

Roger Millard Evansen

June 10, 1922 — Aug. 25, 2016

Roger Millard Evansen passed peacefully with his family near at the age of 94, on Aug. 25, 2016, while living at his treasured home on the Oregon Coast. He was born to Odin and June Evansen in Portland, Oregon, on June 10, 1922.

As a young boy, Roger's grandparents nurtured his love of the coast with frequent visits to the family cabin in Tolovana Park (Cannon Beach). In the early years, travel to the beach required at least a day of travel, with adventurous road conditions.

Raised in Northeast Portland by his parents, Roger's family often celebrated their Norwegian and Swedish heritage through their love of cooking. Many of Roger's own delectable meals were favorites from generations past.

In 1942, Roger enlisted with the Army Air Force and served in the World War II efforts. Often private about his time served, he was stationed in Guam. His passion for air flight grew while he served overseas. Upon his return, he studied engineering at the University of Portland.

After college, a nearby neighbor caught his eye; smitten for life, Florence Bowes and Roger were married for 53 years. Together, they raised three children, Gary, Scott and Joan. Sharing their love for the coast, the family would spend each summer at the beach and in 1983, after working 36 years for Pacific Northwest Bell, Roger and Florence retired to Tolovana Park.

In addition to his passion for planes, Roger was a meticulous model builder. Well respected for his attention to detail, he created extensive designs and layouts, from elaborate Christmas displays, to his HO gauge model railroad collection.



Roger Evansen



Roger was active with the local American Legion and the Cannon Beach Historical Society. He also volunteered as a docent for the Tillamook Air Museum. He was a regular in providing pastries for all, and enjoyed his drives to the museum in his little blue T-bird.

The unconditional love Roger and Florence bestowed upon their children, and for those near and far, will forever bring a moment of pride to the family. Roger left a wonderful legacy for his three children and beloved grandchildren, Ira, Erica and Cooper.

The family will deeply miss Roger as he gave so much, to so many. A service will be held at Calvary Episcopal Church in Seaside, Sept. 24, 2016, at 11 a.m. Following, all are welcome to join the family at Roger and Florence's home in Tolovana.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to your own favorite charity, in Roger's honor.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Seaside is in charge of the arrangements. Visit www.hughes-ransom.com to share memories and sign the guest book.

A wheelin' weekend

Wheels and Waves and Rod Run show off classic cars, attitude

By R.J. Marx
Cannon Beach Gazette

You gotta have ... personality.

That was the message at Wheels and Waves. Crowds swarmed downtown early the weekend of Sept. 8-11. Classic cars lined both sides of the street, owners camped in lawn chairs nearby and visitors gawked at shiny pistons and chrome. Vendor alley was busy with representatives from the Seaside Downtown Development Association, which organizes and presents the annual Seaside event with the help of "Rod Squad" volunteers from throughout the Northwest.

For Douglas Boseck of Stanwood, Washington, who was at Wheels and Waves, a 1941 Plymouth was only one year younger than himself. The car was originally sort of a combination car and truck, used to deliver everything from flowers to bread, Boseck said.

"It's held up really, really well," he said. "Everything here is original, other than the tires and the upholstery."

He's owned it 17 years and "it doesn't get out too often."

All the more than 400 cars at Wheels and Waves are show-quality from 1965 or older. Some are much, much older.

Ford Model A

Carl and Melva Atkins, from Gresham, sunned across from their 1929 Ford Model A. They say the car, which sat in disrepair in a California barn for 30 years and in a garage for another 25, brings out their personality. They've been winning prizes at shows throughout the Northwest.

"The crowds just swarm to come and see it," Carl Atkins said. "That's what we enjoy most: sharing the car with people. We get a lot of waves, a lot



DANNY MILLER/EO MEDIA GROUP

Hundreds of car enthusiasts walk up and down Broadway Street looking at vehicles during the Wheels and Waves car show on Saturday.

of thumbs up. We like to take people for a ride-along if the weather's right.

"Every car's different," he added. "We enjoy all the different kinds of cars here I may not do it their way, but they're all great because they have the personality of the people who did the build."

The bright orange 1961 Nash Metropolitan of Jan and Jeff Rich of Lakewood, Washington, was inspired by a family car, a yellow-and-white car driven by Jan's dad. "He had a heart attack while driving home from work," Jan Rich said. "The Metropolitan hit a house and got totaled. When we got married, Jeff said, 'What kind of car we are buying?' We found one in just a few months."

Rich is the club president of the Pacific Northwest Metropolitan Builders Club.

The Riches like to take their show car on the road, and they have a map on the windshield detailing their many routes. They upgraded the car with a Toyota four-speed transmission to give it "zip, speed and reliability," Jeff Rich said.

Even then, he added, the car



DANNY MILLER/EO MEDIA GROUP

Car enthusiasts seen reflected in a 1934 Chevy two-door sedan.

could get up to 30 miles per gallon, but with fuel at 19 cents a gallon, "that didn't impress people."

'Rat rod'

Bill Bennett from Tillamook defined the phrase "rat rod" as follows:

"In the early days when a guy couldn't afford to buy a new car he'd buy an old one and hop it up and make all the adjustments himself," Bennett said. "They called 'em a rat rod. They're real big on the East Coast, Midwest, California."

Bennett's is a contraption ingeniously devised from a 1936 Dodge truck sitting on air bags, with twin-turbo diesel engine, Chevy S-10 front and rear ends.

The vehicle sits on air bags and "just floats along, because it's on air," Bennett said.

"I found it behind a guy's barn," he said. "A tree had fallen over it, the cab was all mashed in."

"What kind of reaction are you getting?" we asked.

"The usual," Bennett replied with a smile.

"What's that?"
"Awe!"



The Providence Hood & Portland To Coast Relays, would like to thank the wonderful community of Seaside and Clatsop County residents for partnering with us on the largest relay race in the world! You are all truly amazing people!

HERE'S A RECAP OF THE EVENT YOU SO GRACIOUSLY HOST

- Thank you so much Seaside Chamber of Commerce for creating one heck of a beer garden!
- More than \$600,000 was fundraised, which benefits Providence Cancer Center and their continuous efforts to find a cure for cancer.
- Thanks to the Clatsop County cleanup crew for helping make the roads as clean as they were before the race.
- \$18,000 was again donated to Seaside Parks and Recreation.
- Thank you Seaside, for supporting the race for 27 years in your community!
- Special thanks to all the amazing charities on course; runners and walkers loved everything you provided, and we hope you continue to raise money for your charities in future years.
- As we cannot reach every individual who participated in making this event a success, we want to say THANK YOU SEASIDE, YOU ARE THE BEST!

With more than 60,000 individuals visiting Seaside for The Hood and Portland To Coast Relays, (many for the first time), this visit represents a first impression to a captive audience that very often leads to future visits for these individuals and their families. This is an economic impact that goes beyond measure and one that can very often be a lifelong development of future memories in your town. Looking forward to seeing you all in 2017!

hoodtocoast.com

