob

Bob Bakken - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Barb Family - I'm so sorry to hear about Ed's passing. I will always remember the kind words, encouragement, and laughs he'd provide as I was growing up and what a great friend and employer he was to my mom. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.Trish

Trish Uttke Jacobs - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Barb & Family,Our hearts break knowing the pain and sadness you are going through at this difficult time. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all.Much love,Pattie & Ron Johnson

Pattie Stovern Johnson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Barb & family. We wish to offer our sympathy to you for the death of Ed. We will remember Ed as a very quiet, gentle and compassionate man, who put family and friends above all other. He will be greatly missed by many. We will miss his laughter and his smile. With sympathy, Loretta and Jim

jim & loretta bierdeman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ We've been buying our semi's from Ed since the early 70's. He was more than a business associate-he was a good friend! A definite legend in his own way; he will be truly missed by everyone; Ed touched many lives. The weather will keep us from attending services but our hearts will be there. Our prayers are with all of you. As per request, we will give a donation to Ruth Meyers Hospitality House in Ed's name. Time and faith in God will lessen the pain. Take care.....

Russell & Arlene Walch - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Barb and Family, As you know Ed was a very special man who touched so many lives. He was our lake neighbor and our friend. We'll always have warm memories of Ed and George and Jim taking care of George and Laura's mowing. I can still hear the sound of Cub Cadets echoing down Plott Road. Go here for a picture of Ed and the boys on their mowers: <http://www.brainerd.net/~jlease/ed1> It was just like Ed to step up and lend a hand in whatever way he could. I think one of the great things about Ed was how he was willing to give of his time here on Portage Lake. He wasn't just a lake visitor but also a member of our community. Wild and Free seemed to hold a special place for him and he was always willing to buy raffle tickets, attend fundraisers or gather a group together to staff the brat booth. Our lake benefitted from Ed's willingness to serve in many capacities on the lakes association board. I loved it when we had tomatoes to share with Ed. He enjoyed a fresh, off the vine tomato more than anyone. We swapped books and emails and occasionally a tall tale or two. He shared his great homemade salsa with us and treated us to his buttermilk pancakes. Go here for a picture of Ed making pancakes: <http://www.brainerd.net/~jlease/ed2> Ed always had a twinkle in his eye and was willing to help in any way he could. He obviously had a rich full life. You could tell how special his family was to him and how much he loved all of you. There is no doubt that we'll miss him, and we'll remember him for making our lives here on Plott Road richer and fuller.

Jim Lease & Becky Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ Barb and family, If I was there here is the poem that I would read for Ed. He really helped my success by he way he trained me. I have always been grateful for his hard work trying to get me on the right track. A MILLION TIMES A Million times we've needed you, a million times we've cried, .If love alone could've saved you, you never would have died. In life we loved you dearly, In death we love you still. In our hearts you hold a place, No one else will fill. It broke our hearts to lose you, But you didn't go alone. Parts of us went with you, The day God took you home. You have our deepest sympathy. We will think of you often. God Bless Gary

Gary and Evalene Lee - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I am very sadden to hear about Ed. I have to thank him for teaching me so much about business. I will truly miss him. I will always remember him when I look at the toy boxes the "Crabby Crafters" made my sons. Please take care.

Tamie Schmidt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Barb and Family, We never know when a life will end but when does the instant shock comes as a mighty force that is hard to endure for all of you. Please remember that his suffering was short and that an ALMIGHTY FORCE intervened to take Ed home to end his suffering forever. Now Ed is watching down on his loving family. We will be with you in spirit and prayer. God bless your family. Love from Dewey, Linda, Sarah and Matt

Dewey and Linda Bakken` - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ TO THE OLSON FAMILY,I WAS SO SORRY TO HEAR OF ED'S PASSING.

SHAWN JONES - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I wish Barb and all the Olsons' family the best during this difficult time. I always thought highly of Ed. He always was a nice person and one might use the phrase, “a really good man”. The last time I saw Ed was in Sandy, UT at my son's wedding in 2003. In about the early to mid 70's my family Ed's sister Kathie met him and son Mark with a semi-truck at a Gemco Store parking lot in Cupertino, CA. I believe he was delivering the truck or was driving it back to the Midwest.It has been wonderful to exchange Christmas cards over all these years with Ed and Barb. The added notes and pictures are always appreciated. They even welcomed my mostly unusual newsletter. May God bless all of the family.

Chuck Schmitz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Ed will always be someone I highly respect. His generosity and kindness helped me through a very difficult time in my life and I will always be thankful for his compassion and friendship.I will always consider him and his family, especially Mark and Rick, and everyone at Trucks of Bismarck as my friends.

Jim and Eileen Haag - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Ed. I had the pleasure of getting to know Ed through the Motor Carriers. I have many fond memories of Ed at the conventions and other NDMCA functions. Ed always had a smile to share with anyone. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Laurie Diede - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ We are sorry to hear of Ed's sudden passing. We sure had some great times over the years and lots of laughs with him. We are out in NV so will be unable to attend the service. We will be making a donation to one of the organizations of his choice in lieu of flowers. You are all in our thoughts and prayers today.

Jim & Cindy Senske - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ My sincere thoughts and deepest symphathies to the Olson family, my prayers are with you.I am a long ago friend of Ed's son Mark, I was a flight instructor and flew with Ed working toward his instrument rating.I will never forget how Ed trusted me with his son, Mark, and his C182, when I got the honor of flying Ed's airplane to Billings MT to pick up Mark and bring him back home after Mark delivered his dad's Porsche. Ed was a fellow aviator, Here's to you Ed,High FlightOh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirthOf sun-split clouds - and done a hundred thingsYou have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swungHigh in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring thereI've chased the shouting wind along, and flung My eager craft through footless halls of air.Up, up the long delirious, burning blue,I've topped the windswept heights with easy graceWhere never lark, or even eagle flew -And, while with silent lifting mind I've trodThe high untresspassed sanctity of space,Put out my hand and touched the face of God.Pilot Officer Gillespie MageeGod be with you, God bless you all in this most difficult time.

Mike Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Ed Olson

Mike Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM