



## Donald Bud Bensen

March 8, 1927 - February 26, 2019

Bud Bensen passed away on February 26, 2019, with family by his side, after a long battle with Parkinson's and dementia. Bud was born to Christian and Mary Bensen and was raised with his four brothers on the family farm in Lynden. He attended Lynden High School until his enlistment in the U.S. Navy, where he was stationed in Hawaii.

Upon his return to Lynden, Bud courted and married the love of his life, Millie Campbell. Together they went dancing on weekends, played cards with close friends, and raised two sons, Rick and Dane. Bud built a home next to his parents, and enjoyed a life of hunting, fishing, and raising horses, and many, many dogs. He loved nothing more than hunting in Eastern Washington every year with his brothers and nephews, and especially enjoyed telling stories during happy hour. He developed a talent for woodworking and he carved numerous shore birds and ducks, and built Adirondack chairs as a hobby. Bud retired from Darigold after 37 years where he was appropriately referred to with affection as "Grumpy Pockets".

After retirement, Bud and Millie remodeled their cabin at Sandy Point into the family home, spent time traveling, boating, crabbing, and fishing, being good neighbors to the community, and appreciating every beautiful sunset.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Dale (in infancy), Les,

Leonard, and Bill; and his beloved and much missed son, Rick Bonsen. He is survived by his beloved and loyal wife of 69 years, Millie; his son Dane (Ina) Bonsen of Lynden; grandson Tucker Kraght of Seattle; brother Jerry (Kim) Bonsen of Lynden; and endless special nephews, nieces, and friends.

The family would like to thank the attending staff and nurses at Spring Creek Memory Care in Bellingham, who cared for Bud before his passing. Their genuine caring and concern for Bud in his last days were a great comfort for him. And a special thank you to Whatcom Hospice for Bud's painless and peaceful passing.

At Bud's request, there will be no funeral service. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall – 5537 2nd Ave. Ferndale.

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ Bud was kind and generous. He made a beautiful rocking horse for our son when he was about 2 years old. Doug (and eventually his brother, Kevin) played for hours on that horse. It brings very happy memories.

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**Sheree and Craig Sheets** - February 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ I have fond memories of Uncle Bud. He was always happy to spend time with us on family visits to Lynden. His jokes about Bobby the Cow, providing pheasant meat (with a buckshot or two) for Thanksgiving dinner, recalling adventures with a twinkle in his eye, taking his time to answer my questions with a long thoughtful explanation.  
Bud was a respectful and genuine soul and will be missed.

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**Bob Campbell** - February 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ We will never forget the wonderful memories of 4th of July out at the beach! We will never forget all Uncle Bud's stories, we were so fond of hearing all of them! We will never forget his boisterous and contagious laugh. We will never forget his love of all of his hobbies. We will never forget how much he meant to all of us, or how much Grandpa Bill looked up to him.  
We wish you could have met the girls. We know they would have loved ya!  
Love ya, Uncle Bud. Until we meet again. Xoxx  
Our deepest sympathies go out to Aunt Millie, Dane & Ina, & Tucker.  
Hugs and prayers for you guys. Xoxx  
Brittany & Johnathan  
Annyka & Emalynn

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**Brittany DeGroot** - February 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM