



Scott Bauska

JUL 1, 1950 - DEC 31, 2025



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Scott Bauska

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Scott Bauska died at home from cancer on December 31, 2025. He was born in Kalispell, Montana July 1, 1950 to Ralph and Lorraine Bauska. He was welcomed home by his brother Ken and would meet his sister Janice three years later. He lived his entire childhood in the beautiful Flathead Valley.

He attended Kalispell schools except one year when he “was the seventh-grade class” in a two-room school in Dayton, Montana, while he lived with his Grandma. He graduated from Flathead High School in 1968. Soon, he joined the Navy and was on the east coast serving on the USS Nautilus, the world’s first nuclear powered submarine.

After his service was complete, Scott piled his possessions into his little red sports car, put the top down, and drove across the country to Corvallis, Oregon to pursue his degree on the G.I. Bill at Oregon State University. He stayed there two years, then transferred to the University of Oregon, where he graduated in 1978. He then began a long career with Portland General Electric (PGE).

PGE sent Scott out to Boardman in eastern Oregon to work at a new coal fired power plant being built. Scott met his wife Kathy at the plant and they were married on January 10, 1983. His two children, who were Scott’s pride and joy, soon came into the family. After 20 years in Boardman, Scott opted to move to St. Helens and work at the Beaver Power Station where he became the plant manager, a position from which he retired.

Scott was a consummate volunteer. Among the many things he volunteered for were coaching kids’ sports; delivering Meals on Wheels; cooking and washing dishes for Community Meals; and serving on the Morrow County school board, the Boardman city planning commission, and as a trustee for the St. Helens Student Foundation. He was a master gardener, and planned, planted, and led a team of volunteers at a community garden that supplies the Columbia Pacific Food Bank with thousands of pounds of fresh food every year.



Obituary

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Scott loved to travel especially in the mountains of the West and Canada, but also loved the Scottish and English countrysides, and had a memorable trip to New Zealand. He was a hiker and loved scrambling up peaks, an activity often done with his children. Scott also loved to read and credited his mother for bringing that passion into his life. He never let go of a book once it came into his possession.


Survivors include his wife Kathy of nearly 43 years, his sister, his son Thomas (Rachael), Emily (Casey), and four grandchildren.

A memorial service is planned for later in the year. Donations in his memory can be made to the Columbia Pacific Food Bank (cpfoodbank.org) for the community garden.



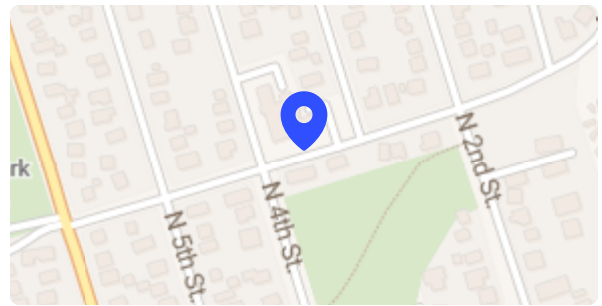
Candlelight Ceremony

 **Friday**, April 10, 2026

 11:00 AM PT

 **First Lutheran Church**
360 Wyeth Street, St. Helens OR

- ① We will gather together for a Celebration of Life Service for Scott at First Lutheran with food to follow in the Parish Hall.





Tribute Wall

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KR

Krista Le Roux posted:

Condolences to Scott's family. As a student master gardener, I learned from Scott about how our volunteer work can contribute to the well being of the community through the community garden and the local food bank. He was generous with his time and knowledge.

January 16 at 9:20 AM

RM

Rick McAndrew posted:

Heartfelt condolences Kathy, Thomas and Emily...Scott was someone I always admired, looked up to and felt lucky to have as a friend.

January 14 at 3:58 PM

BW

Bob And Pat Wamre posted:

Kathy and family So sorry to hear Scott had passed away. Scott was always a good friend and always was interested in helping out whatever the situation called for. Very proud of his family and enjoyed life. Bob and Pat Wamre

January 11 at 11:54 AM

LC

Linda Choat lit a candle in honor of Scott.

Linda Choat lit a candle in memory of Scott Bauska

January 4 at 4:54 PM



DB

Dave Boltz posted:

I am so sorry for your loss Kathy, Thomas, and Emily. Scott was a very special friend and person. I have very fond memories of working with Scott at the Boardman Coal Plant. RIP my dear friend. I will never forget you.

January 4 at 3:37 PM



Tribute Wall

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Mary Woiccak posted:

I volunteered at the community garden with Scott in Saint Helens. I learned a lot from him about gardening. Memories of a fine person. My sympathies to his family. Mary W.

January 3 at 6:36 AM



Vanessa Lightfoot lit a candle in honor of Scott.



I wanted to write a letter to share my thoughts, feelings, and memories because I wasn't able to do so in person. Admittedly, this feels tender to write, but I hope it's a welcome sentiment. I've always been curious about what a life in your home would have been like for me. I admired the adventures you took Emily and Thomas on—hiking, exploring the outdoors—but also the way you encouraged their curiosity and learning. Not that my life wasn't full of adventure and lessons, but it was just a very different life and lifestyle. My memories of you are of a mysterious, quiet, yet warm presence. You had depth, strength, discipline, and a calm I've always appreciated. I feel like I've gotten to know you better as an adult through my observations, stories and photos shared with my mom and I from Aunt Kathy, and from our own brief conversations. I think the only time you and I spent together alone—and the only memory I have of just the two of us—was a time we came to visit and you and I went on a walk. You identified plants and explained what a slough was. I can vividly remember the walk, but not all the details of what we talked about. What stays with me is your jolly laugh and warm smile. You have always carried a thoughtful and gentle presence. As quiet as you are, I've enjoyed hearing about and seeing your green thumb—your talent for growing your own food and hops and the way you help with your community garden. Uncle Scott, I just want you to know how deeply you have been respected and admired by me, even when we didn't have many words between us. Your quiet strength, your kindness, and the way you lived your life has always mattered to me. I carry those impressions with me. You were loved, you were appreciated, and your life made a difference. Thank you for who you are/were, for what you've shared, and for the quiet ways you showed care and wisdom. I am holding you and the family in my thoughts and prayers. With love always, Vanessa

December 31 at 4:34 PM



Jeanette Lightfoot January 3 at 6:25 AM

Vanessa as an early reader and writer plus a lover of music you would have been in your element! Scott was a born teacher of humility and humanity! Scott will be missed by many. Many fond memories of Scott and his quiet attention to our family and beyond. He was so kind and thoughtful to my Sis and that is what she deserved! A wonderful cook, food prep and connoisseur of many things like the arts, plays and symphony plus many other of his passions. A life long learner. Altho' he was much quieter he reminded of your Grandfather- full of wisdom and wit.



Tribute Wall

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JL

Jeanette Lightfoot lit a candle in honor of Scott.

Jeanette Lightfoot lit a candle in memory of Scott Bauska

January 1 at 10:45 AM



MP

Marilyn Putman posted:

Scott Bauska, what a wonderful friend. I have sorrow because you are gone but I also have a smile because you have grandkids. I can only imagine the joy that you shared with them. You will be sorely missed and always loved. Marilyn & Doug Putman

January 1 at 7:06 AM

JD

Jerry Donovan posted:

Susan and I are saddened to learn of Scott's passing. I look back with fond memories during training classes, startup, and operation of PGE's Boardman Coal Plant some 40 years ago. We enjoyed watching Scott and Kathy's two children grow up alongside our children in St Helens and occasionally bumping into them at school events and around town. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Bauska family. Jerry Donovan

December 31 at 4:34 PM

MB

Mark Bell January 17 at 7:30 AM

I don't get on Facebook very often and was saddened to read of Scott's passing. A good man, married to a good woman who engender good memories seems apt and succinct description of my memories. Thanks for the memories and with hope that you find solace in faith of a future resurrected reunion. Mark



Memories only last if you share them

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



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