



## Gene Tanselli

February 4, 1929 - June 26, 2009

Gene Tanselli passed away peacefully Friday in Corvallis with his wife of 50 years at his side. People will remember him for his love of family, baseball, golf and a “good cigar”. His sense of humor and great personality is what he leaves behind to all who knew him. His life began in 1929 in Portland when he was born to Lena and Pasquale Tanselli. Gene graduated from Jefferson High School in 1947 where he lettered in baseball and basketball. He attended Oregon State University where he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

After graduating from OSU in 1951, Gene played professional baseball for the Salem Senators of the Northwest League, followed by the San Diego Padres and the Tulsa Oilers. Gene began his coaching and teaching career at Franklin High School in Portland in 1956. He married Joan Belcher in 1958. They moved to Vancouver, Wash., where he coached at Clark Junior College. His final stop was Oregon State University, where he began teaching in the Physical Education Department and was an assistant to Ralph Coleman with the baseball team from 1962-1965. Gene was head baseball coach for the Beavers from 1966-1972. He finished his career working in the P.E. Department until his retirement in 1989.

Gene was a gifted athlete, coach and educator. He resided in the Corvallis area from 1962 until the time of his death. Some of Gene’s proudest moments are when he was chosen to play in the annual Esquire All-American Boy’s Baseball game at Wrigley Field in Chicago. His coach was Ty Cobb. Gene

was inducted into the OSU Sports Hall of Fame and the Portland Intercollegiate League (PIL) Hall of Fame.

Gene is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Lia, son-in-law, Montie Watson and grandchildren Aaron and Avery of Midland, Texas; son, Paul, daughter-in-law, Cori, and grandchildren Mitchell, McKenna, Kaitlynn and Hannah of Lebanon; and son, Lou Tanselli of Philomath. Gene was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Phillip. A private family service will be held.

Please join the family for a Celebration of Life at the Corvallis Country Club, 1850 SW Whiteside Drive, from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 12.

Rememberences may be made in memory of Gene Tanselli to the OSU Foundation Baseball Fund, c/o OSU Foundation, 850 S.W. 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333, or to Benton Hospice in care of DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home, 815 NW Buchanan Ave, Corvallis, OR 97330.

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Dave B lit a candle in memory of Gene Tanselli*



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**dave B** - December 27, 2017 at 07:56 PM

DB

*what a great BIG TEAM member in early AM golf*

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**dave B** - December 27, 2017 at 07:57 PM