



DAVID KLEV ELIE

David Klev Elie passed away peaceful at Elie House in Twin Falls, Idaho on May 22, 2009.

David was born on February 2nd, 1931 in Honolulu, Hawaii to Ruth Kittilsby and Cohen Elie. David attended Hanahau'oli Elementary School. Before Pearl Harbor, David and his mother moved back to the Seattle area where he attended Lake Forest Park Elementary, graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1949, and then graduated from the University of Washington with a B.A. in business in 1954. He continued his education at the U.W. from 1954 to 1960.

From 1955 to 1991, David was employed at the Washington State Public Service Commission in Olympia, Wa., United States Steel Corp., Peoples National Bank, Safeco Ins., Chemical Proof, and Schoening & Boyer Insurance Co., all in Seattle.

From 1946-1950, David was an Explorer Scout and spent many summers at Camp Parsons on Hood Canal, Brinnon, Wa.

David was always bare footed playing in the sandy beaches of Hawaii until he moved to Seattle and strapped on his first pair of skis. That was when David was eleven years old. Skiing became David's passion. When the classic Silver Skis race on Mt. Rainier resumed after World War II, Dave and Joe Crosson slid into a ski racing start gate in 1947 for the first time ever. Still only high school sophomores and with only limited skiing experience, they both found new challenges as they tackled the rugged, but abbreviated, Silver Skis Junior course. From there, their racing continued in the Stevens Standards, a popular series conducted at Stevens Pass in the Cascade Mountains, where they did most of their skiing.

Dave's on-slope abilities improved, eventually earning him a spot on the University of Washington Ski Team, and, later, a role as a Class A competitor for the racing-oriented Penguin Ski Club and the locally renowned Seattle Jaycees Ski Team, made up of many of the region's top alpine racers in the late 1950s. Unique dark red Bogner stretch pants were a giveaway that Jaycee skiers were on the mountain. Then, working under former Olympian Jack Nagel (once a patrolman on Baldy), Dave coached junior racers for the Stevens Pass Athletic Club. When Crystal Mountain opened in Dec. 1962, Dave and other top SPAC coaches joined Nagel as the nucleus for the newly formed Crystal Mountain Athletic Club. Nearly 50 years later, CMAC continues to develop top-flight young racers, although "Alpine" has replaced "Athletic" in the

name. For the next several years, Dave's skiing focus was on Crystal, which had, and still has, the most extensive ski terrain and lift development in the Washington Cascades.

David was awarded the NORRIE LASON AWARD in 1969 for "outstanding service to the Juniors and the Junior program over several years."

In October of 1969, David was one of the original founders of the, PNSEF, Pacific Northwest Ski Educational Foundation and President of this foundation from 1971-1973 and again 1988-1989.

In 1972 David was awarded a certificate of appreciation for his contribution to the sport of skiing and ski patrolling by the Pacific Northwest Division of the National Ski Patrol System. In 1978 David received the Ken Comfort Award for outstanding service to the PNSA, Pacific Northwest Ski Assoc. and the sport of skiing. He also received the Quarter Century Award in 1978 for attending 25 consecutive PNSA conventions.

David's first trip to Sun Valley was with his mother in the 1940's. The love of skiing brought David back to the Valley many times before moving here. In 1986, David met Linda Rotondella. David and Linda moved to Sun Valley in 1993 and married in 1996. David worked on Baldy from 1993 to 2004, he loved that mountain. He worked in snowmaking, managed Dollar Mountain (David was known as Dollar Dave) and ran both Warm Springs lift in the winter and River Run lift in the summer. Linda has two sons, Keith and John Kreczkowski. There was an instant bond between Linda's sons and David. Linda's sons moved to Sun Valley in 1994.

David is survived by his wife Linda, his stepsons Keith and John Kreczkowski and his two grandchildren Erica Lynn and Nolan Jacob Kreczkowski, Keith's children. David was a free spirit and lived his life to the fullest. He was loved and he will be missed.

A celebration of David's life will be scheduled during the Ancient Skiers week in January.

I would like to give thanks Dr. Paris, his nurse and dear friend Earlene Gibbs and Dr. Barbee that helped me cope with this disease that took my David. I must give thanks to the Senior Center, the many of David's friends, co-workers (Larry) and family that kept in contact to make sure I was okay. My wonderful neighbors and close friends that were always there for me, the caring from everyone at Elie House, my sisters, my sons, my grandchildren who kept me going and my garden. In lieu of flowers, tax deductible donations may be made to Elie House, 2669 East 3500 North, Twin Falls, Id. 83301 to ensure that this wonderful program can keep running.