



Jack Groeneveld

August 25, 1936 - May 4, 2020

Jack Groeneveld, passed away on May 4, 2020 at Central Washington Hospital. He was born on August 25, 1936 in Brewster to Jacob and Alice Groeneveld.

He grew up in Bridgeport, graduating from Bridgeport High School. From there he bought land and started orcharding in Brewster. On July 19, 1969 he married his wife Colleen Groeneveld from Latah.

He lived in Bridgeport and Brewster for his whole life. He spent his life working in the orchard and raising farm animals. Jack was part of the Brewster Kiwanis for at least 45 years of his life. He helped organize the sale of Kiwanis Christmas trees, fireworks and fruit. He also served on the Brewster Flats Water Board. He supported students by buying their fair animals. Jack was the one millionth person at the state B tournament and received a lifelong pass to the games. He was also, the citizen of the year for Brewster in 1986.

Jack is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice and Javier Avalos of Brewster; three grandchildren, Alex, Daniel and Kimberley.

There will not be a public service due to the covid 19 concern.

Cemetery Details

Bridgeport Cemetery

15th ST & Fisk Ave
Bridgeport, WA

Tribute Wall

TH

“ I met a mentor from my past. His name was Jack. He didn't know me or remember me but I remembered him. He hired me to work in his orchard when I was in high school back in the late 70s. He treated me with respect, showed me what to do and expected me to do it. I will admit I just thought of it as a job at the time and was working for the money. In 2005 I saw Jack in Brewster. He didn't see me, but I saw him; he was giving money anonymously to help kids that were in need. In 2008 I was passing through Brewster getting my tire repaired, Jack was there to check on his truck, they just finished, and it was ready for him to pick up. He did not know or remember me but turned to me and asked if I had 10 minutes to spare? I drove his pickup to his house, and he gave me a ride back. In 2009 he was showing his grandson around the courthouse in Okanogan, still an active part of the community passing on his values and good works. I thanked him for what he was doing, and we parted ways. It is sad to hear of his passing but be assured that his impact on this world will last for generations.

Tony Hillock - February 11, 2024 at 05:35 PM



“ **Jack Groeneveld**

January 29, 2023 at 08:49 AM

LM

“ Thinking of Jack's family. I didn't know his daughter and family. Jake and Alice were dear friends of ours while I was growing up. They stand out very special to me and us in my childhood. Luke spent some time in the summer with us on the Hill Ranch. Last time I must have seen Jack was before coming to Missouri. I was at Chelan Convention and ate down town, maybe breakfast, and Jack & Colleen came then too and Jack insisted we eat together, which was marvelous. He was a special person. Lila Newman Mahaffy.

Lila Newman Mahaffy - July 23, 2020 at 05:35 PM

GS

“ When we moved to Brewster in 2001, Jack was the first person to turn up at our door to welcome us to town. Over the years we lived there, he was a great friend to my family and also made a special friendship with my uncle who would visit from Scotland. A unique person, with a heart for people and for Brewster. Will be missed !!

Gordon Smith, former pastor of Brewster Adventist Church.

Gordon Smith - May 14, 2020 at 04:59 PM

TT

“ So sorry to hear of Jacks passing. He Enjoyed giving to his community as traditionally Jack would purchase and pickup 100+ turkeys the Sunday before Thanksgiving to give away to many families. Good man with a great sense of humor. Prayers out to his family and all the people that will miss him.

Tom Trudeau - May 12, 2020 at 10:47 PM

MA

“ *Mary, and your whole family.
I am shocked to hear of your dad's passing. I just assumed that he
would live forever! With a wit and such pride in you and your
children, I'm so sorry for each one of you!
Please, be at peace for him and remember,...now you and
Kimberley won't have to kick him out of the car again!* 🌹🌹

Mary and Rob Anto - May 11, 2020 at 04:58 AM

DK

“ I want to take you back 70+ years to to when I grow up as a neighbor to the Groenevelds in Bridgeport. This was within 5 to 13 years after WWII, 1950 to 1958, I can say now that we were all poor but we did not know it. Jake, Jack's father, a true Dutchman, wanted Jack to be special and bought Jack his 1st horse before he was in junior high school. I am sure this is what provided Jack's continued interest as a horseman and types of livestock. If you had ever wondered why his wrist was bent, it was because he continued to ride his horse while his broken wrist was still in a cast. I am not sure that his parents knew this. but his friends did. Life was simple then. We spent many hours playing checkers and monopoly. Our winter sports include walking to the top of Dyer Hill for a long slide ride. During Jack's high school years, he was the equipment manager for 4 years, for all boys team sports, and thus he attended all games and sporting events. I can say that his work ethics were outstanding and I was proud to be his assistant for 2 years. His first paying jobs, as was mine, in the orchards as soon as we were strong enough to set a 16 foot ladder. No employer would asked your age as they new it, and they also knew that the crop had to be in the box or bin. The next item that I want to share happened in Spokane. He was honored as the one millionth guest to attend the Washington State Class B Basketball Tournament. He has continued to be a loyal sports fan for the local communities. Jack would engage you in any topic of conversion, and you had better be ready to defend your side of the argument if it differed from his. Jack was a man of his word and stood for truth. A deal was completed with a hand shake. To Jack's family, I feel your lose. His goodness to the communities will be missed.

Dick Kaden, BHS Class of 1958

Dick Kaden - May 10, 2020 at 12:05 PM

PP

Dick. I remember his parents well. I lived across the street from you. My maiden name is Birch. My step son is married to Susan Sloan. Your parents were so very nice. I didn't know Jack very well. But rented from Verla and his parents.

pat birch pittman - May 10, 2020 at 02:15 PM

AA

“ So very sad! We met Jack years ago at the Okanogan Livestock Market and we saw him every year sitting front row at the Okanogan County Fair Market Sale on Saturday afternoon/ evening and Sunday at the fur and feather auction. He took Great pride in helping support Okanogan County kids. Jack thank you for your many years of dedication to your community and the youth of Okanogan County! We will miss you at the Okanogan Fair. Our deepest condolences to his family. Anita and Jerry Asmussen 🙏😇😭

Anita Asmussen - May 09, 2020 at 05:35 PM

LC

“ Jack would always come into the business office of the Hospital and bring us fresh cut flowers to brighten our day. Such a caring man. He would do anything to help someone in need.



Lenora Coenen - May 09, 2020 at 05:03 PM

CG

“ I use to serve him hot chocolate at Howard's he was always stop and ask the other customers "Where you From? To his daughter and family sorry for your loss! Corrine Garner

Corrine Garner - May 09, 2020 at 04:13 PM

WT

“ Sorry for your loss. Jack was a friend and customer of mine at Hamilton Farm Equipment for as long as I can remember. He always would stop by and ask if we had anything he could deliver to anyone in Brewster. Going to miss seeing him at auctions and other events.

Wayne Turner - May 09, 2020 at 12:12 PM

BH

“ So sorry for the loss of a true character & a good person. Condolences to his family.

Bonnie House - May 09, 2020 at 09:43 AM

GW

“ I met Jack years ago as a client when I worked at Pratt Insurance in Brewster. I could count on him to have a razor-sharp sense of humor. We never knew who would be the "victim" that day. We had to have a quick and witty reply to his "wisdom" for the day. He was a rare outspoken person who appeared to love each person he met in a tough, funny way. Years later, I saw him in the post office long after I was in a different career; he greeted me as if I had just walked in the door and said something smarmy to me for which I was speechless. He laughed and so did I. What a kick! I will miss his presence.

Gaylen Willett - May 07, 2020 at 09:54 AM

MC

“ Jack and Colleen were such good friends to my mom . She loved them so much . Our lives were filled with great memories of Jack in the orchard when we work for him.

marie Weldon Casto - May 06, 2020 at 10:29 PM

AF

“ When I was a teenager I would ride my Arabian horse in the Bonaza Days Parade. Jack came up to me and said my horse was to dangerous to ride because she would prance around. I told him that I made her prance and side step. He told me I was crazy. So every time I saw Jack when I was riding I would make her prance. He would look at me shake his head and still tell me I was crazy. When I saw him any other time, not on my horse, he would ask me how my pretty Crazy horse was doing. A few days after my horse had died I saw Jack at the post office. He asked how she was and when I told him she died, he gave me a hug and said she was the prettiest cray horse he ever saw. He made me laugh!!! I will miss him. Now he is with Colleen. Prayers to you and your family Mary Alice.

God Bless,

Alisia Foyle

Alisia G Foyle - May 06, 2020 at 08:48 PM