

James Lester Holben

September 17, 2020



It is with sadden hearts that we announce the passing of James Lester Holben on Saturday, August 29, 2020 at his residence in Bandon, Oregon at the age of 88. He was born on October 13, 1931 to parents James and Mildred Holben in Tillamook, Oregon.

Living on the Tillamook family farm until he was nine years old, the family sold and packed up and moved to Portland, Oregon. He enjoyed the game of basketball and ran track, holding the junior high state high jump record for many decades. Standing at 6' in 7th grade helped. Basketball was his love and he made the varsity basketball team his freshman year. After his first year of high school basketball, he attempted to join the Navy before his 15th birthday and got in. Before being shipped out to serve in WWII, they found out his age and he was discharged. He was very proud of that and always giggled when he told the story.

As many folks did back in the day, Dad went into the logging business while simultaneously owning a bar or two. He later moved to Northern California and started his own logging company in the Scotia / Rio Dell area. He would later meet Shirley Fern and they moved to Crescent City, settling on Blackwell Lane and

Holben Rd. He would eventually work for Simpson Lumber Company for 20+ years and had a small trucking business on the side for his weekend fun.

He is survived by his children: James D., Patricia, James T., Steven and Kevin. His grandchildren: Joel, Christopher, Kaleen, Garret, Haley, Chase and McKenna. He was preceded in death by his sister Dorothy. His spouses: Edwina, Shirley and Rosalee. His daughters: Laura, Jeanette and Janean. He was a long-time resident of Smith River and Crescent City, California, before moving on to Arizona and Oregon in his Golden years. If you asked anyone of his friends or family to describe him, their reply would be "He was a hard-working man!"

There will be a small family memorial on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 10:00 am at the Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery.