



David S. Heisley

Born April 1, 1936, Berea, Ohio

Died February 10, 2015, Creswell, Oregon

David Spencer Heisley resided in Creswell, OR - See more at:
<http://www.smithlundmills.com/obituary/David-Spencer-Heisley/Creswell-OR/1480627#sthash.rX9CTcO6.dpuf>

David S. Heisley, 78, of Creswell, OR passed away on February 10, 2015. He was born on April 1, 1936 in Berea, Ohio to Howard and Esther (Himes) Heisley.

David graduated from high school and aircraft mechanics school at Clover Park Vocation School. He served in the United States Air Force.

He married Jeanette Lane on September 13, 1958 in Merced, CA. David was the lead mechanic for United Airlines for 33 years. He was a Cessna airplane pilot who enjoyed building things and welding. David loved flying his R/C planes and volunteered his time by taking care of the model airplane fields in both Cottage Grove and Creswell. He was a member of the South Lane R/C Modelers Club and an honorary member of the Creswell RC Flyers.

David is survived by his wife, Jeanette Heisley, Creswell, OR; son, Howard Heisley, Merced, CA; son, Allan Heisley, Creswell, OR; daughter, Karen Puchalski and husband Mark, Orange County, CA; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A Graveside Service was held February 19, 2015 at Creswell Pioneer Cemetery. The service was attended by family, friends and members of the community. Experimental Aircraft Association, Creswell Airport, South Lane RC, Creswell RC and Eugene RC were represented as well.



Remembrances

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There is a word in the English language we announce as "extraordinary", and we use it in an attempt to describe either our observations or our feelings about something or someone that has impressed us as being beyond ordinary, above ordinary something or someone of a higher quality than the ordinary expectations of daily life.

The best extraordinary things in my life I have found in unexpected places or circumstances. Places and circumstances where you were prepared for another confrontation with the mundane sterility of defensive or cautious human relationships, but instead found yourself stunned and almost naively defenseless at what you found and experienced, especially as pertains to the interactions with another human being.

Over many years of friendship with Dave Heisley, I found myself seldom prepared for the spontaneous cascading of the warmth, sincerity and steadfastness of the friendship of this truly EXTRAORDINARY man and his selfless devotion to the brotherhood of his friendships.

I find myself caught in a moment of helpless void.....saying how can we go on without him.....who is going to fix virtually anything and everything we break.....who is going to send the pesky gophers to their waiting virgins.....and who is going to sternly yet gently inform us that there is really ONLY ONE WAY to do something.....and of course that will be the way Dave has decided it should be done?!!!

Fortunately for all of us, it usually turned out to be a very workable way to do whatever it was we were trying to do. His engineering degree in the schools of experience and trial and error were nearly infallible.

We must count our blessings in that the great serendipity of life allowed us to dwell for a time in the shadow of this great and caring man. We must keep him alive in our memories and in our thankfulness for the privilege of sharing this earth with him for a short time.

Larry Church

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Sometimes you watch people from afar. I always thought why did Dave do so much for the Cottage Grove Club and our club. I remember coming to the field one morning to fly and he had the mowers up on a ramp and was sharpening the blades and I thought what a guy he doesn't even fly RC Airplanes.

My thoughts then and now are what a great example of someone giving service. I have always tried to give service when ever I can and Dave has inspired me to be a better individual in that regard. If we all gave a little more of our time like Dave the world and us would be better served. What a great example Dave was to us all.

Rod Madison

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I first met Dave some 10 years ago. He had just finished mowing the RC runway at Cinderella Park when I arrived to fly. Looking over the way he had attached the grass pickup system to his riding mower impressed me.

After introductions we discussed his grass pickup system arrangement and trailer for hauling it. We got into discussions about Continental, Lycoming and Wisconsin engines.

Shortly after the Creswell RC Flyers club was started Dave was there at Walker field to help. He put a big effort into ridding the runway of Gophers and collected the nick name of "Gopher Dave". He attended many of our club meetings and often had some thoughts for us to consider.

Several years back Dave was made an "Honorary Member" of CRCF. He will be missed by those of us that had the pleasure of getting to know him.

Jim Corbett