



Mr. Paul Ivan Gingrich Jr.

April 7, 1926 - July 19, 2018

Paul Ivan Gingrich Jr. passed away peacefully on July 19th, 2018. Paul was born on April 7th, 1926 to Paul Ivan Gingrich Sr. and Edna Gingrich in Tacoma Washington and he is survived by his brother Lee Gingrich and nieces and nephew, Jane, Carrie and Kent Gingrich.

Paul attended Stadium High School and the University of Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. Paul finished his education at the University of Washington earning his bachelor's degree in architecture. After finishing his education, Paul served in the US Army's Armored Signal Company where he was stationed in Germany. He was a radio specialist and was responsible for engineering communications between Army Tanks and Aircraft.

After his service, Paul worked for Lea, Pierson and Richards architecture firm where he helped design and oversee the first major remodel of Tacoma General Hospital and was instrumental in the design and construction of the hospital sky bridge, the first on the West coast at the time. He also worked on the construction of Wilson High School and designed the award winning Wiseman residence overlooking the Narrows Bridge.

Paul was an avid collector and benefactor of the arts. He donated his vast collection of Northwest art to the Museum of Northwest Art in La Conner in 2010. Paul enjoyed traveling overseas and developed a special interest in Egyptian art and history. During Paul's three trips to Egypt, he became acquainted with the chief of Egyptian monuments where Paul was afforded the opportunity to visit artifacts not open to the general public.

As a member of Tacoma Rotary, Paul was directly involved in Rotary's international student program traveling with students to New Zealand and Australia. In addition to Museum of Northwest Art, Paul annually donated to the University of Puget Sound Scholarship Fund and the Emergency Food Network of Pierce County.

Comments



“ I grew up living next door to Paul. I remember a time when my brother and I were trying to burn some vegetation in our patio and decided it would burn much faster if we burned an old tire with it. We watched the black smoke going up in the air as the fire was burning the vegetation. Unfortunately, the black smelly smoke was going right over toward Paul's house and I remember he was furious with us. I also remember Paul had an old 1948 Desoto sedan sitting off to the side in his back yard. I was probably 15 or 16 yrs. old at the time and I wanted to buy that car from Paul. He sold it to me for a very good price. I spent hours working on that old car and even painted it the same original color and Paul was really impressed with how I cared for that car. Paul had a telescope and he would let me look at the stars and tell me all about the different stars. In 1963 Paul had bought a brand new white Chevrolet Sting Ray. I think that was the first year Chevy made the String Ray. It was always a treat for me when I saw Paul back it out of the garage and drive away with it--I thought it was so "cool" :-) Lots of memories of our neighbor "Paul". One memory that stands out was when Paul was having problems with the roof on his 2 story house, I watched him up on the roof nailing down plastic with 2X4 boards and walking around on that pretty steep roof like he was walking around on the ground and I was afraid he was going to fall off the roof. It was always interesting and an education talking with Paul. Rest In Peace Paul.....
David Wahlgren

David Wahlgren - July 30, 2018 at 11:15 PM