



Donald Thomas Knowles

July 15, 1942 - May 4, 2018

May 4, 2018 in Wenatchee, Washington. He is survived by his sister Karen Collins, brothers William Knowles and his wife Sally Jones, David Knowles and his wife Patti Knowles. Immediate extended family include Michael Hickey, Sean Hickey, Kevin Hickey and wife Jodi, Eric Knowles and his wife Maggie, Brady Knowles and his wife Ileana, Lee Knowles and his wife Leticia, Kelly Knowles and his wife Brooke, Michelle Mostoller, and cousins Mike Tommy was born on July 15, 1942 in Walla Walla, Washington and died, Richard and Ted Davis.

Tommy's father, Donald, was in the service, so his family moved often. Ultimately though, he spent 30 years in the Ballard area of Seattle living with his parents and working for Northwest Center. After his father died, Tommy became the man of the house. He enjoyed doing his daily chores and taking care of his mom. They had a nightly ritual of watching Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy. He was an avid bowler for many years, as well as a devoted member of the Catholic Church.

After his mother's death, nearly two decades ago, Tommy retired from The Northwest Center after 39 years, and moved into a group home. To be closer to his sister Karen, Tommy ultimately moved to the Chelan area and entered Regency Manor Nursing Home. This was his home for seven plus years prior to his death. He loved the staff and his fellow residents as well as visitors from the community. Tommy's sister was able to visit Tommy several days a week.

Tommy was the most social member of his family. His days at his home were spent moving up and down the hallway socializing with all his friends and the staff. He became the heart of his community. When members of his family visited, his first questions were about the status of their family. What grade were the kids in, whose birthdays were near, and how each was doing in school. If a brother visited alone, his first question centered on why his spouse was not with him.

Our brother was an extraordinary man. He helped center all of us.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Northwest Center. Mass will be celebrated at St. Francis Catholic church in Chelan at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 16, 2018. A Reception will follow.

Events

MAY **Mass of Christian Burial** 10:00AM
16

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
210 W. Allen Avenue, Chelan, WA, US, 98816

Comments



“ Tommy, just say his name and you can't help but smile!

Our family met him doing church services and sing-a-longs at Regency in Chelan. The only song he'd request was Jingle Bells, no matter the time of year. He'd sing it with such a huge smile and gusto. My daughter (who he always asked about) and I would go on outings with them too. Tommy was so much fun! When they moved to Wenatchee we continued doing church so we got to see him weekly. Tommy brightened our hearts every time we saw him. He loved joking with my husband. He was a very special guy and will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers to his family.

With sympathy,
Jim, Wendy, and Brynn Rhodes

Rhodes Family - May 08, 2018 at 01:36 PM



“ Tommy worked for several years in the kitchen running our dishwasher at Small Faces Child Development Center in the old Crown Hill School. He always greeted children and adults with a bright smile, was never late to work nor did he miss any work days. I enjoyed coffee with Tommy and his mom at their Ballard apartment. He often told me how much he enjoyed vacation time at Black Butte with his family. I'm glad the children, staff and families had the chance to know Tommy's charming personality.

Lynn B Wirta,
Former Executive Director
Small Faces Child Development Center

Lynn B Wirta - May 08, 2018 at 08:19 PM



“ I remember how happy Tommy was, no matter what was going on, whatever the weather, etc. The love and acceptance his sister, his brothers and their families always showed Tommy was a great example to me and my children.

Jim Gelatt

Jim Gelatt - May 10, 2018 at 06:36 PM