



Arthur Joseph Schaefer

December 6, 1929 - June 21, 2021

Arthur J. Schaefer was born in 1929 to Hubert and Barbara Schaefer of Hoven, SD. He died at the age of 91 on June 21, 2021 from the combined effects of his advanced years.

Arthur grew up on the family farm and attended school in Hoven, graduating Class of '48 from Hoven high school. During these formative years Arthur learned the value of self-reliance, hard work and love of family. He also developed a love for the land and doing things with his hands, passions that would stay with him his entire life. After high school Arthur continued working on the family farm until his induction into the US Army and deployment in the Korean War. After completion of his US Army tour, Arthur returned to Hoven.

Then in 1956 began a series of events that dramatically changed Arthur's life. He moved to Portland, Oregon and found employment as a Boilermaker's apprentice with Gunderson Bros. Being an apprentice meant taking night classes at Benson Polytechnic that would prepare him for his new career. Also, that year he married Marie Reding, the love of his life, and together they began planning their family. By 1960, Arthur had completed his trade courses and become a journeyman Boilermaker; and Arthur and Marie moved their young family into the home built in his spare time. By now Arthur and Marie had two sons, Joseph and Francis. In addition, their home site near Tualatin, OR, had sufficient space for a garden plot and in the following decades there

would always be fresh fruit and vegetables on the Schaefer table.

For the next 31 years Arthur worked at Gunderson Brother's rail division in NW Portland assembling railroad cars. He retired at the beginning of 1992. Then in mid-1993 Marie passed away and Arthur actively focused his time volunteering at church functions, tilling his garden and other home projects. Several folks have on multiple occasions received fresh vegetables from Arthur's garden over the years. Arthur is survived by two of his sisters Beatrice Hein and Doris Ann Nordhues, his two sons, Joseph and Francis, two granddaughters and two great-granddaughters. Arthur will be laid to rest at Willamette National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers Arthur's family asks that a donation to Meals on Wheels be made in his honor.

Please leave a message of condolence for the family by clicking the tab above.

Cemetery Details

Willamette National Cemetery

11800 SE Mt. Scott Blvd.
Portland, OR 97086

Previous Events

Rosary

JUL 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Attrell's Funeral Chapel
16195 SW 1st St
Sherwood, OR 97140
(503) 625-6515
info@attrells.com
<https://www.attrells.com/>

Funeral Mass

JUL 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Francis Catholic Church
15651 SW Oregon St.
Sherwood, OR 97140
church@stfrancissherwood.org

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Happy birthday, Art. Today, December 6, would have been your 92nd birthday. I miss our visits every week, and your stories about the dust bowl, the grasshoppers, Lawrence Welk at your Friday night dances, how you got that shipping container into your backyard and all the rest of them. Rest in peace, Art. I hope you're looking down and chuckling at me whenever you see me trying to trap a mole. :)



Jackie Mathys - December 06, 2021 at 05:08 PM

JS

“ I would like to thank everyone for their kind words of remembrance for Arthur. Your gracious thoughts and prayers are a great comfort to myself and Francis. Our loved ones will always be with us in our memories of good times spent together. Once again, thank you.

Joseph Schaefer - August 13, 2021 at 12:22 PM

JM

“ Five years ago my husband and I bought a 1960 farm house on a large property in Tualatin, Oregon. In the similar house next door lived a quiet, elderly man whose name I soon learned was Art.

Over the next four years, I visited Art (almost) every Wednesday afternoon. He would often tell me, half jokingly, that he had "outlived his usefulness." He hadn't. Not even close.

During our visits, Art told me story after story about our small slice of Tualatin, including the regular car crashes on Boones Ferry Rd., the cows that got out that he'd have to go round up, his prized vegetable garden, the history of every property around us (our house and property belonged to his in-laws).

Art also taught me how to maintain my John Deere riding mower. We busted out his old record player in the basement once and he shared some of his favorite records with me. He lit up when he put on "Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass" on the player.

He loved showing off his extensive workshop and power tools in the basement. It was always immaculate and perfectly organized. I don't think I ever saw one spider web down there.

Art absolutely loved playing cribbage with Joe at the little kitchen table, and watching Francis working on his truck in the driveway or flattening the gopher mounds in Art's backyard on the riding mower. His boys took very, VERY good care of their dad, tending to every detail so he could stay in the house he built for as long as possible.

Having Art as a neighbor was a gift. He probably had no idea how much he enriched my life as his new neighbor. All of the huge, mature walnut trees in our yard, he planted as saplings. Same for the soaring Doug Firs in his backyard. The stories and history he shared with me have given our new home deep meaning and interest, and I feel extremely fortunate to have been his neighbor.

I miss our weekly visits, and will always cherish the relatively little time I got to spend with him.

Rest in peace, Art.

*Love,
Jackie*



Jackie M. - August 09, 2021 at 08:12 PM

JY

“ *Our sincere condolences to Cousins Joe and Francis on the loss of your Dad and our Uncle. We've lost touch over the years but remember all the good times at the Album Schaefer farm playing kick the can and Red Rover in the yard while the grown ups talked and reminisced. Our hearts go out to you-may our prayers and caring offer you comfort. Judy Schaefer Youmans & family*



Judy Schaefer Youmans - July 05, 2021 at 05:21 PM

JY

Sorry for auto-correct- that should say "Albin" not Album

Judy Schaefer Youmans - July 05, 2021 at 09:48 PM

AE

“ *Adele & Emma lit a candle in memory of
Arthur Joseph Schaefer* ”



Adele & Emma - July 02, 2021 at 10:23 AM