

OBITUARIES

John George Chatalas

Portland
March 30, 1937 — July 27, 2022

Rev. John George Chatalas, 85, died peacefully in Portland on July 27, surrounded by his four children, Todd Chatalas, of Portland, Paul Chatalas, of Chicago, Elizabeth Chatalas Benoit, of London, and Hannah Chatalas, of Los Angeles. He was a loving father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, and provided immeasurable comfort and guidance as a member of the clergy.

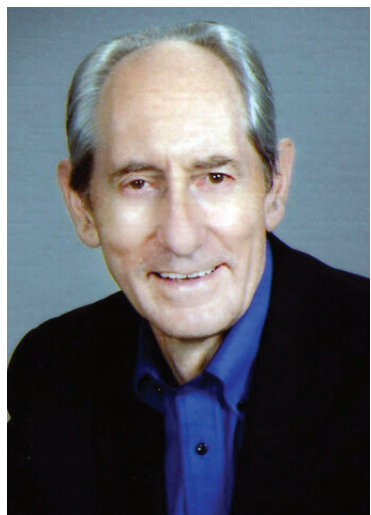
John was a Seattle native who was raised in, and will now return to, Mount Baker for memorial services. He was the eldest son of Goldie Bates Chatalas and Rep. William J. Chatalas (D-WA, 33rd, 35th districts).

He was a standout athlete throughout his life as a football player and all-city track star at Franklin High School, graduating in 1955, and continued to excel in sports at Whitworth University, his alma mater, graduating in 1960. John was also a recognized pole vaulter and lifelong passionate golfer in a family of golfers.

One of John's true loves was Thoroughbred horse racing. He was an attendant at Longacres racetrack as a youth, and later bred and raised Thoroughbreds in Seaside. His passion for race horses and some of the injuries that befell them led to his invention of a portable ultrasound bone density monitor, which now forms the basis for technology used in medical institutions across the world.

His entrepreneurial streak also led to the creation of business and early advancement of business lines, such as for long term care insurance, for which he served as an agent for years.

John's true calling was to Christ. He graduated from San Francisco Theological Seminary in California's Bay Area. After the seminary, he served as pastor of Wedgwood Presbyterian in Seattle, followed by Lidgerwood Presbyterian Church in Spokane. During his time in Spokane, Washington, he established the Nightwalk Ministry outreach program that was a model for other on-the-ground ecumenical nonprofits providing out-



John Chatalas

reach and services to at-risk and unhoused people.

He then became pastor at Pioneer Presbyterian Church in Warrenton, the oldest continuous Presbyterian church west of the Rocky Mountains, and he continued as a member of the clergy for decades. In all, John performed thousands of sermons, weddings, baptisms and funerals, and was always available to listen and provide counseling to countless people in their most critical times of need. His passion for doing Christ's work left an invaluable impact on every community that he served.

In addition to his four children, his life will be remembered by his many friends and family including his brothers, William B. Chatalas and Robert B. Chatalas; former spouses, Nancy Olson-Chatalas and Kathryn Aya; grandchildren, Wyatt Chatalas, Devon Chatalas and Axelle Benoit; nephews, Bret Chatalas and Marc Chatalas; and niece, Courtney Chatalas Gerlich.

A celebration of life service will be held at Mount Baker Park Presbyterian Church in Seattle at 1 p.m. Sept. 16. Please share your memories and find service details at: JohnChatalas.com

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Operation Nightwatch Seattle or the North Coast Land Conservancy.

Avenue B fire displaces six



Seaside Fire and Rescue

An overnight fire displaced six at this home on Avenue B in Seaside.

Fire deemed accidental

Seaside Signal

A fire in a duplex at 1136 Avenue B displaced six residents late Aug. 16.

Police received the report shortly after 9 p.m., Chief Joey Daniels said. Police evacuated residents prior to arrival and were able to contain the fire to one side of the duplex.

Units remained on the scene until 12:30 a.m. Six people on both sides of the duplex received assistance from the Red Cross.

The fire was deemed accidental, Daniels said.



Seaside Fire and Rescue

Rescue crews responded to victims pulled into the riptide.

Riptide: One fatality in weekend of rescues

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A man in his 50s was found unconscious in the water and pronounced dead after efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. A female in her teens survived the incident.

A second water rescue took place off Avenue U later in the afternoon. Seaside lifeguards rescued two swimmers in distress at the south end of Seaside's beach off Avenue U approximately two hours after the Sixth Avenue incident.

One of the rescued swimmers, a 27-year-old woman, told fire personnel that they were in waist-deep water one minute and struggling in water over their heads the next.

On Sunday, shortly after 2 p.m.,

they responded to two rescue calls at Third Avenue. At 2:30 p.m., a police officer assisted in locating missing children on the beach.

At 4:10 p.m., responders received another call for water rescue on the beach at Sixth Avenue. Later, at 4:40 p.m., responders were called to Avenue G at the beach. At 5:35 p.m. at the beach and the Turnaround, rescuers responded once more to a call for water rescue.

Eleven staff members are trained on the water rescue team, Daniels said Monday. Of those, six were available and helped over the weekend. "We were dispatched to the Cannon Beach call but were canceled soon after because Cannon Beach lifeguards and fire

department had it handled and did not need further assistance."

Beachgoers should understand even when the waves look small the ocean is very powerful and has many different variables that can get you in trouble, Daniels said. "If people have questions they should stop by the lifeguard tower or talk to as they see them on the beach. Also a reminder that when people see our lights on our vehicles this means a rescue is in progress and exit the water and stay away from responders so they have room to work."

Even with lifeguards on the beach people need to always swim in pairs or have someone keeping an eye so someone can get help if needed, he added.

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