

# Death and Memorial Notice

## JOSEPH N. ESTES

Joseph N. Estes, 96, of Sequim died August 9, 2004, at Olympic Care and Rehabilitation Center.

He had recently entered the facility trying to recuperate from an illness which began three years ago with pneumonia. His illness progressed into congestive heart failure.

He still maintained an active and happy life until the recent discovery of growths in his lungs, which he battled gallantly until the end.

He is survived by his second wife of nearly 19 years, Marjorie "Marge" Hunt. His first wife, Mary, passed away just short of their 50th wedding anniversary.

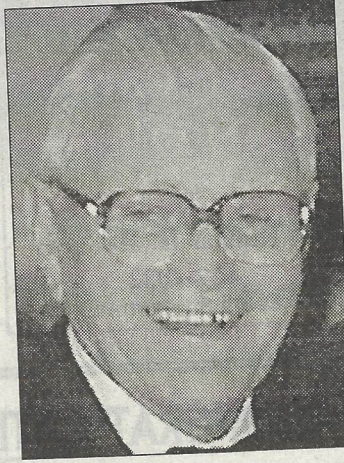
His son, Jay, was killed in a car accident at the age of 28 leaving behind a wife, Millie, and two young children (at that time), Michelle and Jerry. These 2 grandkids were the joy of Joe's life all of these years.

Joe was born April 2, 1908, in Ashford, Washington, near Mount Rainier to Samuel and Leora (Dunham) Estes.

He moved with his family to the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska at the age of 9 and lived there for 20 years.

He married Mary Robinson there on December 28, 1935, and four years later their son, Jay, was born.

In 1938, the Estes family moved to Minnesota, where Joe worked as a blacksmith.



Mr. Estes

During World War II, he worked in the Bremerton Navy Yard as a welder. Later, he worked at the Atomic Energy Plant at Hanford.

He retired in 1974 from work as a welder at the Centralia Power Plant and moved to Diamond Point. The railing in front of his home provides a sample of his handiwork.

Through the years he was active in his communities serving in various organizations. He was Master of the Masonic Lodge in Sunnyside in 1957, master of the Rhododendron Grange for two years, master of the Pomona Grange for two years, and served as Esquire of the Elks Lodge for a decade.

He was a member of the Gardiner Community Church. He called for square dances for a time and he

remained active in sports, golfing, horseshoe pitching and was an avid bowler at Port Angeles Lanes for over 25 years — he bowled a 484 series in May at the age of 96.

He was a much sought-after water dowsing, finding good wells at the rate of almost 100 percent. Even on August 8, 2004, at 6 p.m. during the dinner meal at Olympic Care and Rehabilitation Center, a lady, who was a stranger to Joe, approached him and asked Joe to "witch" a well pleading the possibility of transporting him to her property to witch from his wheelchair.

He died the next morning, August 9, at 6:30 a.m.

To accommodate his many friends, there will be two memorial services held. The first will be on Saturday, August 21, 2004, at 1 p.m. at the Gardiner Community Church. Refreshments will follow the service at the Gardiner Community Center.

The second service will be on Saturday, August 28, 2004, at 1 p.m. at the Sequim Elks Lodge, where refreshments will also be served following the service.

Pastor John Morgan will officiate at both services.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice in memory of Joe.

Sequim Valley Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.