



## Philip Ward Cross

August 23, 1927 - March 2, 2023

It is with great sadness that the family of Philip Ward Cross, of Yreka announce his passing on March 2nd, 2023 at the age of 95 years young. Phil as his friends knew him, passed at his home surrounded by family.

Phil was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather and uncle. He was preceded in death by: his loving wife Mary of 64 years, his sister June and great-grandson John. He will be lovingly remembered by his children: daughters Gail (George) and Bonnie (Tim); sons Raymond (Jan) and Albert (Bev); grandchildren: Tim Jr., James, Wesley, Shari, Colleen and AJ; eleven great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, as well as his large spiritual family at the Yreka Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Phil was born August 23rd, 1927 in Bangor, Maine to Raymond E. Cross and Clara L. Ward and grew up in Searsport, Maine. His first job, in his teens, was as a telephone message delivery boy. As Phil told it, "Nobody had a telephone in those days, so I would stand outside the telephone exchange office and run messages to the neighbors in town when they received a phone call. I earned a nickel for each message that I delivered, so I always had a little change in my pocket." When Phil was 18 and newly wed, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and again during the Korean War. Afterward he moved his family to Glenburn, Maine, completed his education and received certification from the FCC to become a television engineer for WABI-TV out of Bangor, Maine, where he worked until he retired.

In 1962 Phil was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses where he dedicated the majority of his life. Later in life he moved to New Hampshire and then Arizona, to live with his daughter, Bonnie. While there, he served as Vice-President of Cross Propane LP Gas Co. of Colorado for 15 years, alongside his son Ray. In 2009 Phil moved to California to be near his son, Albert. Besides spending time with his family and friends, Phil had a passion for Bible education and ministry work. He enjoyed woodworking, road trips and staying busy. He did not like to sit idle! Phil was very generous and had a caring and charismatic personality. He was well known for his comical ways and sense of humor. Phil was a dapper gentleman known by locals as the "older man with the Fedora and Suit." Phil now rests in Jehovah's memory.

# Tribute Wall



“ 6 files added to the album Obituary Wall



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**Girdner Funeral Chapel** - April 27 at 03:50 PM

BC

“ They sure thought it was cool that my friend in NM was their friend in ME! They spoke so fondly of your visit ☐

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**Bev Caban Cross** - April 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Beautiful memorial for Phil as a tribute to the kind of man he was. Son, husband, father, uncle, grand, great, and great-great grandfather, and friend; he was loved dearly and will be missed.

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**Bev Caban Cross** - April 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *Sending big hugs Please know that we have been keeping all of you in our prayers. Lots of love*



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**Mike & Carrie Thibodeau** - April 19, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *In 1988 my mom came to Maine for a visit while we were living there.  
We made a trip to visit Phil and Mary. They were so excited to see us and were very hospitable.  
Phil said we all had to have a cup of ice cream with them. An traditional evening Maine ritual :)  
We laughed and had so much fun.  
We want to express our sorrow to the family for the loss of this generous, wonderful, charismatic family man and brother in the congregation. Look forward to seeing him again in the resurrection!  
Much love,  
Mike & Carrie Thibodeau*

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**Mike & Carrie Thibodeau** - April 19, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ I remember back in the day when Al and Bev were telling me Al's dad was moving up to Yreka from AZ...What they didnt say, is what a character he was! He always had a way of putting a smile on your face. I remember him bringing me flowers to work once, and I thought "boy I'm pretty special"😊 turns out he brought them to all the ladies he knew😭... Just shows his kind of thoughtfulness. Sure will miss him  
...💙until we see him again💜

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**Kristi Freeman** - April 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Phil was a very kind, humorous, and spiritual man. He will be missed greatly. Will miss his newsy emails. Until we see you and Mary again...Rev 21:3, 4

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**Beth Martin** - March 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ I remember when my sister, Bev, and I went to Maine to meet Phil and Mary. Bev was engaged to their son, Albert, to whom she has been married since 1974. Phil and Mary were so welcoming. Phil was lively and so interested in our lives in New Jersey. Mary was charming and quiet and dear. I loved them both. It has been an honour to know both of them since then. We lost Mary a while back, and now the world is a little darker with Phil gone. But I hope to see him again some day, under better conditions. Sending love to the whole family. ❤️❤️❤️

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**Sharone Neuhoff** - March 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ We will miss Grandpa. We are thinking about everyone and sorry we can't be there in person. Look forward to seeing you soon. Love you both very much,



Shari, Dan, Tyler, Connor, Caleb - March 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Phil was a good friend and spiritual brother. I always enjoyed associating with him at assemblies. He was an engineer at WABI-TV in Bangor, ME while I was a week-end news anchor. We shared some great times. Nice memories.

Rick Foster - March 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ My condolence to Al and Beverly. He was a very nice man.

Donna Reusze - March 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ God bless

Elieene Jones - March 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Girdner Funeral Chapel

A Memorial Tree was planted for Philip Ward Cross - March 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM