



Larry L. Hanson (1937–2025)

PREAMBLE

Larry Hanson was born in Everett in 1937 and proudly described himself as “a kid from Jordan Road.” Growing up as the youngest of six, he learned early the values of hard work, teamwork, and community. At Everett High School, he excelled both in the classroom and on the field as a baseball catcher, a role that reflected his natural leadership and steady presence.

After graduation in 1956, Larry served six months of active duty in the U.S. Army and six years in the Reserves, then attended Everett Junior College and the University of Washington, earning a degree in Business Management.

Larry’s lifelong career began humbly at The Everett Herald, where he started as a messenger. He rose through every department to become President and Publisher in 1984. Under his leadership, The Herald thrived as a respected voice for Snohomish County, known for integrity, innovation, and community trust. He retired in 2002 after 45 years, leaving a culture that treated colleagues like family.

Larry married Raili Kuivikko, a nursing student he met during college, and together they built a loving family grounded in faith and service. They raised two children, Jeff and Wendy, and later welcomed grandchildren Derek and Anna.

Larry was an ever-present father and grandfather—coaching youth teams, attending games and recitals, and cheering from the sidelines with camera in hand. His photo albums became treasured gifts, capturing memories for family and friends alike.

Beyond his profession, Larry gave extraordinary service to his community. He was active in over 30 civic and professional organizations, serving in key leadership roles including President of the Everett Rotary Club for the 1981–1982 term, President of the Everett Chamber of Commerce, and Chair of the Economic Development Council of Snohomish County, which he helped establish.

Larry also served on the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board and Governor Booth Gardner's Blue Ribbon Committee on Education, shaping opportunities for future generations.

A devoted Rotarian, Larry lived Rotary's motto of Service Above Self through consistent, hands-on involvement. Whether mentoring young professionals, supporting education, or fostering local growth, he led with optimism and kindness—always with a smile. His friends recall a leader who saw the best in people and believed deeply in the power of community.

Larry's many interests reflected his zest for life. He remained active in golf and tennis, supported local sports teams, and never missed a chance to celebrate others' achievements. Through every role—publisher, volunteer, husband, father, and friend—Larry brought energy, humor, and gratitude.

Larry Hanson passed away on August 28, 2025. On September 25, hundreds gathered at Our Savior's Lutheran Church to celebrate his remarkable life. Larry will be remembered as a respected leader, a loyal friend, and a man whose warmth and generosity lifted all who knew him.

We can all take inspiration from his example—living with integrity, serving with joy, and always putting others first.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Larry Hanson was a respected community leader whose efforts strengthened the region's growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hanson was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and fellow Rotarian, whose example of friendship and service enriched the lives of those around him; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hanson cared deeply about his community, advocating for education, local journalism, and opportunities for the next generation; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hanson lived Rotary's guiding motto, Service Above Self, through a lifetime of civic leadership and generosity; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hanson embraced life with joy and curiosity—capturing memories through his lens, cheering at ballgames, and reminding us all to cherish each moment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Rotary President Kelli Thode be charged with placing a copy of this Resolution in the hands of Larry's family so they may know of both the high esteem in which we hold Larry and the great fondness in our hearts for his memory.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the Rotary Club of Everett, united here together, observe a moment of silence in honor of our departed friend Larry Leland Hanson.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my hand this Twenty-First Day of October 2025:

Robert Bavasi, Everett Rotary Resolutions Chair

ATTEST

Kelli Thode, Everett Rotary President

Neil Angst, Everett Rotary Secretary