



Soren Erik Halvorsen

November 29, 1947 - August 27, 2026
Seattle, Washington

Soren Erik Halvorsen died in Seattle on August 27, 2026. He was seventy-eight. Born there on November 29, 1947, he learned the Sound before he learned a trade. His father worked a ferry. Soren worked it too, then the night watch, then whatever job would keep a man outdoors in a city that does not flatter anyone who waits for mild weather.

He spent decades handling lines, checking hatches, and teaching younger men that ice on a ladder is not a story you tell afterward if you have been careful. He did not romanticize the work. He said the water was beautiful from a hill and dishonest from a deck, and that both facts could be true before breakfast.

He married Ingrid Halvorsen in 1971. They kept a house up the hill from the locks and a cabin they almost never finished painting. Two sons grew up knowing how to bait a hook and how to be quiet in a boat. Ingrid taught school. Soren packed her lunches with the same seriousness he packed a toolbox. After he retired he walked the waterfront in every month except the ones when the wind made walking a kind of argument.

Friends remember a dry laugh, a refusal to own more than one good coat, and a habit of showing up to help move a freezer as if that were the natural use of a Saturday. He could name the boats of his youth and would stop himself before the list became a lecture. He died in Seattle, the city whose rain and weather had written his calendar. The ferry still goes out. He would have liked that the work outlasted the man.

Services

Visitation in Seattle, followed by a simple service. A walk along the water afterward, weather allowing.

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