



Philip Boss

December 25, 1960 - June 23, 2018

Phil Boss, of Oregon City, age 57, died unexpectedly due to a hiking accident on June 23, 2018. He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on December 25, 1960 to Jim and Elizabeth Boss. He lived the first 18 years of his life mostly in Sparta, New Jersey. During the rest of his life, he lived in Melbourne, Florida, Ellensburg & Spokane, Washington, and Beavercreek & Oregon City, Oregon. He attended both Florida Institute of Technology and Central Washington University in their flight programs, and also received his AA degree in electronics at Spokane Technical Institute. From 1984 to 2012, he worked in electronics first as a technician and then had a successful career in sales. In July 2012, he semi-retired and starting selling fishing reels all over the world on EBay. He loved hiking, camping, fishing, kayaking and other outdoor activities.

He was active in his community and was a member of The Optimist Club, and was the care ministry leader at Oregon City Christian Church. For twelve years, he volunteered as the marksmanship coach for the JROTC program at Oregon City High School and successfully led the team to multiple regional and national competitions.

He is predeceased by his mother, Elizabeth Boss, and survived by his father Jimmy L. Boss Sr.; brother Jimmy L. Boss, Jr.; his beloved wife of 37 years, Karen Boss; daughters Michelle Boss and Danielle Traver; son-in-law Justin Traver; and four grand-children: Joe, Josie, Kylie and Connor Philip.

His celebration of life service is July 21, 2018 at 11 am at Oregon City High

School. In lieu of flowers, the family will be establishing a scholarship fund in his name for the Oregon City High School JROTC program.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 21. 11:00 AM (PT)

Oregon City High School
19761 S. Beaver Creek Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

Tribute Wall



“ *Philip Boss*

January 28, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *I knew phil through the jrotc and the rifle team with my daughter from 2007 to 2010, he taught her alot and i could trust him with her life. He was an awesome role model to those kids, and i could always count on him. He was a true friend. I will miss you phil.*
Kim & Ashley Crabb

Kim crabb - July 21, 2018 at 05:50 PM

BB

“ Phil was a very good friend of mine and I will remember him the rest of my life. He was so humble, a devoted father and husband, and someone I could always count on to be completely honest and trustworthy. His passion was coaching cadets and other junior shooters in air rifle and small bore rifle shooting. He loved working with young people and was so highly thought of as a coach.

I first met Phil in 2008 at a JROTC drill meet at Oregon City High School where Phil had his Precision and Sporter teams competing. I had just gotten approval by the Battle Ground School District and Air Force JROTC HQs to start an air rifle team at Battle Ground High School. I told Phil I needed help to find out where to purchase air rifles and equipment and how to get certified as an air rifle coach. He began writing down on a piece of paper what companies sold air rifles and equipment and who he recommended I contact. He also gave me information where to get NRA rifle coach certification in WA. I continued to watch his teams and others competing to learn the positions they were shooting in and the course of fire.

In between watching his teams competing, Phil kept coming over and giving me more information about air rifle procedures. He then gave me his e-mail address and we constantly stayed in touch with me asking him questions and getting advice from him on how to practice, marksmanship drills, shooting problems, etc. I continued to get pointers from him at matches from what he observed my cadets were doing while competing, whether jerking the trigger, not following through, etc.

I welcomed any tips he gave me throughout the years in JROTC air rifle competition (where I would see him) because he was so incredible and knowledgeable as a coach. He helped me develop my cadets into fine marksmen and women from 2008-2015 when I retired from teaching at Battle Ground. He was a real mentor to me and was the first to congratulate me and my cadets when our teams won. He was the consummate professional and sportsman no

matter what the outcome was with his teams. Speaking of teams, his were the standard that every one else wanted to try to out shoot. He won many Columbia River JROTC league and NW Drill and Rifle Conference championships.

In 2010, at a Drill and Rifle competition at Oregon City High School, my twin brother Rob was visiting from NM. Rob sat at a table in the cafeteria section. Phil came over and sat down and started talking to Rob thinking he was me. (Rob and I are identical). After about 15 minutes or so, I appeared with some food and at that point Rob said to Phil, "You might want to ask Brian that same question because he is right here." Phil paused and looked at Rob and then me. You should have seen the look on Phil's face! He looks at Rob and says, "you could have told me at the get go that you weren't Brian and saved me all this time talking to you. Now I have to repeat it all to Brian. Thanks a lot! Brian never told me he had a twin brother." Then I said to Phil, 'now you've met my twin, huh?" Then we all started laughing.

My regret is only getting to meet and know Phil the last 10 years. I valued him as a dear friend and I was really looking forward to going bass fishing (another passion of Phil's) in a few days. He sent me pictures of some of the bass he had caught recently.

He was real excited about coaching junior shooters at Tri-Cities Gun Club the rest of the summer leading into the 2018-2019 school year. He had some very talented shooters who were in the Oregon City JROTC program practicing there and he and I talked at length about them and how good they were. We talked often about his junior shooters now that he had as well as ones he had previously in all his years coaching.

Phil I will always remember you buddy and what you did to help me at Battle Ground. You were a true friend of mine. I pray for your family.

RIP.

Col (Ret) Brian Brown
Brian

Brian Brown - July 17, 2018 at 06:51 PM