



## Dennis E. Rasmussen

December 3, 1948 - August 18, 2021

Dennis was born on December 3, 1948, at the old Everett General Hospital. He passed away on August 18, 2021 at home with his family by his side.

He was the middle child of Robert Jr. and Jean Rasmussen, long-time Marysville residents. Dennis was in Cub and Boy Scouts. He attended Marysville High School and graduated with the Class of 1967. Dennis attended a year of school at Everett Community College, then he joined the Marines in 1969 and served as a computer programmer at the 3rd Marine Air Wing at El Toro Marine Base. After being honorably discharged in 1971, he went back to college and got his Associate degree in June 1972.

While visiting his sister Linda's apartment, he met her roommate from nursing school, Vickie Vogl. Both Linda and Vickie were working as RN nurses at the hospital in Aberdeen. Dennis and Vickie were married in Everett on August 19, 1972. They moved to Bellingham where Dennis continued his education via the GI Bill at Western Washington University and Vickie started her long career as a pediatric nurse, retiring in late 2008. Dennis eventually finished his education with a Bachelor's in Science.

He started to work for the Mount Baker Plywood mill as a boiler operator, a position he held for the next 12 years. Then Dennis worked at the experimental Skagit County resource recovery facility until 1995 when it was

closed. He later moved his boiler skills onto the Ferndale oil refinery run by Conoco Philips retiring in 2014 after a 20+ year career there.

Dennis and Vickie enjoyed retirement with several overseas trips and cruises to Europe – visiting family in Denmark – and as well as Central and South America, the Mediterranean and Asia. They visited about 60 countries in all and most of the United States.

In addition to traveling, Dennis loved planning home improvement projects, remodeling, and new construction. He was a master builder. He was never far from his computer. Dennis enjoyed genealogy research and found several “lost” relatives through DNA testing, including his maternal grandfather and his family. He also photographed hundreds of headstones for the “Find a Grave” website. He was fond of backyard BBQs, reading, fixing antique cars, studying history, finding great deals at garage sales, cheering for the Seattle Seahawks, and homemade cherry pie. He cherished being a grandpa “papa” and shared a special bond with his grandson Eben. Dennis was always happiest when he was spending time with family and friends.

In addition to his caring nature, Dennis will always be remembered for his adventurous spirit, sense of humor, wit, generosity, helpfulness, and his ability to give wise and thoughtful advice.

Dennis was preceded in death by his father, Robert Rasmussen Jr., who passed away in 2014. He is survived by his wife Vickie of Lynden, and their two children: Monica Rasmussen (Alejandro) of Shoreline, and Erik Rasmussen (Sherri) of Ferndale, and a grandson: Eben Rasmussen, as well as Sherri’s son Hayden Alleva, who Dennis treated like his own grandson, mother Jean Rasmussen of Marysville, brother Gerry Rasmussen (Cathy) of Lacey; and sister Linda Litch (Steve) of Arlington. Also survived by several nieces and nephews and numerous first and second cousins scattered around

Denmark and Puget Sound.

A graveside service is scheduled for 12:30 PM, August 27, 2021 at Bayview Cemetery in Bellingham, WA. with reception to follow In lieu of flowers, please donate to Seattle Cancer Care Alliance or Wounded Warrior Project on his behalf.

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ *I am so sorry, Vickie and family.  
I just read this notice today – I had lost contact with you after I left  
working out at the refinery. I only have wonderful memories with  
Vickie and Dennis.  
I am so sorry for your loss.  
Love and Blessings.  
Susan Prosser*

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**Susan Prosser** - November 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ I first met Dennis nearly 10 years ago and very soon we discovered we shared many things in common. Besides both of us being lifelong DIY-ers, we both were interested in history, archeology, the latest scientific discoveries, world events and even a little philosophy, just to name a few. Over the years we spent many hours talking about all these things and more. I always valued Dennis’s opinions and I admired his calm, analytical thinking. Most of the time we found ourselves in agreement with one another but, even when we disagreed, Dennis was always so laid-back, respectful and open-minded. A true gentleman. But in all of our conversations two subjects seem to come up again and again. They were do-it-yourself projects and where to get the best deals. Before I met Dennis I used to think that I was pretty good at DIY projects and finding good deals but it wasn’t long before I had to admit that I was really just the Apprentice and Dennis was the Master! It was amazing how he could think outside the box! Actually, I think Dennis approached many of life’s problems like he would a DIY project: calmly analyze, then methodically search for the best and (if possible) the most cost-effective solution to problems. I will always remember his kindheartedness, his live-and-let-live philosophy, his humor, his brilliant and logical mind all of our many great conversations. I am honored to have known Dennis, to have been part of his family and to have shared his friendship. I will really miss him very much.

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**Greg Fix** - August 29, 2021 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Dennis was a really good friend to both myself, and my husband Bob. We first became acquainted on an Alaska cruise where we were tablemates , and went on to take many, many trips together. Because we lived so far apart, it was often easier to just meet up someplace, and we did that many times over the years. Sometimes it was an exciting destination like New York, Zurich or Barcelona, and sometimes it was a more casual trip like the Oregon coast or their beach house in WA. Often times we would rent a large condo and all stay in the same place playing games or just talking late into the night. With Dennis being such a night owl, sometimes those conversations went very late into the night! Thats how you really get to know a person and their values. His intense love for Vickie, Monika, Eric and Eben and the entire family always came through loud and clear. And, then of course, there was his great sense of humor.....

Dennis was a very unique person with a big personality and a lot of knowledge on a lot of subjects. I enjoyed talking with him on a variety of subjects as well as making plans for our next adventure. I will miss him greatly.

Our love to Vickie, Monika, Alex, Eric, Sheri and Eben, as well as the entire extended family.

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**Terri Miller** - August 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Dennis was my brother-in-law. He was a wonderful brother-in-law and everyone of my family loved him, including my mama. He used to come and visit me when I worked at the college in the cafeteria and would buy a hot chocolate. Later on I think he outgrew hot chocolate. 😊 He held himself so high without even knowing it, and I was a little bit intimidated when I first met him thinking how smart he was and how I may say something wrong. I learned however that he was not judgmental, just sometimes would crack a joke but it was never critical to me. My husband loved him and now they're together. He would go with my husband to Seattle and drive all the way from Bellingham just to support him while he had cancer. He would come all the way down to take my husband to lunch so that my husband felt good that day even if just for a few hours. One day Dennis drove up to my front yard and him and Vickie had a powered wheelchair for my husband. I will never forget the kindness and love that made Dan's life better during his last year because of Dennis. I will always see him and his children. Of course he was such a good man because he had good parents also. My sister adored him and always worried about him even when he was working so many hours. I feel that some of my sisters and I have been so blessed with such wonderful men and now they're together with Jesus. Well I could go on and on about how we played cards together and had so much fun the four of us. But then our kids came along and life started happening very fast. I'll let other people say stuff about my wonderful brother-in-law and close out for now, but he will never leave my ❤️ I love you Dennis and always will but I believe we will see you again!!!

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Melodie Nelson - August 24, 2021 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Dennis.  
My condolences to Vicki and family.  
I went to school with Dennis. Dennis always came to our class  
lunches and he surely will be missed. RIP my friend!*

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**Anna Holscher** - August 23, 2021 at 12:00 AM