



Patrick Dowling

April 24, 1951 - January 29, 2025

A devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, Patrick Dowling passed away peacefully on January 29, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. He was 73 years old.

Born to Matthew and Regina Dowling on April 24, 1951, in Detroit, Michigan, Pat grew up in Beaverton, Michigan, where he graduated from Beaverton High School in 1969. He later attended Central Michigan University. In 1977, Pat embarked on an adventurous cross-country motorcycle ride to Washington, an experience that marked the beginning of his life in the Pacific Northwest.

In 1979, Pat married his soulmate, Teresa, in Bellingham, Washington, where they settled and raised their daughter, Chelsea. For 36 years, Pat worked at the Whatcom Museum as the facilities manager, where he played a key role in several projects that he was passionate about, including restoration of the museum's historic building and creation of the exhibit tracing the history of motorcycles (Motorcycles: the Good, the Bad, and the Custom.) Pat was also a beloved figure at the museum's annual holiday celebration, where he donned the role of Santa Claus, spreading joy to children and families alike for over two decades.

Pat's family was the greatest joy and most meaningful achievement of his life.

He played an integral role in their lives, offering them unwavering love and support.

Pat had a variety of interests that brought him joy. He was an avid cribbage player, a passionate motorcyclist, and in his younger years enjoyed cycling and competed twice in the Ski to Sea race. Pat also found fulfillment in acting, performing in local productions with the Theater Guild. He shared his love for history through his involvement with the B.C. Chapter 121 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, bringing an exhibit of antique clocks to the Whatcom Museum.

Pat's generosity, kind heart, and welcoming smile made him a friend to all who knew him.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Teresa; his daughter Chelsea Brionez (Miguel), and his cherished grandchildren, Isabella, Sienna, and Mateo, who brought him endless joy; his brother Dean Dowling (Teri), his sister Leeann Beyer (Leonard), his niece Bridgette Gransden (Kieth); and his nephews Tony Dowling, Joe Dowling, and John Matthews. He is also remembered fondly by his large extended Elton family, Bob Elton (Lynn), Ron Elton (Dena), Dennis Elton (Shawn), Sharon Elton, Liz Elton, and countless friends who were fortunate to know him.

A celebration of Pat's life will be held at 1pm on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at Moles Greenacres Memorial Park Chapel, followed by green interment. 5700 Northwest Dr., Ferndale, WA.

Tribute Wall

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“ *The Best Biscotti maker ever! Rest in Peace Patrick.*

Toni Nagel Mason - February 17, 2025 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *I was working as an editor of an arts publication when Pat did the motorcycle exhibit at the museum. It was bar-none an incredible exhibit in every way (and I am not necessarily a motorcycle fan!) — the brochures, the accompanying events. I thought it was incredible. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

Elisa

Elisa A Claassen - February 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ *Pat, You will be so missed💔
So many conversations, some wild, some memories.
You were like my brother from another.
One of the best people I ever met.
Thank you for Everything!*

Nancy

Nancy Grinstead - February 06, 2025 at 12:00 AM