

K9ZW notes for George W9EVT's Celebration of Life

Brief shared history

MEETING GEORGE AND SUSAN AROUND 20 YEARS AGO WITH MY FAMILY IN TOW - AS MY FAMILY STARTED OUR WASHINGTON ISLAND ADVENTURES - IT WAS MEETING "THIS 'GEORGE W9EVT' CHARACTER AND HOPEFULLY OPERATING FROM HIS RADIO SHACK" THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY THRILLING AS A HAM WHO HAD A 3RD-HAND TENTE PEGASUS RUN TO A VERTICAL ANTENNA TIED TO THE BACK OF MY HOUSE FOR A STATION. WE HADN'T EXPECTED THE FRIENDSHIPS WE WOULD DEVELOP FROM A SIMPLE VACATION TRIP.

Sincere appreciation for Being Elmered

WHAT ELSE I HADN'T EXPECTED WAS HOW GEORGE WAS SO GENEROUS ALLOWING ME TO OPERATE FROM HIS HAM STATION, AND THEN HOW QUICKLY GEORGE FOLLOWED STORY-TELLING WITH HIS STRUCTURED AND EFFECTIVE ELMERING (WHICH IS "HAM-SPEAK" FOR MENTORING).

TO THIS DAY WHEN I HELP ANOTHER HAM I CAN ONLY SMILE HUGELY, THINKING OF GEORGE'S "CALL NOW!" ELMERING MY CONTEST AND LONG-DISTANCE CONTACT SKILLS, WHILE HE PACED BEHIND ME WHILE I WAS ON THE AIR.

GEORGE WAS AS AMAZING OF AN INSTRUCTOR AS HE WAS AN OPERATOR.

Adventures Dayton & W9DXCC

GEORGE AND I DID DAYTON, WHERE IT SEEMED THAT EVERYONE KNEW GEORGE W9EVT. GREAT CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE RANGING FROM ART BELL W6OBB THE COAST-TO-COAST RADIO PERSONALITY, TO THE OWNER OF MFJ MARTIN JUE K5FLU, TO AUDIO ROCKSTARS LIKE BOB HEIL K9EID... IT SEEMED THAT EVERYONE WHO WAS NOTEWORTHY IN HAM RADIO KNEW GEORGE.

SOME TRIPS GEORGE AIMED TO ACQUIRE THE VARY LATEST GEAR. TRIPS WHERE I WOULD WALK OUT CARRYING A HIGH-END TRANSCEIVER THAT THE RUMBLE AT THAT YEAR'S SHOW WAS THERE WERE ONLY TWO AVAILABLE IN THE USA FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

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USUALLY WE WOULD ATTEND THE DX (DISTANCE) BANQUET, AND COLLINS COLLECTORS BANQUET, WHERE AGAIN SO MANY FOLK KNEW GEORGE.

AND THERE WERE THE QUIET ONES WHO WOULD COME UP, INTRODUCE THEMSELVES USUALLY MENTIONING A RADIO CONVERSATION THEY HAD, AND OFTEN THANKING GEORGE FOR HIS ENCOURAGEMENT.

Inspiring quiet assistance of others by W9EVT

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF BLIND, HANDICAPPED OR ECONOMICALLY-STRAPPED HAMS THAT GEORGE FOUND A WAY TO HELP THEM WITH THEIR RADIO GEAR ON THE QUIET. I WAS PLEASED TO OCCASIONALLY DO MY PART BY SHIPPING SOME OF THIS GEAR WHEN ASKED.

George's admiration for his family, and for his wide collection of friends

WHEN I WOULD WALK INTO GEORGE'S HAM SHACK, ALWAYS HE ASKED AFTER HOW I WAS DOING AND HOW MY FAMILY WAS DOING AND WOULD BEAM WHEN I WOULD TAKE THE CUE TO ASK HOW HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS WERE DOING.

Today's W9U special event

FOR GEORGE'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE HIS WASHINGTON ISLAND DX CLUB HAS SECURED THE USE OF A SPECIAL ONE-BY-ONE CALL SIGN, WHISKEY-NINER-UNIFORM (W9U) AS A TRIBUTE. IN THE HAMSHACK WE HAVE SET UP ONE OF GEORGE'S SPECIAL RADIOS, A VERY EXCLUSIVE GERMAN BUILT RADIO OF WHICH THERE ARE PERHAPS A COUPLE DOZEN WORLDWIDE. GEORGE BECAME ONE OF A HANDFUL OF USA BASED AMATEUR OPERATORS TO HAVE ONE IN 2015. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PUT ANYONE INTERESTED ON THE RADIO TODAY.

Lasting Legacies - putting bits of W9EVT to ongoing assistance to the hobby that was behind his wife and family, the passion of his life, by making sure to reach out and help others.

KNOW THAT WHILE SUSAN, HIS CHILDREN, FAMILY AND FRIENDS WERE FOREMOST FOR GEORGE, HE DID MANY THINGS WELL. GEORGE WAS AN

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“ORDER OF THE ARROW” IN THE BSA (BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, A US NAVY VETERAN, AND OF COURSE A LEADING HAM RADIO HOBBYIST. HE HAD EXPERT LEVEL KNOWLEDGE OF MANY SUBJECTS, INCLUDING ONES I HADN'T PREVIOUSLY HEARD OF, SUCH AS USA AND CSA FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

YET HAM RADIO WAS ALWAYS THE BEDROCK OF GEORGE'S EXISTENCE.

GEORGE W9EVT'S ONGOING MEMORIAL AS PART OF CYCLE-25 AT THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION. NCDXF.ORG IS A GROUP GEORGE WAS FRIENDS WITH, IS A GROUP WHERE GEORGE WOULD ATTEND THEIR DAYTON BANQUETS AND IS WORTHY OF OUR SUPPORTING IN W9EVT'S REMEMBRANCE.

AS THERE WAS BARELY A HAM WHO MADE CONTACT WITH GEORGE W9EVT WHO ESCAPED WITHOUT A STORY AND WITHOUT SOME ENCOURAGEMENT, WE CAN CONTINUE HIS LEGACY SUPPORTING HAM RADIO.

Thank you.

GEORGE W9EVT GAVE TO ME A SHARE OF HIS MOST VALUABLE ASSETS: HIS EXPERIENCE, HIS INSTRUCTIONS, AND HIS FRIENDSHIP.

TODAY I AM SO PLEASED TO PARTICIPATE.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK TO YOU AND FOR YOUR BEING HERE IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE. THANK YOU AND 73'S STEVE K9ZW