



## Ralph Otto Stalsberg

August 2, 1923 - February 11, 2016

Ralph O. Stalsberg

(Red)

1923-2016

Our father, grandfather, husband, uncle and friend passed away Thursday, February 11, 2016 in Ephrata, Washington. Ralph was born August 2, 1923 in Vancouver, Washington to Alf and Karla Stalsberg. He graduated from Potlatch High School, where he participated in football, basketball, baseball and track.

Ralph left Potlatch after high school and went on to work various jobs. He worked for a shipyard in Seattle and was also a journeyman boilermaker for Todd Dry Dock until he entered the service.

Ralph joined the Marines December 11, 1942. He trained in North Carolina to become an aircraft mechanic and was stationed in Honolulu, Hawaii. He spent 39 months in the service until he was honorably discharged in April 1946 as a sergeant. Ralph married the love of his life Ruthie Waldher, May 27, 1950 in Spokane and they had two children Lonnie and Sandra.

Ralph was a true businessman who loved a challenge. In 1958, Ralph and business partner Rex Stuart formed S & S Sand & Gravel Inc. They ran a successful business for 15 years crushing rock for roads in the states of Washington, Idaho and Colorado. In the fall of 1973 they auctioned off all of the assets and liquidated the company. Ralph went on to start his own company, Ralph O Stalsberg Inc. and later joint ventured with Jim Hutchinson and Ellensburg Cement Products Inc. They worked together in the sand and gravel business until he retired in 1990.

In 1980 Ralph and his son Lonnie partnered to buy Ace Disposal in Salt Lake City. It was Lon's vision and business intuition and Ralph's expertise and financial support in the early years that enabled the company to prosper and grow from one truck to a fleet of 150.

Ralph's favorite phrase was "Business is always picking up"

Ralph is survived by his son Lonnie (Cyndy) Stalsberg and daughter Sandy Huntington, five grandchildren: Angela (Paul), Chris (Elizabeth), Kyle (Lauren) Matt (Melissa) and Kate. Six great-grandchildren: Danielle, Michael, Alyssa, Samuel, Ben and Violet; two nephews: Roy (Debbie) and Norman (Denise) and two nieces: Laura Spencer and Melissa

Stalsberg.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents, wife Ruthie, brother Roy, sister-in-law Barbara and sister Alice Holladay.

A special thanks goes to his daughter Sandy for all the Love and care she provided for her Dad. She made sure he knew the stock report and sport scores every morning! The family would like to thank the Coolidge House for their kindness and care, and his many special friends who were always there for him.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Nicoles Funeral Home in Ephrata, Wash. at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 20, 2016.

Ralph will always be remembered for his love of family and friends, positive attitude, work ethic, integrity, great energy, generosity, being a role model and love of life. We say goodbye to an amazing man, we were so blessed to have him in our lives.

In Lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Casey Eye Institute 3375 SW Terwilliger Blvd. Portland, Oregon 97239

Please express your thoughts and memories for the family at [www.nicolesfuneralhome.com](http://www.nicolesfuneralhome.com). Arrangements are under the care of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, Wash.

# Events

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**FEB**   **Service**                      01:30PM

**20**

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Nicoles Funeral Home  
157 C St. N.W., Ephrata, WA, US, 98823

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park** - February 16, 2016 at 01:23 PM

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“ The video is a very moving and powerful tribute that certainly honors Ralph. It demonstrates how much he was loved and admired. You can see that marvelous smile has come down through all the generations!  
We send our love and sympathy to all the Stalsberg family.

Susan and Jim Andersen

**Susan Andersen** - February 19, 2016 at 11:10 AM

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“ I will always remember Ralph's ability to "Laugh it Off". Ralph and Sandy would join us at times for family celebrations. When Ruth was alive, Ralph and Ruth would drive to Salt Lake to see Lon and Cindy and their darling children. We were always invited to dinner to catch up with Lon's parents. Ralph would always show an interest in another individual during the conversation. We will miss him for his sense of humor, and his devotion to his family.

**Debra Taylor** - February 16, 2016 at 01:25 PM

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“ He was my grandfather and I will miss him forever. I loved hearing his story of a young boy out of Potlatch, Idaho that went on to enjoy life to the fullest and have success in every area of his life. Grandpa will be an inspiration to me for the rest of my life and one day I will tell stories to my kids about this man who was my inspiration to be successful in all areas of life.

**Kyle Huntington** - February 16, 2016 at 11:48 AM

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“ I will never forget my Grandpa's greeting, and I think it was the same for many members of my family, "Hey Hey Hey how's it going down there in Salt Lake City." He called into Ace every day to see how things were going, and either he or my father would give him the rundown. Every time I spoke with him he asked me about "my beautiful wife Melissa and those two boys Samuel Ray and Ben Alexander." This guy was a man with a balance of sternness and compassion that many hope for. I was always shocked at his regular routine every day and his commitment to it for many years. My Grandpa was one of a kind and it's hard to sum up what made him tick, but the world needs more of it.

**Matt Stalsberg** - February 15, 2016 at 05:29 PM



“ My condolences to the Stalsberg family. I have worked for Ace Disposal for 24 years. I dispatched for 5 years I always looked forward to Ralph's daily phone calls.

**Del Dust** - February 17, 2016 at 06:05 PM

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“ Everytime I had the pleasure of being around Red, he was upbeat and positive. He was interesting to talk to and loved his Cougs and Mariners! I loved hearing stories of the early days of his career and the rock crushing business. He was the perfect business partner for Lon and instrumental in helping him get Ace Disposal off the ground when they first bought the business back in 1980. I will miss his smile and enthusiasm. Truly a one of kind person. Rest in peace big Red.

**David Dudley** - February 14, 2016 at 01:25 PM