



Ralph H. Quaas (1934–2025)

PREAMBLE

Fellow Rotarian Ralph Herbert Quaas was born in Everett, Washington, in 1934 to Herbert and Gertrude Quaas. A proud Everett native, he often spoke of growing up surrounded by family, faith, and a community that shaped his lifelong devotion to service. He attended Everett High School, Class of 1952, and went on to Washington State University, earning a degree in horticulture before serving two years in the United States Army.

Ralph's professional life bloomed—literally—through his ownership of City Floral, the Everett flower shop he operated from 1966 to 2006. For forty years he made City Floral both a business and a community landmark, where neighbors stopped in for flowers and friendship. Under his stewardship, City Floral grew locations supported countless local causes and celebrations, reflecting Ralph's conviction that business and community were inseparable.

Beyond his shop doors, Ralph lived a life of remarkable civic engagement. He joined the Rotary Club of Everett in 1964 and maintained 61 years of perfect attendance, an achievement few Rotarians anywhere can match. Through Rotary he served on numerous committees, supported scholarships and youth programs. His steadfast presence—always cheerful, always helpful—was a cornerstone of the club's fellowship.

Ralph's service extended to virtually every corner of civic life. He volunteered for the Everett Jaycees, Volunteers of America, United Way of Snohomish County, Everett YMCA, Evergreen Arboretum, Everett Gospel Mission, Hospice of Snohomish County, Carl Gipson Senior Center, and his beloved Our Savior's Lutheran Church, where he was famous for grilling salmon at the annual fall kickoff picnic. In 2014, the United Way honored him with the Roger Bouck Volunteerism in Action Award, recognizing a lifetime of generous service.

Faith and family anchored Ralph's life. He married Kathleen (Kay) Conzemius Quaas, and together they built a blended family of daughters and stepdaughters whom he adored. He was a proud father to our fellow Rotarian Kari Quaas, a loving stepfather to Jenny,

Jane, Josie, and Gina, and always a doting grandfather. His family and friends remember his kindness, humor, and a spirit that drew people in—whether at church, Rotary, or on the docks at the Everett Marina.

Ralph also knew how to enjoy life. He was an avid boater and crabber, happiest when cruising the waters of Puget Sound and the San Juan Islands. In later years, he and Kay traveled extensively, logging more than 300 days at sea on cruises and visiting 49 of the 50 states. Ralph was curious about the world and grateful for every moment of adventure.

Even in his final years, Ralph continued to volunteer and attend Rotary, greeting friends with his trademark smile. When he passed away on October 10, 2025, at 91, Everett lost one of its most faithful citizens. Yet his influence endures in the organizations he strengthened and in the countless lives he touched. His family wrote that he would urge us all “to keep giving your time, and to show up for the people and organizations you love.”

Ralph H. Quaas will be remembered as a devoted Rotarian, a tireless volunteer, and a true friend to all—a man whose generosity and joy made Everett a better place.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ralph Quaas was a respected businessman, community leader, and lifelong Everett resident whose dedication strengthened the fabric of our city; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Quaas devoted more than six decades to the Rotary Club of Everett, achieving sixty-one years of perfect attendance and personifying Rotary’s ideal of *Service Above Self*; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Quaas gave extraordinary service through his volunteer work with United Way, Volunteers of America, Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, and countless civic organizations that improved the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Quaas built City Floral into a cherished local business that reflected his generosity, creativity, and belief in community; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Quaas was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend, whose warmth, humor, and optimism enriched all who knew him; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Rotary President Kelli Thode be charged with placing a copy of this Resolution in the hands of Ralph's family so they may know of both the high esteem in which we hold Ralph 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 Ralph Herbert Quaas.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my hand this ____ Day of _____, _____:

Robert Bavasi, Everett Rotary Resolutions Chair

ATTEST

Kelli Thode, Everett Rotary President

Neil Angst, Everett Rotary Secretary