



Jerry K. Boaz

January 20, 1942 - September 18, 2019

Jerry K. Boaz, age 77, died Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at the Corvallis Manor.
Please share your thoughts and memories for the family at <http://www.demosdurdan.com>

Comments



“ I first met Jerry around 1992. For livelihood at that time, he single handedly rebuilt and sold cars out of a rented storage unit in south Corvallis, while residing in the upper floor of the same unit, a most unorthodox arrangement, but he somehow managed there till health issues forced him to move into a small apartment 15 years later. In the course of many, sometimes incoherent, ramblings to me, right up to the last some three weeks ago, this mysterious man gradually shred some of the shrouds covering his past. Proud of his part Cherokee heritage he spent boyhood on a farm near Santa Barbara, where among other things he souped up and raced hot rods, a love and passion he bore right up to the end. Indeed he had an uncanny mechanical ability, able to mentally visualize the three dimensional structural innards of virtually any automobile. He claimed to have been endowed with a photographic memory so intense that he had to take drugs to suppress it. A National Merit Scholar, he had enrolled in UCLA where on the basis of an aptitude test given to entering Freshman, he was selected by Linus Pauling to assist in Pauling's lab there. For some reason though, he transferred to Arizona State University, from which he earned a degree in clinical psychology, and later became a parole officer in LA, where he had to deal with its criminal underworld, often delicately extricating himself and others from potentially lethal situations. He it seems always had an affection for the underdog, and would give his shirt off his back to whomever he thought might need it. Though twice married and divorced with two sons, he nevertheless in our last conversation told me he intended to bequeath his estate mostly to the Corvallis library as he greatly appreciated their mobile van which delivered him books which he had become too weak to personally go borrow from the library. He expressed interest in my becoming executor of his estate, and I was awaiting word from him to formally arrange this when just now to my sorrow learned of his passing. Jerry was unique, gentle, generous, too brilliant for his own good and this world, but hopefully now in a better place.

Bob Shultz, Corvallis, September 26, 2019

Robert Shultz - September 26, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ Jerry was my neighbor for about 9-10 years at Glenwood Manor. We shared some authors and chocolate in common. We will miss him. Nancy D.

Nancy Demchak - September 25, 2019 at 07:26 PM



“ My name is Rick Boax. He was my dad. Haven't seen him in 20 years. My brother and I miss him. He never met his five grand kids. We tried to find him in Corvallis 15 years ago. Such a stubborn man. May he rest in peace.

Rick Boaz - October 25, 2019 at 10:49 PM



“ Rick Boaz. Chris Boaz.

Rick Boaz - October 25, 2019 at 10:51 PM