



Milo Eugene Poppen

DEC 20, 1929 - JUN 11, 2020



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With 90 years of endless wisdom, Milo Eugene Poppen, our wonderful father and grandfather and longtime resident of Oregon City passed away June 11, 2020. He stayed beyond our expectations to have one last taste of his beloved Oregon strawberries and summer watermelon before joining his wife LeAnn in heaven.

Milo was born at home in Carthage, South Dakota on December 20, 1929. He was one of nine children born to George and Anna (Moe) Poppen. He was proud of his family's migration from Norway to the United States and kept detailed genealogy records for many years. After growing up on a farm he enlisted in the Navy right after high school graduation and was assigned to the submarine, USS Greenfish, stationed in Pearl Harbor. He was discharged in 1949 and when the Korean War broke out, he was recalled and assigned to the USS Yancey during which he made five trips from California to Sasebo, Japan.

Milo married LeAnn Clausen of Madison, South Dakota in April 1956 and they spent their honeymoon traveling throughout the Southwest to eventually settle in Oregon City where three of his siblings had previously moved. They raised three daughters and shared 57 wonderful years together before LeAnn passed in October 2013. They were blessed and so proud of their five wonderful grandchildren and Milo was lucky enough to share his birthday with his only granddaughter.

Initially a land appraiser for Clackamas County, Milo later retired in 1988 after 23 years as a real estate appraiser for 1st Interstate Bank (now Wells Fargo). He enjoyed many seasons of bowling leagues and golf and was especially proud of the Hole-in-One he scored at Ranch Hills in 1994. In retirement he enjoyed city farming and carefully tended to his corn crop. An active member of



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the Oregon City Elks for 62 years, he was honored to be named Elk of the Year in 1994-95. He spent hundreds of volunteer hours serving the community on behalf of the Elks and co-chaired their Holiday Basket program for many years.

Milo and LeAnn worshipped, made lifelong friends, and volunteered for years at Zion Lutheran Church in Oregon City. After LeAnn passed, Milo treasured his Monday coffees at Zion, Sunday services and his weekly Elks meeting and Bingo nights to stay connected and share stories.

Milo is survived by his children; Cyndy Poppen (Wes Schwahn), Patti Mertz (Joe) and Deborah George (Don) and grandchildren; Andrew Mertz (Megan), Kevin Mertz, Jeff George (Michelle), Mike George, and Ashley George. He also leaves behind one sibling, younger brother Gale Poppen (Carole), and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

A good man, well read, and loyal friend who always put family first, Milo will be forever missed. Our hearts have been broken by the loss of our father, but we find comfort in our memories, laughter in our stories, and the belief that he is with our mom and his family in heaven.

Due to the coronavirus, a family service will be held at Willamette National Cemetery with a Celebration of Life when permitted. His final resting place will be at Willamette National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be sent to: Zion Lutheran Church, 720 Jefferson Street, Oregon City, OR 97045. Please sign the online guest book and enjoy the following attached Life Tribute Video.



Tribute Wall

Milo Eugene Poppen

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Anonymous shared a **Video**.



February 16 at 1:09 PM



Friends And Family posted:

Friends and Family uploaded 145 to the gallery.

February 15 at 5:00 PM



Wil & Julie Mercer posted:

Please accept our deepest sympathy for the passing of your wonderful Father. We were honored to meet Milo during all the years that Cyndy & I worked together. We know how proud Milo was of all of his beautiful daughters.

June 30 at 5:00 PM



Cher posted:

My sincere condolences to the Family, Death of a love one is so painful. I wanted to share some comforting news. The Bible tells us about the hope for all who die. John 528,29. The Resurrection! You will be reunited with your love one again! On Earth! My hope is that this Bible Truth brings you some peace and comfort.

June 28 at 5:00 PM



John And Jan Salisbury posted:

We were neighbors of Milo and LeAnn off of Canemah Rd for over a decade. We so enjoyed their friendship (including with Milo in Elks and bowling) thru the years we have lived in Oregon City. They were both awesome individuals and a loving couple. Our sincere sympathies and prayers to their family as they have to deal with this loss. We'll bet that LeAnn and Milo are dancing up a storm in the Heaven above!

June 20 at 5:00 PM



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DP

Doug Poppen posted:

Milo was a terrific guy. I was fortunate to have spent so much time with my uncle Mel, my dad, and Uncle Milo. Either sitting around the kitchen table with a drink in their hands, shooting some pool for quarters or working together on various projects, fixing something that had broken around dad's house. Mel and Milo could fix anything (and, if they couldn't do it, Uncle Wayne could); dad, not so much. Milo would always be available and eager to help me with whatever I needed. I got to really respect Milo and he treated me like a son. I bowled a few years on Milo's team, and we did pretty well in local tournaments. I remember feeling a bit nervous because I wanted to do well bowling with him as my partner. I know we cashed in a number of them. He had an ability to "notch it up" a bit when he needed to. I will miss him and remember with fondness the many stories he shared with me. I know he is in heaven with LeAnn. I loved them both.

June 20 at 5:00 PM

PC

Peg Christensen posted:

When I was a child I lived across the back fence from Milo and the Poppen family. His girls became my best friends. We spent hours playing in Milo's huge shop and his huge backyard. I loved digging around in his barbecue because it was filled with shiny material people put in the bottom of their barbecues back in the day. I'd imagine it was something containing mica, but it was magical to me. We also played in the driveway, all around Milo's great big pale yellow sedan with big fins at either side of the trunk. And there was an awesome maple tree in the front yard that we would climb. I was always impressed with how tall Milo was, and frankly, I was scared to death of him because of it. Once when I came over and entered the house from the side door into the laundry room, I noticed there was a sponge nailed to the corner of an upper cabinet, way up high, from my child's perspective. Overcome with curiosity, I asked about it, and learned that Milo had put it there because he was tired of cracking his head on that cabinet corner. Ingenious solution to a problem I simply couldn't imagine having. And I remember we had to tip toe around the house when he was reading the newspaper in his chair in the corner of the living room. Looking back, I can't imagine how wild it must've been to have three daughters and then their girl friends always hanging about. I moved away from Oregon when I was in the third grade, and only sporadically saw the Poppen family for years after that. Broke my little-girl heart, but the really great thing is that we have remained friends to this day, and have connected again as adults. We had a wonderful little network on the corner of Davis and Canemah. My family and the Poppens were from South Dakota, and there we were, living right next door to each other. I have nothing but fond memories of my childhood and the times spent with the Poppen family. So much love pouring from me to you over the loss of Milo. I respected him, admired him, and am very glad I also had the opportunity to spend time with him as an adult. Words really cannot fully express how I feel.

June 14 at 5:00 PM



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JP

Jerry Poppen posted:

My memories start back in South Dakota and continue until the present. Early in my life he was drafted regularly by my father, his big brother, to baby sit me a lot. Of course I loved those times. Then both he and us moved to Oregon. During high school he was the person I went to when I did not feel comfortable discussing something with my parents. He always gave his opinion and his advice was usually good. Later when I lived in Washington and our visits were fewer our times together were still very important to me. The visits, phone calls and emails that we shared in his last years were filled with meaningful reflections and laughter. As an only child, Milo played a big role in my life. Special friend, role model and the best uncle I could have had. His oldest nephew, Jerry Poppen

June 18 at 5:00 PM

CH

Cher posted:

My sincere condolences to the Family, Death of a love one is so painful. I wanted to share some comforting news. John 5:28,29. The Resurrection! You will be reunited with your love one again! On Earth! I hope this Bible Truth brings you some peace and comfort.

June 17 at 5:00 PM

MM

Megan Mertz posted:

What an amazing way to remember an amazing man. Milo welcomed me into the family with open arms when I married his grandson Andrew and I will forever be thankful for the time I was able to spend with him. I was lucky enough to see Milo interact with his family and quickly recognized the joy and love that surrounded him. Being able to spend some holidays with Milo and the rest of the family are some of my fondest memories - getting to hear his stories and be a part of his life was a true blessing. We love and miss you!

June 16 at 5:00 PM



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AM

Andrew Mertz posted:

What a fantastic obituary and touching, amazing video. Lots of happy tears were shed watching this! I spent a lot of time with Grandpa, and similar to Kevin below, way too many fond memories that could take up this whole Tribute Wall. Whether it be BBQ'ing on hot summer nights, going on the boat together, building a play structure with a zip line or constructing a golf ball case - as I picked up his golf passion so I had to have a golf ball case like he did. Too many memories to count. One of many important life lessons he taught me was it is completely acceptable to watch sports all day long, in fact it was a bit odd when we weren't watching sports. And as my wife, Megan, can attest this trait is pretty much rooted in my core to this day. We all will have more to say when we can Celebrate his Life together. But for now, we all can take solace in the fact that Grandpa is back with Grandma and I think we all can agree that makes all our hearts full. Even though I do know he is already watching sports all day long :) We Love and Miss You -

June 16 at 5:00 PM

SL

Sandy Poppen Lindquist posted:

Ah, my wonderful Uncle Milo. The video is amazing and reflected his life so well. It was clear that his life was centered around his family. We celebrated so many Christmas Eve gatherings with him.. Like 42! Spent countless 4th of July together around the pool. He was so generous with his time to his church and the Elks. He is with his wonderful LeAnn now and his memories will live in our hearts forever. I am grateful for the time I had with him.

June 16 at 5:00 PM

LH

Lis Horton posted:

What a beautiful and well done Video. This showed so many different pictures of Milo and his friends and family. One thing that never changed in any of them was the great smile that Milo always had. He was a wonderful man who will be so very much missed. I know that I have a big hole in my heart, but that smile of his will be etched in my mind forever.

June 15 at 5:00 PM



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Kevin Mertz posted:

Such an amazing video to remember my grandfather. And I feel so lucky to have the name Milo with me forever as my middle name and even nickname to some. There are a lot of great memories that come to mind when I think of my grandpa from learning how to cut wood in his garage, puzzles at the beach, summer BBQs with his fresh corn, and spending the night in OC waking up to the smell of french toast in the morning. I can thank him for instilling the love of bowling and golf in me as I strive to get my first hole in one and perfect bowling game. Keep giving me tips from wherever you are grandpa! Most importantly he taught me to work hard, be patient, save wisely, and have fun living your life. He always supported my next adventure and know he will continue to support me with LeAnn by his side again. Love and miss you

June 15 at 5:00 PM



Jerry Gehrels posted:

What a great video! Many great memories of a great guy. A vision of Wilbur, Mel, George, and Milo drinking high balls and playing lawn jarts at Mels house comes to mind..... He will be missed !! Jerry and Julie

June 14 at 5:00 PM



Media

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February 16 at 1:09 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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