



Ralph H. Nelson

JUN 28, 2006



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



Ralph H. Nelson

JUN 28, 2006

Ralph Nelson was reunited with his beloved wife Dorothy on the morning of June 28, 2006, their 65th Anniversary. Ralph was born June 2, 1918 in Milton, Washington to Maria Johanna Andersson and William Nelson. (Viljam Nilsson Manderbacka). He was the youngest of 8 brothers and sisters. He was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy along with 4 brothers and 2 sisters. His brother Sidney survives him. He also leaves daughters Carolyn of Tacoma and Beverly of Cleveland, Ohio, as well as son Bill with wife Laurie and grandchildren Lindsay and Marshall of Houston, Texas. Ralph graduated from Fife High School in 1935 and was valedictorian of his class. He subsequently worked at a lumber mill in Tacoma and studied accounting at Knapp's Business College. He became a CPA in 1940 and was employed by Busch and Webb, which later became Allen, Nelson, and Turner. He retired in 1983, although kept working part-time until 1994. He was married to his wife Dorothy in 1941. Together they loved spending time with friends and family and spending summers at their home on Clear Lake. They also traveled extensively throughout the western states and loved visiting their grandchildren in Idaho. In recent years Ralph remained very active in many pursuits. He was a driver for the Cancer Society. He was active in WICS, the 1918 Club, and the Order of Runeberg. He served in the U.S. Army with the 102nd Infantry during and after WWII. He was a quiet but dedicated Christian and loved his Lord deeply. He was actively involved at Temple Baptist Church, then at Calvary Baptist and Graham Emmanuel Baptist. Numerous family and friends have expressed the highest love and regard for Ralph for his kind and gentle spirit, along with his well-known sense of humor. A great joy of his life was traveling to the Osterbothnia area of Finland and becoming acquainted with numerous relations there. He took his first of 3 trips there at the age of 82. Many relatives there consider him the link between the Finnish and American branches of the Andersson and Nilsson families. He remained very active until early May and



Obituary

Ralph H. Nelson

accepted his diagnosis of metastatic cancer with his usual positive outlook and trust in the Lord. He expressed joy that he knew he would soon be united with Dorothy and many family and friends. Ralph is known by his Nelson nieces and nephews as the patriarch of the family. A Memorial Service will be held at Calvary Baptist Church, 6511 South C St., Tacoma, at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, July 5. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Union Gospel Mission of Grays Harbor, P.O. Box 859, Aberdeen, WA 98520, or to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



Tribute Wall

Ralph H. Nelson



Anonymous posted:

Ralph H. Nelson
 Ralph H. Nelson avled den 28 juni 2006 i Tacoma, USA. Han var född 2 juni 1918 i Milton, Washington och hans föräldrar var emigranter från "sterbotten". Hans mor var Maria Johanna Andersson från Bredarholm i Edsevä och hans far William Nelson (Viljam Nilsson Manderbacka) från Terjäng. Bara några dagar efter hans födelse sedan fann Ralph Nelson via efterforskningar den släktingen i "sterbotten" som honom tidigare varit helt okänd. Som 83-åring gjorde han tillsammans med dottern Carolyn sitt första besök i "sterbotten" och träffade ett stort antal släktingar i Jakobstads- och Karlebynejden. Ralph Nelson hann göra tre resor till "sterbotten" innan hans liv ändrades i en obotlig cancer. Under de tre besöken upprättades en varm kontakt och det var en glädje att träffa honom som med glädje minns mötena med Ralph Nelson och som tackar honom för att han ville återknyta kontakten med sina föräldrars hembygd. Få svenska ord kunde han, men blicken, leendena och bemötandet gav uttryck för en stark samhörighet också med dem som inte kunde kommunicera med honom på engelska. Glimten i hans öga och humorn var hans kännetecken. Ralph Nelson har egen del i att stärka kontakten mellan släktingar till släktingarna Andersson och Nilsson i Finland och Amerika. Hans efterforskningar har resulterat i nya och fortsatta kontakter mellan kontinenterna. Ralph Nelson var auktoriserad revisor och deltagare i en revisionsbyrå där han efter pensioneringen arbetade deltid fram till 1994. Han var en aktiv träningsman och var bland annat verksam i Orden of Runeberg. Ralph Nelson och tre av hans bröder ingick under andra världskriget i de amerikanska trupper. Ralph Nelson var stationerad i Tyskland. Ralph Nelson var varmt troende och bekände sig till baptismen, men gjorde inget stort uttalande om sin tro. Under sin sista tid visste han att hans dagar var räknade, men kämpade mot att återvända till sin hustru Dorothy och andra barn som gått bort. Ralph Nelson överlevde sina tre barn och tvärbarn. Begravningen ägde rum den 5 juli i Tacoma. Brita Svedlund-Häststäm

September 27 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My condolences to the family of Ralph. I and my family were neighbors of Dorothy and Ralph. Carolyn and I went thru school together and as children played together often. My family was invited to there lake place several times which I always enjoyed. I am sure Ralph will be missed by all that knew him.

August 13 at 6:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Ralph H. Nelson



Anonymous posted:

Kj f re Bill og Laurie,Lidsey og Marshall.Vi vil p f ten vise v f r deltagelse i sorgen.Vi l f rte  f r kjenne Ralph som en god og hum f ,rfylt mann gjennom de korte stundene ve traff han.N f r har han n f dd m f let og viler ut hos Herren.Vi tenker p f r dere alle tre.Kj f rlig hilsen Unni og Dagfinn.##imported-begin##Unni og Dagfinn Gran##imported-end##

July 12 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

With sadness we learned that 'Uncle Ralph' passed away. Ralph, with his warm personality and attitude to life, is staying in our memories for all time. Ralph gave a lot during the short time we learned to know him. In this time, love is defeating the distance and we are with Ralph's family.- Rolf, John and Jarl Timmerbacka with Families, living in Terj f rv and in Vasa, Finland (this guestbook signed by Eiric)##imported-begin##Timmerbacka, family##imported-end##

July 5 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Carolyn and family,So, so sorry at your loss but grateful for the timing and speed and knowledge of his new home! Mostly grateful for having known Ralph and his friendship. You are in our prayers, really!##imported-begin##Brian & Linda##imported-end##

July 4 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

The Swedish Finn Historical Society will miss Ralph's warmth and support for all of us descended from Swedish-speaking emigrants of Finland. He was a charmer, with an open smile, always happy to share his heritage, encouraging others to make that vital connection "home" to Finland.We'll miss him so! Don, Genealogy Director SFHSSyrene, President Emeritus SFHS##imported-begin##Don and Syrene Forsman##imported-end##

July 4 at 6:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Ralph H. Nelson



Anonymous posted:

Carolyn and family What a joy to have known your dad! Thank you for all the wonderful memories of the times at the lake that you included my mother and our family. What a wonderful reunion Ralph and Dorothy are enjoying. Our condolences to you all for the loss of this wonderful model of a man among us. We will keep you in our prayers in the months ahead.##imported-begin##Ann & Gary Ficca##imported-end##

July 3 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Bill and Laurie, Lindsay and Marshall. Kathi and I are praying for all of you and trusting that you will have the Lord's joy and courage as you mark the transition of your father and grandfather into the Lord's presence. The picture of him is great--looks just like the likable, humorous guy we knew. God bless you all. Have a safe trip home. We love you, Dave and Kathi##imported-begin##David F. Gibson##imported-end##

July 3 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Carolyn and family, What an incredible man your father was! We can't believe we didn't know more about him -- he was so friendly and unassuming. We can still hear his voice, his laughter and his, "How have you been?". He was so generous with the use of the summer place on Clear Lake. We will miss him. God Bless you all.##imported-begin##Matt and Debbie Santelli##imported-end##

July 3 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

To The Nelson Family; You are in our Thoughts and Prayers. In recent years, we enjoyed getting better acquainted with Ralph at the Thomas Family Reunions at Clear Lake. And we will never forget the kindness he showed during our time of sorrow a few years ago.##imported-begin##Donna & Kristofer Tyson##imported-end##

July 3 at 6:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Ralph H. Nelson



Anonymous posted:

Dear Carolyn,I will always remember your Dad & Mom being so kind and sweet to us when we visited you at Clear Lake. I have very fond memories of that week. It was a blessing that his illness was short. May your faith in God sustain you as you face the coming weeks of grief and decisions. My condolences and prayers,###imported-begin##Mary Wilson###imported-end##

July 2 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I would like to express my sincerest sympathy to your family. Sincerely, Carol Culver (Stewart) Fife class of 1935###imported-begin##Carol Culver (Stewart)###imported-end##

July 1 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

We want to share our condolences with all of uncle Ralphs family.We all; Sonja, Leif, Johanna and Johan.Sirkka-Liisa and Bengt HÅfÅstbacka, Mikael HÅfÅstbacka with family.And all others here, we want to let you know that we are feeling with you. It was great to learn to know uncle Ralph,and we miss him very much.I, Sonja am so happy that I got to know him.W e all are..Thank you for everything.###imported-begin##Sonja Smedjebacka###imported-end##

July 1 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Carolyn,I didn't know your dad, but I appreciate his life through all you've told us of him. My mom will be sad to hear of his passing, also. It is wonderful to know that we'll have all eternity to get know each other well. I'm glad you were able to spend these last months with him. May God strengthen you all as you say your goodbyes and share your memories.In His love,Peggy and Dave###imported-begin##Peggy and Dave Young###imported-end##

July 1 at 6:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Ralph H. Nelson



Anonymous posted:

To Carolyn and her family:Your dad was such a wonderful man. As others have said, he was a gentle fellow and had a strong belief in our Lord. What a blessing to all of us who knew him. Praise the Lord he is now back together with his lovely wife, Dorothy. I thought alot of your parents. As your mom is missed so will your dad be greatly missed. God be with you and give you strength at this time.##imported-begin##Carol Chandler##imported-end##

July 1 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Great memories recalled in letter to your home. Such a special kind man and such a privilege for us to have shared times with him! He will be missed!##imported-begin##B&L Patchen##imported-end##

June 30 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I saw Ralph on the Monday morningbefore he passed away. I was so glad to have that last chance to tell him how much I loved him. 2weeks earlier he had introduced me to his roommate as his "specialfriend." That was an honor comingfrom Ralph. I will miss him.##imported-begin##Marge Knowles##imported-end##

June 29 at 6:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Our condolences to Ralph's family and friends. Ralph was our model for aging gracefully. He kept busy, had lots of friends and volunteered his time to help others. We also appreciated his sense of humor, his enthusiasm and warm hospitality. We will miss him.##imported-begin##Joe & Merrillinn Zeppa##imported-end##

June 29 at 6:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ralph by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit