



## Larry J Elder

February 28, 1941 - November 20, 2020

Larry James Elder, 79, of Zillah died peacefully Friday November 20, 2020 at Cottage in the Meadow. He was born February 28, 1941 to Robert and Eudora Elder in Toppenish.

Larry went through the Toppenish school system where he made many lifelong friendships. In high school he played basketball and ran track. He graduated in 1959 and went on to attend Yakima Valley College.

On August 10, 1963 Larry married Sharon Hovis in Toppenish. They resided for many years on the family farm where their children were raised. Larry worked alongside his father Robert H. and his brother Lynn. Crops grown included wheat, corn, beans, asparagus, grapes, pears, and sugar beets. A few of the organizations Larry worked with include officer Central Wa Farm Crops (sweet corn), Washington Asparagus Commission, Advisory Board Wapato Irrigation Project, and Jaycees.

In 2010 the farm was sold and Larry moved on to retirement. During these retirement years Larry enjoyed attending his granddaughters sporting events, volunteering for the Toppenish Mural Society / Toppenish Chamber of Commerce, traveling, watching his favorite teams on tv, and visiting with friends and family.

During the last nine years of Larry's life he battled Parkinson's Disease. To combat the Parkinson's he began riding a stationary bike and belonged to a program called Pedaling for Parkinsons.

Larry is survived by his son Kyle Elder of Zillah, daughter Gina Elder of Zillah, grand daughters Lexie Schafer of Zillah, Megan Schafer of Spokane Valley, brothers Robert J. (Dixie) Elder of Toppenish, Lynn (Katie) Elder of Yakima, and friend Sharry Cobb of Zillah. Larry is also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends whom he cherished dearly.

Larry is preceded in death by his wife Sharon, his parents Robert and Eudora, sister Donna Osborn and husband Duane, father-in-law Howard Hovis, mother-in-law Dottie Hovis, and brother-in-law Ron Hovis.

Memorials may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation or Cottage in the Meadow. The family would like to thank Cottage in the Meadow, Dr. Chase Livingston, and Dr. Richard Sloop for the excellent care they provided Larry.

Due to COVID, a Celebration of Life and internment at Terrace Heights Memorial Park will be held in spring 2021.

# Tribute Wall



“ I knew Larry in grade school in Toppenish. We later met again in 1958-59 when he played Richland at Col-Hi. I was a cheerleader for Richland at the time. We had a mini reunion and got to talk about Martin Gardea, a mutual friend. Larry will surely be missed. Rest in peace my friend. Ernie Trujillo

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**Ernie Trujillo** - February 29, 2024 at 06:16 AM



“ *Larry J Elder*

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October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM

KW

“ I tried sending this yesterday, but it seems the message did not come through.

*I am so very sorry to hear about the loss of Larry! Larry was a great friend and classmate. We met in grade school, rode bikes together, played in the Elder barn routinely, played sports together, graduated together in 1959 from Toppenish High School, and attended all class reunions together!*

*Larry was a very special person! He was a gentle man, caring, loving, and just a great guy to be around. Larry will be missed tremendously!*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with and for Larry's family during these difficult times of mourning. May God wrap his arms around you and comfort you!*

*Larry is in a better place now in heaven! Larry, all of us classmates will likely be joining you in the near future. We will continue our great class reunions when we all get together again! May you rest in peace dear friend!*

*Ken (Milford)*

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**Ken Willmon** - November 23, 2020 at 02:59 PM

ES

“ Gina & Girls,

*So sorry for your loss, your dad was such a kind man. With deepest sympathy.*

*Ed & Velda Schafer.*

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**Edward Schafer** - November 22, 2020 at 04:07 PM

KL

“ Gina-  
*I am so sorry to read about the loss of your “precious” papa.  
You and your brother were blessed with fine parents.  
I got to know both of them by working in the pharmacy.  
Mama was a “kick” to talk to.... so energetic and full of life.  
Papa was a true gentlemen.... very kind and humble.  
Condolences to you and your family.  
Many blessings,  
Karen*

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**Karen Lommers** - November 21, 2020 at 02:37 PM

JL

“ *The news of Larry greatly sadden me. Our heartfelt condolences to the family. Words can not express our sorrow for his loss. May the light keep shinning. RIP.*

*Joanne Lundberg/Jim Walker*

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**Joanne Lundberg** - November 20, 2020 at 11:33 PM