



Roger Eugene Unger

December 22, 1933 - June 21, 2022

A Tribute to Love

Love is the word first and foremost in thoughts of Roger. A love so very obvious for his wife, his AA Fellowship, his country, and his family that took him to many areas of our nation to be with them. He also thrilled to the opportunity to have them in his home whenever possible. Home for him took him from his birthplace in Phoenix, AZ to other parts of our Southwest Desert where he happily worked to raise his three children; and then gave rein to his more adventuresome spirit. Following his Lord's leading with his beloved Martha alongside he struck out for parts unknown and a future that had no shape or form for either of them at that time. Often with a cloud by day or city lights at night they camped and drove their way into uncharted territory.

A respite with friends in Wyoming helped them know if they would be heading East or West. After more amazing beauty, uplifting encounters with strangers and fellow Believers their growing weariness took the travelers down the coast of our Northwest and across the Idaho border to this place they had only heard of from their Las Vegas pastor, "Cordalane" [sic] Coeur d'Alene.

They sometimes felt they were running away from their Las Vegas home of sixteen years though all three of their children were adults and living elsewhere. Perhaps the pain of missing them was lessened by having their

own adventure, but both Roger and Martha felt a new spiritual connection with them as they waited for each reunion.

First was daughter Christiana's marriage in Las Vegas and here Roger and Martha could connect with longtime church friends and family still living there. Then a visit from their son Roger Jr. living in Phoenix meant that he got to share the only 20 degree below zero temperature they experienced in their 14 years in Spirit Lake. Eventually they had the privilege of joining younger son, Scott, on an Alameda Naval Station flightline, where he was flagging helicopters in and out.

Roger enjoyed positions as a telephone lineman and Real Estate Broker in Tucson as well as joining Bekins Van Lines as a salesman. They soon transferred as a family to Las Vegas. Roger later made a move to North American Van Lines where he became Sales Manager and won recognition as National Sales Manager of the year. In Idaho he helped guard a submarine base besides giving vent to his ability to write historical fiction and delightful children's stories.

The birth of their first Grandchild and a move from Florida to Idaho brought a baby back into their home, daughter Christi with her daughter Natalia. After time in ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) they had become painfully aware of their inadequacies as parents but with their ever present love and their Lord's forgiveness they embarked on this unique adventure called Grandparenthood praying for Jesus to strengthen and empower them to be the best they could be.

Roger thoroughly appreciated his military service especially having his bride included in his tour in Germany as they both had ancestors there. And he was an avid gardener as well as boater and fisherman. Skiing and hunting were a pleasant part of his past.


Yet Bellingham represented a Rainbow's End to Roger and Martha. Married 65 years, they lived out a dream of residing by the ocean with their Lord's added bonus of finding more love than either of them had ever imagined in Alcoholics Anonymous.

A memorial service will be held for Roger on Sunday, September 11, 1:00pm at the Squaticum Boathouse at Zuanich Point Park, 2600 S. Harbor Loop, Bellingham, WA.

Tribute Wall

RW

“ *To the family of Roger and Martha Unger:
I'm from Scotland and from 1993-94 I was fortunate enough to attend Whitworth College in Spokane as a mature exchange student. I had never heard of ACOA, but was told about it by the counsellor at the college and went along to a meeting, not sure what to expect.
I was fortunate to meet Roger and Martha, who made me feel so welcome! They gave me so much love and warmth, and with them I learned how to understand the environment I grew up in, and how it had affected me in ways I hadn't understood.
I am so grateful for our loving connection, which has continued to this day. I'm so sorry to hear of Roger's passing, Martha, but know that you will meet again.
Apologies for the delay in getting in touch with you, but I have had some health issues since last year. Sending you love and blessings!*



Ruth Wilson - February 20, 2023 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *To the family of Martha and Roger Unger:
They were my neighbors at the Rip Tide Condominiums for many years, and were dear friends. Roger grew the best roses and flew the flag proudly. Martha was a sweetheart and Roger demonstrated his love for her every day.*

Elin Chinn - September 05, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *My dear Martha , I lost my soul mate after 31 years. To keep going is so hard! The hardest thing I have ever done! And yet, I know that living life to the fullest- laughing, crying, being the sober me I have always wanted to be, is exactly what Chuck wants for me. He still loves me from wherever he is now.*

The same is true for you. Roger’s love still surrounds you! You are a wonderful woman. I see why Roger stuck around for all those years!

Love surrounds you, Martha

Jana Atkinson - August 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM