

Roy Magnuson

July 25, 2023



Roy Magnuson, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother left the physical world early in the morning on July 1, 2023, at the age of 89. Roy was born in Everett, Washington on September 10, 1933. He was preceded in death by his mother Louise (Melling) Magnuson (1962) and his father, Clifford Magnuson (1979). He is survived by his loving wife, Marilyn, son, Mark Magnuson (Pam), daughter, Mardi Rush (Terry), grandchildren: Colin Keller (Chalsie), Michele Weyant (Dan), Melisa Dillin (Jack), Daniel Rush (Grace), and his only sibling, Ingrid Riley.

Roy grew up in Everett, Washington until the age of 10. This is where he developed his passion for fishing and everything outdoors. He enjoyed taking the Clinton Ferry over to his grandmother's beach house on Whidbey Island to spend weekends and summers fishing from a skiff on Puget Sound. In 1943, Roy and his parents relocated to Whittier, California. Roy attended Whittier High School where he was a member of the varsity football team and graduated in 1951. After graduating from high school, Roy attended Fullerton Junior College and eventually transferred to Humboldt State University in Arcata, California where he studied Fisheries. During his college summers, he worked for Fish & Game tagging fish off the Mexican coast and also on Kodiak Island, Alaska. While attending HSU, he met Marilyn on a blind date, and they had been inseparable ever since. He and Marilyn were married on October 7, 1956. Roy was drafted into the US Army and was going to be sent to Ashaffenburg, Germany, so he and Marilyn were married in Carson City, Nevada when he was granted a short leave. While stationed in Aschaffenburg, Marilyn joined him and it was there that their first child, Mark, was born in the military hospital in Frankfurt, Germany.

After finishing up his time in the Army, Roy and Marilyn returned to Humboldt County, so he could get his teaching credential. He was hired at Del Norte High in Crescent City, CA in 1960. He taught Biology and other science classes. In the early 1970's, he went back to college to get his administrative degree and then became the Assistant Principal of Del Norte High. In the 1980's, he became Principal of Crescent Elk, Principal of Sunset High, Principal of Smith River School and finished up his educational career at the District Office as Director of Special Education. He retired in the early 1990's.

During his summers he was a commercial fisherman, party boat captain of the Top Cat and Lindy Lou, and an avid sports fisherman. He was a Crescent City Harbor Commissioner for many years.

During his tenure as a Harbor Commissioner, he helped design and approve the new boat basin.

After he and Marilyn retired, they enjoyed traveling in their 5th wheel trailer. Every summer, for 20 plus years, they spent at least a month at Lava Lake in the Cascade Mountains in Oregon.

He and Marilyn lived in Crescent City, California for 59 years, until 2019 when they moved to Bend, Oregon to live close to their daughter, Mardi.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Roy for family and close friends in June 2024.

Contributions/donations can be made to The Roy C. Magnuson Memorial Scholarship, through the Del Norte Scholarship Foundation, 301 W. Washington Blvd., Crescent City, CA. 95531.

Autumn Funerals, cremation, Celebration of Life will be held for family and close friends in June of 2024.