

## THOMAS (TOM) STRATTON

From the time he was a young boy, he always worked in the newspaper business, starting as a paperboy. Later, he served a five-year apprenticeship with the International Typesetters Union while attending college. After graduation, he started at the Detroit (MI) Free Press. Printing runs in his family, as his grandfather owned a weekly newspaper in Miller, SD, and two of Tom's aunts worked there also. Tom's father and brother worked for newspapers all their working lives too.

After the Free Press, Tom was employed at The Cleveland Press, the Illinois State Journal-Register, the Hayward Review, and the Denver Catholic Register, where he was night foreman. While in Denver, he then worked at the Rocky Mountain News where he was Superintendent of the Composing room and had more than 150 employees under him.

While in Denver, he also took a job as a salesman for the prestigious Mergenthaler Linotype Company and did very well, but decided he needed to be home more often.

In 1969, the family moved to Albany, Oregon, where he was hired at the Albany Democrat Herald. He worked there for over 22 years, retiring on New Year's Eve, 1991 after working a double shift that day. At the time of his retirement, he was Operations Manager and was in charge of the press room, composing room, camera room, mail room, computers, and maintenance of the building, machinery, as well as doing all the ordering of ink, paper, etc.

During his newspaper career, he had worked with many changes in the printing industry. From hot-type (Linotype machines using metal fonts) to word processors and complete computerization, he was involved with all these processes. The Catholic Register in Denver installed one of the first computers in the country for newspapers while Tom was there, and Tom worked about three months without even taking a day off! The early newspaper computers were so huge they took up a whole room!

Tom enjoyed hiking, taking walks, and played slow pitch with the City League for several years. He was always very sociable and enjoyed having friends over. He also played chess for a while, even taking on a chess master several times. Here in Albany, he and Priscilla played bridge and then Tom went on to join the Duplicate Bridge group after his retirement.

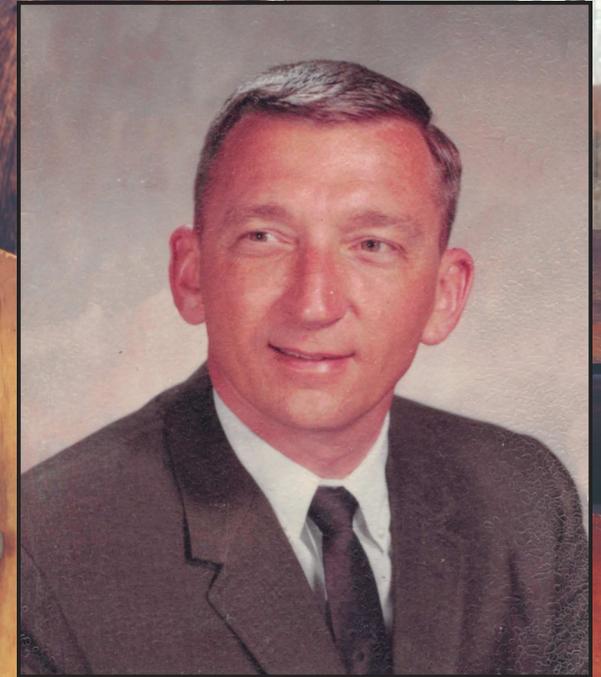
He served as Treasurer, Elder, and President in several of the Lutheran Churches he had belonged to while living in Albany.

After his retirement, he and Priscilla took some cruises, which he really enjoyed.

You will be missed Tom!



In Loving Memory of  
***Thomas Cole Stratton***  
1929 ~ 2019





*In Loving Memory of*  
**Thomas Cole Stratton**  
*Age 89*

**BORN**  
*September 14, 1929*  
*Detroit, Michigan*

**ENTERED INTO REST**  
*June 30, 2019*  
*Albany, Oregon*

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**  
*Friday, July 12, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.*  
*Immanuel Lutheran Church*  
*Albany, Oregon*

**OFFICIANT**  
*Pastor Larry Oliver*

**PRIVATE INTERMENT**  
*Willamette Memorial Park*  
*Albany, Oregon*

*The Clock of Life*

The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power  
To tell just when the hands will stop  
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,  
To lose one's health is more,  
To lose one's soul is such a loss  
That no man can restore.

The present only is our own,  
So Live, Love, toil with a will  
Place no faith in "Tomorrow"  
For the clock may then be still.

-Robert H. Smith

*Everyone is invited to a reception immediately  
following the service.*