



RONALD P. MENG

1954-2013

Ronald Paul Meng, age 59, passed away peacefully at home on August 22, 2013. After a three year battle with cancer, Ron spent his final day lovingly surrounded by his family and life-long friends.

Ron was born Feb. 06, 1954, in Seattle, WA to Godan and Florence Meng. He spent his youth in the Normandy Park neighborhood of Seattle, moving to Lopez Island in 1972. The next year, Ron married Jennifer Collman, also of Lopez. The couple started their business, Islands Marine Center, the same year.

Ron is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jennifer Meng, his daughter Christine Meng his granddaughter Madeline Anderson, his niece Amanda, his parents Godan and Florence Meng, his brothers, Eric, Dennis and Bob, his sisters Lori and Karen, and many, much-loved nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life will be held at Woodman Hall on Sunday, September 29 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Friends of Woodman Hall, P.O. Box 424, Lopez Is., WA 98261.



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It's with love and gratitude that we welcome all of you to this celebration of Ron's life. He valued your friendship above all else and your presence is a great comfort to us.

From Ron's earliest days he was fascinated with the sea. He loved to boat and fishing was his true passion. Growing up in Normandy Park he made friends with the Foss family and spent many happy summers aboard the "Pat Foss", catching rides on the tug boats and fishing off the log booms. His first trip to the San Juan Islands was in the families' 14' boat, "Roemer II" What an adventure! After graduating from High School it seemed natural that he would take his talent for mechanics and love of boats to start his own marine business.

1972 was the start of Islands Marine Center, and 1973 Ron married Jennifer and so began their life on Lopez. 1984 was celebrated with the birth of daughter Christine, what a happy time for the Meng family.

Hard work and more hard work resulted in the purchase of property on Fisherman Bay and over the next four decades Ron built his business, adding the marina, service buildings and eventually building his own boat line, Ocean Sport Boats. It was a busy life but always Ron made time to help out, volunteering for the fire department, serving as Fire Chief and then Commissioner, bringing in the first EMT class on the island. He was a

member of the Board of Directors for the San Juan County Bank, served on the water board, and was our "inspector gadget" whenever 4-H or Pony Club needed help.

Throughout his life Ron's most treasured moments were those he spent on the water, fishing, and the time he spent in the marina, visiting with friends, sharing advice and stories with his fellow boaters. In recent years he discovered the joys of Barkley Sound and spent a portion of each summer on the ocean, it held a very special spot in his heart and Ron and his "evening bite" were a familiar sight at the favorite fishing spots.

The Meng Family

Fisherman's Prayer

I pray that I may live to fish
Until my dying day.
And when it comes to my last cast,
I then most humbly pray:
When in the Lord's great landing net
And peacefully asleep
That in His mercy I be judged
Big enough to keep.

I've finished life's chores assigned to me,
So put me on a boat headed out to sea.
Please send along my fishing pole
For I've been invited to the fishin' hole.

Where every day is a day to fish,
To fill your heart with every wish.
Don't worry, or feel sad for me,
I'm fishin' with the Master of the sea.

We will miss each other for awhile,
But you will come and bring your smile.
That won't be long you will see,
Till we're together you and me.

To all of those that think of me,
Be happy as I go out to sea.
If others wonder why I'm missin'
Just tell them all that I've gone fishin'

