

CLEMANS: Solemn celebration for successful career

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After an inspiring performance by the Chamber Choir, former Mayor of Oregon City Alice Norris, as Mistress of Ceremonies, introduced Joanne Truesdell, CCC President.

Truesdell started her speech by saying how honored the college was to host this celebration. There were emotional pauses, yet her voice made it clear what an important man he had been to her.

Truesdell told of a time when Clemans had asked her "Did I serve my moment well?"

"Chuck, you have served your moment well," she replied to conclude her speech.

Norris introduced speakers including Frank McNamara, who worked with Clemans at Portland Public Schools.

"He was concerned about all children, not just his [students]," he said in his speech. McNamara reminisced about how he served the district with integrity and creativity.

Norris mentioned Clemans was part of the first graduating class of Portland State University in 1956 as she introduced the next speaker, Jack Hammond.

Hammond read a letter from Don Smithers, who had been Clemans' friend since 1968. The letter told a tale of a man that loved to race and boat. In it, Smithers stated, "He was not only faster but he was smarter too!"

Other speakers included Smith-English, who made it clear that Clemans was responsible for the completion of Niemeyer Hall. When funds ran out and the project looked like it would not happen, Clemans was there to energize the project.

When Clemans agreed to help, you heard a sigh of relief that could be heard all the way to Canby, according to Smith-English.

"He [Clemans] was filled with integrity and humor with a twinkle in his eye," said Smith-English.

Clemans' wife, Nancy Hungerford, spoke next. She said he was a great family man and the love of her life.

"Diagnosed with COPD last spring," Hungerford said, "he could still beat me in badminton and swing me around the dance floor."

The reception that followed was filled with friends and family recounting their experiences with Clemans.

"It's amazing how this tribute brought it all together," said Jim Perkins when describing how much Clemans had done for the college and community. Perkins is a retired coach, teacher, counselor and vice principal from OC high school. He worked with Clemans for 30 years.

Don Tank, retired Assistant Superintendent of OC school district, said Clemans was a great leader and had a great sense of humor.

"He was amazement to everyone, and will always keep us in awe and will never be forgotten," said Clemans' son Dean. He expressed his thanks from himself and family to CCC and all the volunteers who helped organized the service.

"Love and strength are what it takes to be a grandfather like mine," said Tabitha Lambert, Clemans' granddaughter.



Above: Wife of late Chuck Clemans, Nancy Hungerford, shares a few laughs with granddaughter Tabitha Lambert at memorial in Randall hall on Jan. 7.

Below: Family and friends begin to fill the bleachers as the ceremony of life begins. More than 100 people attended the memorial.



Board seeks new member to fill opening

By Brian Baldwin
Editor-in-Chief

With the untimely passing of Clackamas Community College Board of Education member Chuck Clemans, the seat representing Oregon City is now vacant. After declaring a vacancy at the Jan. 11 board meeting the board members can now begin interviewing candidates to temporarily fill the Zone 4 seat. Whoever is to be appointed by the board will remain as that seat representative until the next election in May 2013.

According to board member Ron Adams,

the applicant must be appointed from within Zone 4, but the application process has not yet been completed and candidates have yet to be interviewed.

"No one has been interviewed, although we will make certain that the applications come from within boundaries based on the most recent census," stated Adams in an e-mail.

Adams is unaware of any specific written qualifications that the board may have drafted to filter candidates through. Jane Reid, the current board of education chair, was unavailable for comment.

Staff

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