

Mark Bernard Siddall

October 18, 1935 - June 15, 2024

Mark Bernard Siddall was born to Mark Montague and Olivine Minerva (Fisch) Siddall on October 18th, 1935. His birth was paid for with six cases of salmon as Mark Montague was a sporting man and this was the depression. He was the oldest of three, with Mary Jo and Diane as his younger sisters.

Mark was his father's son, going with his dad and grandfather, Mark Reform Siddall, on many hunting and fishing adventures and living on much of what they harvested. His early years were marked by his pronounced asthma. His earliest memory of school was the first day of elementary first grade, where he cried himself all the way home as he did not learn to read as he had hoped.

During 1941 (WWII) when the Japanese were shelling Astoria trying to attack Ft. Stevens, 6yr old Mark was given a loaded shotgun as the family bunkered in the garage in anticipation of a Japanese raid on the city. Mark never forgot this event.

Mark was an intelligent child and did well in school. He attended Oregon State College (now OSU) where he was pursuing a pre-med degree. His uncle Richard Freeman was part of the Mercury Space Program on the telemetry team, and talking to Richard made Mark change his major to physics. Once he obtained a BS in physics, he went on to obtain a MS in material sciences.

Once free of college, Mark enlisted in the Army where he was quickly made a clerk typist. One thing led to another, and he found himself posted as part of a research and development team at Westinghouse researching early semiconductors (i.e. computer chips) as well as working in nuclear energy.

Once his enlistment was up, Mark travelled back to Oregon, applying to various companies along the way with the hope of finding something in Oregon. He dropped off a resume at Wah Chang in Albany where he was notified that the only opening was for a welder. Mark took the job. Again, one thing led to another and shortly he was a research engineer developing processes for Wah Chang, with his latest process being a tantalum capacitor assembly line. One day, while he was touring his lab of students, he met a young student supplementing her income as a technician. He asked her about what she was doing. She recounted the entire tantalum process to him, where he listened with rapt attention. Once complete, he left to resume his duties. The other student technicians started laughing at young Marian Virginia Giedd since they all knew that he developed the process from scratch. This embarrassment eventually led to a whirlwind romance that had them married three months later.

Once married, Mark and his young bride had many adventures in far off lands and at home where they enjoyed listening to live concerts and singing in the church choir. Once Marian had her teaching certificate, she went into elementary education and before too long had a daughter named Lisa.

At this time, Marian left teaching and Mark switched from the boating adventures of his youth to bicycling adventures. Once Lisa reached the age of 5, they brought Lisa to Europe to ride on the back of Mark's bike as they pedaled and camped for a month.

Lisa grew and there were more European adventures, the last one involving smuggling bibles into communist countries. As Lisa finished standard education, Mark decided to join her in college to obtain his PhD while Lisa pursued her physics degree.

Unfortunately for Mark, but fortunately for the rest of us, Lisa changed her major to music. The next blow was when his PhD thesis was accepted but his degree was blocked by a dishonest faculty member. As a result, Mark refocused his emphasis on singing to join Lisa in her musical pursuits.

As Lisa was married to Doug Taylor, Mark went back to his superconducting lab at Wah Chang where he was instrumental in the creation of the MRI machine. His tenure was cut short by an involuntary early retirement from Wah Chang as they were planning to move his superconducting lab to Huntsville Alabama, where he turned down an offer to move out to the new location. He secured more than 20 patents during his tenure.

While Mark was nearing the end of his involvement at Wah Chang, Marian had a brain aneurysm which almost took her away from us. When Marian recovered, Mark spent countless hours nursing her back to health and focusing on her care.

Five months after the aneurysm, the family was blessed with the arrival of Rose Marian Taylor, his grandchild. Rose had birth defects and Mark and Marian learned to care for her and poured their lives into Rose. As Lisa pursued her MS degree in music, Mark and Marian spent many days caring for and loving Rose.

At this point, Mark was working with Doug in the Eugene area doing instrumentation work for a chemical company.

Marian once again flourished, and their adventures continued with more cruises and less reckless bicycling adventures all over the world.

Later, Marian succumbed to her condition and left Mark a widower after 44 years. During this time of being single, Mark filled his life with music, reading and putting lots of miles on his bicycle.

Soon, Mark and Dell met and later married after meeting after a Choir concert at Hope Church. They had similar interests and enjoyed many of the same activities. They were married for 13 fun filled years before Mark finally succumbed to a heart condition.

Mark is survived by his sisters, Mary Jo (Myer) Matosky and Diane (Edward) Hauer, his wife Dell Siddall, and Lisa & Doug Taylor.



In Loving Memory Mark Bernard Siddall



October 18, 1935 - June 15, 2024



In Loving Memory of

Mark Bernard Siddall

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Memorial Service

Saturday, July 13, 2024, 10:00 AM
Hope Church, Albany, Oregon

Prelude

Margaret Myers

Welcome & Prayer

Pastor Mark

Scripture Reading

Pastor Lew

Special Music

"Goodbye"

"How Does a Moment Last Forever?"

Sharing of Obituary & Memories

Pastor Lew & Pastor Brett

Open Time of Sharing

Perspective

Pastor Lew

Congregational Song

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Closing Thoughts & Prayer

Pastor Lew

Postlude

Margaret Myers