



George Bernard Waltho Sr.

September 8, 1926 - January 11, 2012

GEORGE B. WALTHO, SR.

George B. Waltho, Sr., of Ephrata, Washington, pitched the game of his life on Wednesday, January 11, 2012, going home to be with The Lord and the love of his life, Rita.

George was a lifelong resident of the Ephrata/Soap Lake, Washington area. Born on September 8, 1926 to George and Margaret (Maggie) Waltho, he was raised in the hotel business in Soap Lake when it was a resort destination. George served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946 and was stationed in Guam and Saipan.

He had a great passion for the sport of baseball, playing semi-pro ball for the Wenatchee Chiefs, and later pitched and was first baseman for the local town league.

George met Rita Brown at a church social and a few months later, on September 13, 1947, they were married by Father John Marceillo at Our Sorrowful Mother Catholic Church in Soap Lake.

Their marriage was blessed with six children: Loretta (Raymond) Mayer, Ephrata, Madalyn (Doug) Miller, Ephrata, Laureen (Darrel) Monasmith Spokane, Wash., Rita (Jerry) Magnaghi, Kennewick, Wash., George, Jr. (Kathy) Waltho, Ephrata, and Carol Waltho, Renton, Wash; 12 grand-children: Lindsay, Mitchel, Melissa, Angie, Amanda, Aaron, Macie, Abby, Kristin, Michael, Jessie and Lisa; and 14 great grandchildren – all who recall a life filled with wonderful memories of their father and grandfather. He was very

proud of each and everyone of his children and their accomplishments.

Following George's Navy commitment, he worked as a milk and fuel delivery man for Maude Radke, then proceeding to car sales and service, for several years, with Eastham Chevrolet. George also leased and operated a Chevron gas

station for many years on the corner of Basin and Division, known as the 'busiest corner in town.' Later, he became a Jobber for Standard Oil Company, operating an oil distribution plant. During this period, George was approached by Bing Ramm and Willis Helms, to join them as a partner in Inland Oil Company of Ephrata, where he retired in 1989.

George was a charter member of St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus, achieving the designation of Grand Knight and District Deputy. He enjoyed bowling with his Knights of Columbus team for many years, as well. He and Rita were instrumental in the formation and establishment of St. Rose of Lima Catholic School. He was involved in numerous local civic organizations, a coach for local youth baseball and was a certified basketball league referee. Upon retirement, George became a member of the Lakeview Golf & Country Club, where he enjoyed numerous rounds of golf with his friends, Paul Klasen, Bill Korach, Dick Ross and Paul White. He even achieved every golfers' dream ... a "hole in one" on Hole #5, (no less) the autumn following a liver transplant.

Upon retirement, he and Rita enjoyed traveling, gambling, golfing and spending time at their Blue Lake cabin, where many happy memories were created with their children, grandchildren and friends.

Anyone who had the opportunity to meet and know George, can vouch for one of his BEST attributes ... his sense of humor. His love of his family, community, honesty and work ethic were some of his greatest traits.

George was preceded in death by his parents; caring wife, Rita; and his sister, Margaret (Babe) Manning.

The Holy Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 323 D St. SW, Ephrata.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 16, 2012 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church with Internment to follow in the Catholic Cemetery, located directly behind the church.

A reception will follow at St. Rose of Lima Catholic School located at 520 Nat Washington Way, Ephrata.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Rose of Lima Catholic School Scholarship Fund, Ephrata; the Mel Leseman Fund at Washington Trust Bank, Ephrata branch; or Columbia Basin Hospital Foundation Fund, Ephrata.

Please express your thoughts and memories while visiting the online guestbook at nicolesfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata.

Cemetery Details

Ephrata Catholic Cemetery

333 E St. SW
Ephrata, WA 98823

Previous Events

Rosary

JAN 15. 7:00 PM (PT)

St. Rose of Lima
323 D St. SW
Ephrata, WA 98823

Service

JAN 16. 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Rose of Lima
323 D St. SW
Ephrata, WA 98823

Tribute Wall

LM

“ I listen, on a regular basis, to "Positive Life Radio" while driving around, and 9 times out of 10, the radio station will play, "I Can Only Imagine," by Mercy Me. Everytime I hear it, I have to stop, listen, thisnk of you & mom AND then, shed some tears. It is such a awesome song and so reminds me of what you and mom were so looking forward to. Your strong faith has allowed you both God's glory and eternal life. Miss you both...
Love, Lauri

Lauri Monasmith - February 13, 2012 at 10:51 PM

LM

“ Dear Dad, Today (February 4, 2012) is a very special day for the "love of your life!" It is mom's 85th b/day! Hope you and she are celebrating in style. It's also the b/day of Estelle (Stella) Beadle. She arrived at approx. 3:30 pm today and joins her 3 sisters, Ellie, Lucy and Betty. She is Jennelle (Riehle) & Chris Beadle's 4th child (another "GIRL") and is Wes & Mary Riehle's granddaughter. I told Jenelle the story of you and mom having "4" girls, BEFORE, getting your 1st BOY! Not that I was encouraging them at all to keep trying for a BOY. Thought mom would like to know, that her b/day will be even extra special, knowing that little Estelle entered the world on it.
Love you both and miss you!
Lauri

Lauri Monasmith - February 04, 2012 at 11:40 PM

LM

“ It's been 3 weeks ago tomorrow (Wednesday, Feb. 1st) that you went to join our mom. Still having moments (and will for a long time) of tears and missing my time visting with you on the phone each week...either to remind you of an upcoming Zags bsktball game OR a Mariner's baseball game. Just turned the calendar ahead a few months, to check on a particular date, and there was my scheduled "dad" weekend staring me in the face for the month of March. Received the funeral reception DVD from Melissa this past weekend, and to be honest, will not be able to watch it for awhile. Thank you though, Melissa...I'm so thankful to have such a beautiful remembrance of my dad.



Lauri Monasmith - January 31, 2012 at 09:46 PM



“ Christy Aston sent a virtual gift in memory of George Bernard Waltho Sr.



christy aston - January 26, 2012 at 06:57 AM

LM

“ It's been 2 weeks ago today that you left us to be with mom. Miss you so much! I think of you every time the Zags play, but know I won't be reminding you of the game time and who the opposing team is anymore. I had saved your voicemail to me on my b/day this past pril 22nd. Played it yesterday and the tears came...I'm so glad to have a chance to hear your voice any time I might want to. Love you and miss you lots & lots. Love, Lauren

Lauren M. Monasmith - January 25, 2012 at 05:12 PM



“ *Christy Aston lit a candle in memory of George Bernard Waltho Sr.*



christy aston - January 21, 2012 at 07:38 AM



Up to his last weeks of life with us ,I had the honor of taking part in caring for him.george was very kind and saw the good in everybody,I loved listening to his wonderful stories of his life ,friends, and his wonderful family.he will be missed.

christy aston - January 21, 2012 at 07:48 AM

RM

“ *Thanks Dad for your great example and the memories we all shared with you. Love you forever.*



Rita (Waltho) Magnaghi - January 18, 2012 at 01:12 PM

BW

“ *Brandi Wood lit a candle in memory of George Bernard Waltho Sr.*



Brandi Wood - January 18, 2012 at 11:35 AM

MP

“ *Marian Menzia Pedersen lit a candle in memory of George Bernard Waltho Sr.*



Marian Menzia Pedersen - January 17, 2012 at 09:08 PM

MF

“ *What a wonderful person. My dad, Daniel Boland, would save newspaper for Mr. Waltho then together they would bundle them up and deliver them to the church to recycle. What wonderful memories of him and his family. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Mary Boland.*

Mary L. Boland Franklin - January 16, 2012 at 03:53 PM

MM

“ *Madalyn (Waltho) Miller lit a candle in memory of George Bernard Waltho Sr.*



Madalyn (Waltho) Miller - January 14, 2012 at 11:36 PM

PH

“ *George was a great man and will be truly missed, but he is with his beloved Rita now and he is a happy man. We will surely miss him especially him on Saturday night. May God Bless him and your family. Pam Hill*



Pam Hill - January 14, 2012 at 05:11 PM

DM

“ I married one of George and Rita's daughters, Laureen. George was one of the first (besides Lauri) to make me feel welcome in the family. We had a mutual interest in the Seattle Mariners and we spent several evening by phone trying to help the Mariners "win".

Darrel Monasmith - January 13, 2012 at 11:52 PM

LM

“ I miss you so much and love you even more!
Lauri



Lauri Monasmith - January 13, 2012 at 12:27 AM

CW

“ Carol Waltho lit a candle in memory of
George Bernard Waltho Sr.



Carol Waltho - January 13, 2012 at 12:24 AM

BB

I Met with George at his home, when I bought the building which is now the Soap Lake Art Museum.

He informed me that as a young man he remembered the apartment on the second floor as very special place that he love to visit. He also told many tales and said he seldom had a bed to sleep in because all of them at the hotel were rented most of the time! He also remembered the lake shore much closer {Just across the street-Northwest) from the museum.

A very delightful and impressive man! I am grateful I got to know him a little.

My prayers to the family.

Brent Blake

Brent Blake - January 14, 2012 at 02:46 PM