



# William O. Walker

JUL 7, 1929 - OCT 5, 2011



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## **William O. Walker**

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**W**illiam "Bill" Oakland Walker passed away peacefully in his sleep and joined our heavenly Father on October 5, 2011 at the age of 82.

Bill was born in Seaside, Oregon on July 7, 1929 to Charles Oakland and Lephia Donnelson Walker. At the age of 3 the family moved to the St. Helens area where he attended local schools. As a youth, Bill was an Eagle Scout and a Sea Scouts.

Bill married his wife of 56 years, Virginia Clark at the First Christian Church in St. Helens on June 1, 1956; where they lived and raised their family.

He began working at Dante & Russel Company in St. Helens in 1947 which became the Fir Tex Co. In 1948 Bill enlisted in the US Navy during the Korean War. He was assigned to the USS Prairie where he flew helicopters, was a gunner, and received a sharp shooters award. He was honorably discharged in 1952. He returned to work at the Fir Tex Co Owens Corning where he was employed for 33 years. Most recently he worked at Columbia Steel Castings in Portland, Oregon, until retiring in 1995. He was an honest, hard working man all of his life and never missed a day of work.

During Bill's youth he was a member of St. Helens LDS Church. As an adult he attended various local churches before becoming a member of Grace Baptist Church for the last 20 years. He was a devoted Christian all his live. He was a member of the VFW, the Traveling Beavers Travel Club, the NRA and various other clubs along the way.

He loved traveling, clamming, camping, hunting, fishing though he rarely caught a fish woodworking and shooting the . . . breeze and guns. He was very devoted to God, his family and the NRA.

He dreamed of winning the lottery, but never bought a ticket. He had a "Tuff Guy" exterior but was a soft marsh mellow on the inside with a heart of gold. He was the epitome of a good man, and loved a good practical joke. His family meant everything to him and he will be dearly missed.



## Obituary

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Survivors include: his Wife of 56 years, Virginia Walker of St. Helens; 2 Daughters & Spouses: Lynn Gutbezahl John of Portland, and Kyle Whalen Mike of Columbia City; 6 Grandchildren: Derek Heather, Jared, Kevin, Luke, Alexis, and Oliver; 2 Great Grandchildren: Kofi & Booker. He was preceded in death by his Granddaughter, Ali Rose.

Military Honor Guard, Service and Interment: Willamette National Cemetery-Portland, OR. Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 11:00 AM with reception to follow.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Baptist Church Memorial Fund.

On-line condolences may be sent to the family at [www.columbiafh.com](http://www.columbiafh.com)

Columbia Funeral Home-Directors



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

Virginia, Lynn & Kyle- I'm thinking of you during this difficult time. I did not hear of Bills passing until late Monday and have been trying to figure out how to reach you, so I am glad to at least touch you in this way. I am sad that I missed the service would have liked to have been apart in song. I want you to all know you have a very special place in my heart and I have many fond memories of you all. I remember our travels to the coast, Bill trying to get up the hill in his truck one icy morning. I think he finally did get to work but told Lynn and I that we didn't have to go to school. I also remember ridding the dunes in his jeep. He was always happy to see me and treated me like one of his own daughters. I will never forget him. He has gone before us and reached the ultimate destination! Psalm 23:4 Your rod and your staff, they comfort me. I took comfort in this scripture when my mother-in-law passed. Lean into his staff today. Love to you all, Tamme.##imported-begin##Tamme Abbott-Bowen##imported-end##

October 19 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

##imported-begin##James Garner##imported-end##

October 16 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Was sad to hear about bill , I worked at columbia steel with him , I remember he had a great sense of humor, loved him, and went to school with is daughters, bless all of you, we are better people in knowing bill walker rest in piece my friend. Don and Jackie Melcher.##imported-begin##Don Melcher##imported-end##

October 15 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I loved Bill and Virginia. Worked with her at Boise for years. They are truly "salt of the earth." He will be missed by all.##imported-begin##Diane Dillard##imported-end##

October 14 at 5:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

It's with shock and great sadness that we learn of Bill's death. Our condolences to all the family.##imported-begin##Lynda Gregory##imported-end##

October 13 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Kyle and family, So very sorry to hear of your loss. I am glad I got to meet your Father. I could tell that he was a very nice man.We are thinking of you and your Family.##imported-begin##Dan Carpenter##imported-end##

October 12 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I was shocked to hear Bill had passed.We will all have many good memories and I am thinking of you and the family.I will not be able to attend the service as I am having back surgery on Oct. 17th.Thinking of you.Love,Reta##imported-begin##Reta Thomas##imported-end##

October 12 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Lynn,I am very sorry to hear that your father passed away. My sincerest condolences to you and your family. Always keep your memories of him in your heart.Marsha##imported-begin##Marsha McDonough##imported-end##

October 12 at 5:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

So sorry for your loss. I had the privilege of meeting Bill many years ago. He was a very nice man. My prayers are with all of you as you deal with your loss...##imported-begin##Kathy Cooper Ashley##imported-end##

October 12 at 5:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

I'm so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Condolences to all of the family. Linda Rusch formerly with John L Scott

October 11 at 5:00 PM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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