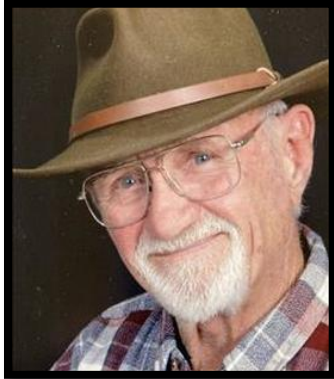


Bennie Raymond Schatz



Bennie Raymond Schatz came into this world on August 22, 1934. He was the second child of Raymond and Grace King Schatz. He left this world peacefully on November 20, 2021. If you asked him how this happened, he would say “I’m just wore out.”

Bennie graduated Stillwater High School in 1952 and joined the Navy where he served two years, mainly in Hawaii. Those were the only two years he did not live in Stillwater. When he returned from service, he picked back up with the family business as a house painter. He enjoyed working with his best friend and dad whom he lovingly referred to as “Pa.”

Bennie was a great painter, but his true calling was hanging wallpaper. There wasn’t a better paperhanger in town or the state. He took great pride in his work, and you could tell by the way he whistled while he worked.

Bennie had several great loves in life, the first one being fishing. He enjoyed fishing more than just about anything in this world. If he had free time, he would fish. Rain, snow, sleet, sun, you name it, there would be a fish for that type of weather. If you called his phone and he didn’t answer, the voicemail would say “I’m probably fishing, leave a message.”

As much as he enjoyed fishing and telling fishy stories, nothing was more important to him than his sobriety. He was just three days shy of his 37th birthday in AA. In those 37 years he helped and was helped by countless people. He had several families within his program. He was very thankful, every day, for his program and the people in it. He loved Sleepy Hollow and the people associated with it. If you ever had the honor to talk AA with him, his eyes would sparkle, and you could see a certain peace about him as he would be blunt and honest, but loving and sincere in his words and actions. He lived by the sayings “One Day at a Time” and “Keep Coming Back.” And don’t forget “K.I.S.S.” * Fun fact about his sobriety...When he finally sobered up he decided to go into rose gardening. He planted 22 rose bushes around his house. If you drive by today, many of those roses are still blooming! He had a special way of watering. Ask his kids about it sometime.

Family was the other great love of his. Admittedly, he loved his family more than he could express.

Bennie is survived by his daughter, Meg Busteed, her husband Phil and their two boys Jace and Cael. He is also survived by his son Luke Schatz and countless grand dogs. Being an 87-year resident of Stillwater, Bennie had numerous relatives scattered about in Stillwater, Glencoe and Perkins.

Bennie was a member of the Hanner-Sharp American Legion Post 129 Stillwater.