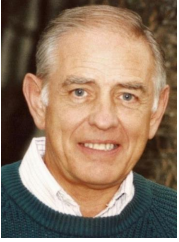

Dick Mort(1928 - 2016)

Mort, Dick 88 April 29, 1928 Oct. 22, 2016 Richard "Dick" Allen Mort 88, passed away peacefully on Oct. 22, 2016. Dick is survived by his beloved Nancy Hersey; his son, Paul Mort; and daughter, Dorine Mort; his stepdaughters, Debbie (Neelley) Harrington, Annette (Neelley) Mitskevich, Allison Neelley; stepson, Michael Neelley; step granddaughter, Shawna Thibert; and the mother of their children, Nancy (Lind) Mort. Dick was beloved by Nancy Herseys children, Kirk, Julie and Ciel. Dick was a genuine people person with a ready smile and a big heart. Dick loved laughter and readily shared it whenever possible. A Memorial Service will be held in his honor at 3:30 pm on Nov 6, 2016 at St. Pauls Episcopal Church, 822 Washington St., Oregon City. Read a complete obituary at dickmort.com.

Published in The Oregonian from Oct. 24 to Oct. 26, 2016



Tualatin River, Oregon



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DICK MORT | 1928 – 2016

Richard 'Dick' Allen Mort 88, April 29, 1928 October 22, 2016. Dick passed away peacefully among family and friends on October 22, 2016. He was born and raised in Portland, Oregon, by his adoptive parents, Berniece (Alene Lee) and Ralph H. Mort. Dick always felt fortunate to have grown up in such a fine region as Oregon.

He attended Rose City Park Grade School and graduated from Grant High School. He enrolled at Lewis & Clark College immediately after high school to study pre med. By the time he graduated his interests shifted and he enrolled to get his Masters in Education degree from Lewis & Clark College. But the

conflict in Korea was heating up and Dick was inducted into the army in 1951. However, a kind deed of buying a fellow serviceman a beer several months prior led to his assignment in Bavaria, Germany instead. (Dick spoke German, and the fellow serviceman turned out to be the person who assigned inductees to Korea or US posts elsewhere.) Among Dick's regular duties he received permission to form a snow ski racing team to help keep the troops 'busy.'

Returning home Dick spent time with the Air National Guard to fulfill his military commitment. He also took refresher courses at Lewis & Clark College before deciding to enroll at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York State to study the graphic arts profession. Dick flourished at RIT and was elected student body president his second year. He received numerous honors and was particularly pleased that his debate team beat the Harvard U team.

While at RIT Dick met and fell in love with a fellow RIT student, Nancy Ann Lind. They were married in July, 1956. After graduation he returned to Portland with Nancy to begin a career in the printing business and to start a family.

Dick began as an apprentice at Metropolitan Printing, working in nearly every department to eventually rise to top level management positions. 'Metro' also housed Binford & Mort Publishing, known for publications from, and about the Pacific Northwest and its history. His father, Ralph H. Mort, was one of the company's original partners. Dick loved the outdoors and reading through Binford & Mort titles further kindled his curiosity about Oregon's history, diverse beauty and off-the-beaten-path locations.

As the printing industry changed, so did Dick's connection to it. After leaving Metro he ran a successful printing brokerage for a number of years.

His personal life had also evolved and he found a strong connection with a woman named Bernice (Bobbs) Athena Neelley. They married and Dick's natural compassion for people blossomed. Together they counseled couples, individuals and worked to help people shine from within. Sadly, Athena passed away much too young.

In the years that followed, Dick continued work in the print-related field. He presented seminars on the fundamentals of printing which led to his writing and producing an instructional book on the subject. This also became the foundation for a series of courses Dick taught at Portland Community College.

Late in life Dick applied his printing expertise to help writers get their works produced in book form. It was during one such book project that Dick would fall in love for the last time. One day Nancy Hersey brought Dick her manuscript and from that day forward they grew to form a loving bond that would see him to his final rest.

Dick enjoyed the outdoors ever since childhood. He was an accomplished skier, an upland bird hunter, river rafter, backpacker and mountain climber. Most of all Dick loved to fly fish for trout and he spent as much time on the Deschutes River as time allowed. He also studied maps hoping to discover new places to explore, fish and share with those closest to him.

Dick studied violin as a child but his heart was with the piano. Throughout his life, the beautiful music of classical piano stirred him the deepest. Any of Mozart's piano concertos could bring tears to his eyes.

Dick read books constantly on every topic imaginable. His lifelong interest in reading about Oregon history found kinship with the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. Nancy Hersey, already a member, urged him to join having learned that his natural forbearers travelled to the Oregon Territory in 1853 on the Oregon Trail. Dick also served as president of the SDOP for one year during his membership.

During Dick's later years he was active with the Lewis & Clark Alumni Association. He was also an esteemed member of the Tale Spinners Writing Group.

He liked Nancy's crab salad and huckleberry pie with vanilla ice cream. Black olives were a favorite and always on hand for special meals. His favorite color was blue. He also knew how to yodel.

Dick was a genuine people person with a ready smile and a great big heart. He loved spending time with his family and his many friends, and was well known as one heckuva good storyteller. Dick was intelligent, open-minded and sensitive. Always thoughtful, he looked for the good in everyone he met. Dick was a man of integrity, sincerity and kindness. His optimism was tireless.

One of Dick's most enduring qualities was his wit and boundless sense of humor. Dick loved laughter and readily shared it whenever possible. The positive impact of this cannot be underestimated for it brought joy to anyone who he met. It partially accounts for his longevity.

Dick is survived by his beloved Nancy Hersey; his son, Paul Mort, and daughter, Dorine Mort; his stepdaughters Debbie (Neelley) Harrington, Annette (Neelley) Mitskevich, Allison Neelley and stepson, Michael Neelley; his stepgranddaughter, Shawna Thibert; and the mother of their children, Nancy (Lind) Mort. Dick was beloved by Nancy Hersey's children, Kirk, Julie and Ciel.

Dick's ashes will be scattered in the Deschutes River by his children, Paul and Dorine Mort.

Dick will be missed by many. Very much so.

Services

Service: Memorial Service

Date: November 6, 2016

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 822 Washington Street, Oregon City, Oregon

(Additional parking will be made available two blocks south at 8th and Washington streets in the Super Torta parking lot.)

Donations

Dick asks that donations be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church
822 Washington Street, Oregon City, Oregon 97045

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