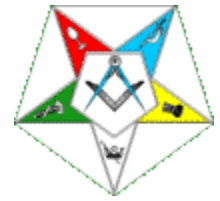


GRAND CHAPTER OF WASHINGTON
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



TOM SCHENEWERK, PAST GRAND PATRON 1996 ~ 1997
DECEMBER 30, 1939 - FEBRUARY 1, 2022



On February 1, 2022, another link of the Washington Grand Chapter golden chain was broken when Past Grand Patron Tom Schenewerk, “Big Bird”, one of the kindest, loving men went to heaven. Tom was born December 30, 1939, in Port Orchard, WA, the son of Les and Marion Schenewerk.

He was raised in Port Orchard, graduating from South Kitsap High School in 1958. He and Betty Risher were married on November 22, 1961 and were married 60 years. Tom was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Raymond and Larry, and his niece and Goddaughter Stephanie.

Tom is survived by his loving wife Betty, his daughter Tami Blacknall (Brendon). Tom is also survived by those that call him “Bumpa”: Grandson Adam Rieck (Amanda), Great Grandsons Emmett and Wyatt; Grandson Chad Rieck (Brittany), Great Granddaughters Clara and Amila; Grandsons Brett Blacknall and Joel Blacknall; Sister -in-law Jeanie Schenewerk, and many nieces and nephews

Tom was raised a Master Mason on June 1, 1979, in Port Orchard, where he served as Master in 1984. He was awarded the Hiram Award in 2012 at Port Orchard. He was also Associate Guardian of Job’s Daughters in 1979 -1981, where he was given the title of “Big Bird”. He received the degrees into the Order of the Eastern Star on December 13, 1979, in Port Orchard Chapter #44 where he was Worthy Patron of Port Orchard Chapter in 1986 and again in 1995, becoming a Life Member of Port Orchard in 1996.

In June of 1995 he was elected Grand Sentinel, Associate Grand Patron in 1996 and Worthy Grand Patron on June 30th, 1997. He was in the Grand East with Helena “Lee” Banton for the “Trees of Life” Session in Yakima. He was very proud of the “Starduster” Grand Family. Tom also served the General Grand Chapter on the Benevolence Committee from 2012 to 2015. Tom was a dual member of Waconda Chapter #217 in 2000 and served as Worthy Patron in 2001. In 2003, he was again Worthy Patron at Port Orchard Chapter. Tom served as Worthy Patron again in Waconda Chapter in 2006 and 2007. Waconda Chapter merged with Belfair Chapter #241 in 2008, where he was also a Life Member.

Tom’s Scripture: “*For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also*”.

A Celebration of his Life will be held at 1pm, Sunday February 13, at the Port Orchard Masonic Center, 1025 Sidney Avenue, Port Orchard, WA. Masks will be provided.

That all may share in this tribute to his memory, we ask that this Memorial be read at the first stated meeting after its receipt, and the Altar draped in his memory.

Darlene Wiggins
Worthy Grand Matron

Bob Wheeler
Worthy Grand Patron

Patricia DeMuth
Grand Secretary