



Milo Dean Bohlender

March 20, 1934 - November 13, 2018

Milo D. Bohlender, 84, of Fort Collins, passed away November 13, 2018 at Poudre Valley Hospital.

Milo was born March 20, 1934 on the family dairy farm in LaSalle, CO to Jacob Bohlender and Martha Gaede Bohlender. He graduated from Campion Academy High School, Campion, CO in 1952 and from Northwest Institute of Medical Technology, Minneapolis, MN in 1953 with a degree in x-ray technology.

In the fall of 1953, while on a hunting trip, Milo was shot through the legs by another deer hunter. He spent the next few years undergoing corrective surgery, recuperating, and helping his father and brother on the farm. He also managed his own dairy herd and raised Shetland ponies.

He married Gwendolyn Walker of Greeley, CO in 1954. Following two years in the Army, Milo and Gwen moved to Newbury Park, CA when Milo accepted a job as the assistant manager of the Newbury Park Academy Dairy and Milk Processing Plant.

Milo and Gwen returned to Colorado in 1959 so that Milo could attend Colorado State University. He found a job at Warren Funeral Chapel which served as his inspiration to join the funeral industry. He took a one year leave

of absence from CSU to attend the San Francisco College of Mortuary Science. He graduated third in this class in 1964 and returned to Fort Collins to assume the role of Vice President of Warren Funeral Chapel (which would become Bohlender Funeral Chapel in 1982), beginning a career that would span more than 60 years.

During his career, Milo served as Secretary/Treasurer for the Northern Colorado Funeral Directors Association, President of the Colorado Funeral Directors Association and was a Deputy Coroner for Larimer County. He was also a member of many local service clubs including: Fort Collins Kiwanis Club, Jaycees, Sertoma, Elks Lodge, Moose Lodge, and the American Legion George Beach Post #4.

Milo loved to sing. He recorded a religious album with his daughter, Vaundeen Bachus, and sister, Iris Hughes. He sang for many years in the Larimer County Barbershop Chorale and was the lead singer of the comedy barbershop quartet the Feed Lot 4. He enjoyed traveling with the quartet throughout the Midwest and on a USO Tour to Asia.

To say he was an avid sports fan is an understatement. He was in San Diego for the Bronco's first Superbowl victory, at the Pepsi Center for the Avalanche's game seven Stanley Cup victory, attended the Rockies very first opening day, and is arguably one of Colorado State University's biggest fans. He spent many years cheering for the Rams football team and had season tickets to men's basketball before Moby Gym opened.

Survivors include his wife, Gwen; daughter, Vaundeen and her husband Dr. Kevin Bachus of Fort Collins; son, Gary and his wife Kristin of Fort Collins; sister, Iris Hughes of Greeley; and two grandchildren, Scout and Stella Bohlender.

Preceding Milo in death are his parents and two brothers, Leon and Dale Bohlender.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, November 19, 2018 at Faith Church, 3920 S. Shields St. Entombment will follow at Grandview Cemetery. Viewing will be from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday at Faith Church, prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Upper Poudre Canyon Volunteer Fire Department, in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive St., Ft. Collins, CO 80524.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV 19. 10:30 AM (MT)

Faith Church
3920 S. Shields Street
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Entombment with Military Honors

NOV 19 (MT)

Grandview Cemetery
1900 W. Mountain Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Tribute Wall

CH

“ *Connie Holmer lit a candle in memory of Milo Dean Bohlender*



Connie Holmer - January 05, 2019 at 08:55 AM

CC

“ *I'm very sorry to hear. Milo was so funny. He and Gwen were always kind to me and I have fun memories of spending time with the family. Prayers and love to Gwen, Gary, and Vaundeen from Cheri Carrick.*

Cheri Carrick - December 26, 2018 at 07:11 PM

BC

“ *I was so sorry to hear the passing of Milo. Loved his barber shop quartet songs and remember him playing the saw in church. My heart goes out to the family and I pray God continues to hold you in the palm of His hand!!* ❤️

brenda carroll - December 20, 2018 at 06:46 PM

BA

“ *Sending our deepest condolences. Milo was a great person and will be missed. He was always willing to help our family and was able to help us through some very difficult unexpected deaths. My favorite memory of Milo is him calling my husband 'Peaches' a nickname he had given my husband as a toddler. Gwen we are praying for strength and comfort.*



Bivian "Peaches" & Anna-Lee Mercado

Bivian and Anna-Lee - November 27, 2018 at 09:57 PM

SK

“ *To Milo's family,*

Allan and I send our condolences to you at this difficult time. I met Milo for the first time when he came to City Council to discuss the disturbances caused by youthful cruisers in downtown Fort Collins. He helped motivate new approaches and investment in downtown Fort Collins. I credit him with being one of the pillars of our revitalization over the past thirty years. The Bohlander Funeral Chapel is a downtown anchor. Your family deserves a lot of credit.

When my father died in 2009, Milo and Gary were so kind to my family. I am deeply grateful.

*In peace,
Susan and Allan Kirkpatrick*

Susan Kirkpatrick - November 25, 2018 at 10:03 AM

DH

“ Gary
I first became acquainted with Milo in his Memorial Day activities at Grandview Cemetery years ago. His sincerity, his professionalism and his forthright manner convinced me that this is the man I will deal with as the need arises. Bohlender FC then performed my mother's services in 1994 and my daughter's just last November. Gary, you, your wife and staff continue to be a credit to Milos memory.

Dr LJ Housley

dr lj housley - November 23, 2018 at 03:58 PM

LO

“ *Love and prayers to the Bohlender family. Your family was so kind and patient with all of us. We pray for your strength and peace. Arthur Maxwell's family.*

Loretta - November 20, 2018 at 06:14 PM

GC

“ *Milo was an awesome Man! He came to our home twice when I lost my Dad and just 7 months later my husband. He was always kind and just made a person feel at ease that he had everything under control. Please know others care. Gwen you were awesome to help me also! HUGS to you! After your 64 years of marriage you will feel the void until you meet again! I have learned one thing about death; it does not get easier; you just get used to the fact they are gone! Take care, Ginger Charvat*


Ginger Charvat - November 20, 2018 at 11:27 AM

KB

“ *Karen Blanco lit a candle in memory of Milo Dean Bohlender*



Karen Blanco - November 19, 2018 at 02:50 PM

 Tracey Sudbay Hash

“ *Thoughts and prayers go out to you all, Gwen, Vaundeen, Gary and extended family members. So sorry about the passing of Milo. He was always so kind and funny, and thoughtful. A good man for sure.*



Tracey Sudbay Hash - November 19, 2018 at 10:14 AM

JH

“ *A loss of a kind and thoughtful man. My sympathy to you all.*

Joyce Harrah

Joyce Harrah - November 18, 2018 at 09:10 PM

CM

“ *Vaundeen, Kevin and family, We were so very sorry to hear of Milo's passing. He was a gracious and kind man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Cathie and David May

cathie may - November 18, 2018 at 03:59 PM

VD

“ *Our thoughts are with you.*

Lois and Virgil Davis and family

Vicki Davis - November 18, 2018 at 09:32 AM

MA

“ *Earliest memories of Milo come to get my Dad (Smokey Adkins) so there would be music at a service , that's going the extra mile.*

Mitch Adkins - November 18, 2018 at 09:05 AM

LE

“ *So sorry to hear of Milo's Passing, He was a great and kind man. He will be dearly missed. He and the family have taken care of our family for years. We will Miss him.. Prayers for the Family.. leslee bujack garcia and lenore bujack elliot*

Rest in Peace, Milo, we will meet again

Lenore Elliott - November 17, 2018 at 07:20 AM

KB

My condolences to each of you. First got to know him when I first started working at PVH. Quite a few funerals. Getting to know you Gwen and Gary has been awesome. Fun visits at Perkins. I truly will miss Milo.

Katherine Holtzinger Bridwell - November 29, 2018 at 10:57 AM

Nicole Vasquez

“ My heart is sad to hear of Milo's passing. He was definitely one of a kind. He always made me smile. He is definitely well loved in the community. And oh how he loved his family. Gwen, Gary, Kristin and the rest of your family - you are all in my heart and prayers. Thank you for letting us be a part of your family and also for helping our families

Nicole Vasquez - November 16, 2018 at 11:25 PM

DP

“ Thanx for the memories and goodness of a kind Man. I pray for love and support to come to Gwen, Vaundenn, Gary and to all family. God is a loving and comforting God. May his arms surround all and give you warmth and peace.

Donna Pike - November 16, 2018 at 09:42 PM

DM

“ Debbie Moore lit a candle in memory of Milo Dean Bohlender



Debbie Moore - November 16, 2018 at 07:08 PM

JH

“ Thoughts and prayers for the Bohlender clan. Truly a pleasure to have gotten to know Milo. His quick wit and smile were ever present. He enriched us all.

Jared W. Habein - November 16, 2018 at 06:02 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Milo Dean Bohlender.*



November 16, 2018 at 02:30 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Milo Dean Bohlender.*



November 16, 2018 at 01:32 PM



“ *On behalf of Joe Findley and myself, the Public Administrators of Larimer County, I want to express our deepest sympathy to Milo's family. For years we had to deal with Milo on almost a monthly basis as Public Administrators and he was always a gentleman and very a very fine person to work with. We wish the best for Milo's family.*

*Sincerely,
Bill Kaufman
Loveland, Colorado*

William G Kaufman - November 16, 2018 at 11:48 AM



*Milo was a very special man to our family! Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time. God Bless
Sincerely,
The Doyle Gardner families*

Doyle Gardner - November 19, 2018 at 07:02 PM

AP

Never got to meet him in life. I wish the family the best. I just happened to be in the right place to help the wife. I hope the rest of the family is doing well. God wanted me to meet her.

A. pena

arthur pena - November 23, 2018 at 10:43 PM

DD

“ *Gary and family, I am so sorry for your loss hugs and prays for you all*



Donna Jo Doney - November 16, 2018 at 05:58 AM

TP

“ *Our hearts and prayers to the family of Milo. We used to be neighbors and you couldn't ask for nicer and kinder folks. Milo always had a smile and brightened the day. He will be missed.*

Tom and Jamie Presgrove - November 16, 2018 at 12:37 AM

MP

“ *Gwen, Gary Vaundeen.
The Family at Pobre Pancho's are sadden of Milos passing our prayers go out to you all. the city lost a great man we'll miss him dearly you all know Milo and Gwen went to Panchos he will be missed. He well be honored very day.
Your friends Frank, Mary,Monica, Amelia Karolyn, Elizabeth, Megan,Rebbecca, Blanca, Henry, Sheila,Cindy,Carmen, Kaylee,Gabby, Sue.*

mary Perez - November 15, 2018 at 10:19 PM

DP

Support and love in prayers are flowing to Gwen, Vaundeen, and Gary. I enjoyed Milo, his spirit, the stories he would tell, the kindness in him for giving something to all. I will always remember him and his kindness to me. Donna Pike

Donna Pike - November 16, 2018 at 11:13 AM

PH

“ *Paulette Hagans lit a candle in memory of Milo Dean Bohlender*



Paulette Hagans - November 15, 2018 at 05:27 PM

PH

“ *Gwen, Gary and family
The Hagans Family expresses our dearest sorrow for the loss of a wonderful man.
Milo was the most caring and giving man, It is a pleasure to be able to call him a friend,
I loved to see him at Panchos and visit with him and Gwen and Gary, and we still owe you a lunch you paid last time and many other times, guess we can do that when we meet again!
Milo took care of my parents and siblings and relatives for many a years ,Thank You.
He was a huge contributor to the Ft Collins Boxing Club for many years and many other youth groups. Curly till we meet again keep riding high and you will be missed by The Hagans and the entire community thank you and God Bless 🙏🙏🙏💙*

Paulette Hagans - November 15, 2018 at 05:26 PM

DH

“ *My sincerest sympathy to a good friend and a better funeral service colleague. Milo was a great example of what funeral service is about - compassionate, caring, service above self, - doing whatever it took to have the funeral / memorial service be a positive memory for surviving family members.*

I'll never forget our times together serving on the CFDA board of directors and attending meetings and conferences together, especially the rides in Milo's motor home!!!

Milo will be missed greatly!

Don Heer - November 15, 2018 at 04:44 PM

CR

“ *Gary, Kristen & the Bohlender Family,*

I am so sorry to hear of Milo's passing. My thoughts are with you at this time of loss; and my prayers are that warm, happy, and loving memories bring you peace.

~Carol Rankin

Carol Rankin - November 15, 2018 at 11:39 AM

RA

“ Gary, Gwen and family,

I am sorry to learn of Milo's passing. Milo was a good old fashioned funeral director and a fine competitor that made me a better funeral director personally. He was a good example for young funeral directors to learn from. I have fond memories of him over the years in many settings in Fort Collins! May he now rest in peace.

Rick Allnutt

Rick Allnutt - November 15, 2018 at 10:57 AM

JV

“ Milo you very good man thank you for being there for us for at least 10 funerals of various family members always very helpful in our time of need especially when my grandmother and my sister Amy passed I remember how I would always joke with you about how many family members have been through there that we should get like frequent flyer miles or like or have room named after us or something and you know cracking jokes you told me how it was also you were a good man you will be missed rest in peace and thank you Heaven Got a good one with extreme heartfelt condolences to Vasquez family

Jeremy Vasquez - November 15, 2018 at 10:15 AM

DH

“ Gwen, Hary, Vaundeen and all the Bohlenders:
Barbara and I are saddened by the passing of Milo. He was a great friend of ours, fact is he was instrumental in me coming to Ft Collins to teach! He was my school board chairman for years! He will be greatly missed. May God be with you all during this difficult time.
RIP Milo! ❤️❤️🙏🙏

Dan Hoskinson - November 15, 2018 at 08:03 AM

JM

“ We are so very sorry for you loss. Your family has helped our family for years in our time of need (Garza family). God bless you and you family, Gary. Keep his memory in your heart, as I know you will. Your kindness made our loss a little bit more tolerable, I wish you all the kindness and support in your time of need.

Jessenia Madrid - November 14, 2018 at 08:27 PM

DV

“ We are so sorry to hear of Milo’s passing! He was such a good man, so professional but always caring and respectful in our time of need. Thank you Milo and Bohlander family for taking care of our family. Our thoughts are with you Gwen, Vaundeen and Gary.

Dora Salas-Vigil & Andy Vigil - November 14, 2018 at 06:30 PM

SN

“ So sorry to hear of your family’s loss. My prayers are sent that you will find moments of comfort in your memories.

Starla Nelson - November 14, 2018 at 04:46 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Milo! My heart goes out to all of you. Your family is so precious to my family. I will never forget how wonderful you treat my mother, Esther Meisner. May God be with you in your time of sorrow.

Gail Meisner - November 14, 2018 at 04:42 PM

PA

“ *Gwen, Vaundeen, Gary, and all the Bohlender family,*

We are so very sorry to learn of Milo's death. Please accept our sincerest condolences.

We have many happy memories of your family.

*With love,
Paul and Vi*

Paul and Vi Anawaty - November 14, 2018 at 04:03 PM

SR

*To Bohlender Family,
I'm so sorry to hear of Milo's passing. He took such special care and showed sincere kindness to so many members of my family. We greatly appreciated him.
Condolences to the entire Bohlender family.*

Sharon Rostek Ross

Sharon Rostek Ross - November 14, 2018 at 04:31 PM

JC

*Gwen, Vaundeen, Gary & Family
I was so saddened to hear of Milo's passing. He was always so helpful to our family every time we were in need of funeral services and it didn't end there he would go out of his way to say hello anytime we saw him in public he was so caring . RIP Milo*

Juliet Chavez - November 15, 2018 at 07:52 PM

 Phil
Campbell

“ *The whole El burrito family sends prayers and condolences to the bohlender family.milo always remembered everyone.Thank you for everything you did for our family*

Phil Campbell - November 14, 2018 at 03:17 PM

JG

“ I am soo sad to hear of Milo's passing. I was just visiting with him and his wife Sunday morning at the Mountain Cafe. We were talking about CSU sports as we always have done.

Milo and his family took care of the Gavaldon family in our time of need. Also our extended family. I will really miss Milo. RIP my good friend.

Jerry Gavaldon

JERRY GAVALDON - November 14, 2018 at 02:37 PM

DB

Please accept my deepest sympathy on the passing of Mr. Bohlender. I will always remember him as he helped so many of the community and my family in our times of deepest sorrow. My he rest in Gods loving arms. Thank you Mr. Bohlender

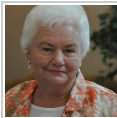
Debra Bueno - November 14, 2018 at 06:18 PM

IZ

My heartfelt condolences to the Bolender family. I met Milo when I was four. He became a friend of of family. He took care of so many family members and this a beautiful job.

I saw them 2 weeks ago at the Charcoal Broiler. Spoke to them both, they looked wonderful. God bless you Milo. You were the best!

Irene Zaidi - November 14, 2018 at 09:11 PM



Billie Harrison & family, We was very sorry to hear the news of Milo passing. He was a lots of help to us when we lost my husband & the boys father. Billie Harrison

Billie Harrison - November 15, 2018 at 10:09 AM

JS

It just won't be the same at the CSU Basketball games, Seeing Gwen and Milo there was just a given. Thoughts and prayers to the family during this time.

*The Schotts
Jerry, Donna and Todd*

Jerry Schott - November 15, 2018 at 07:28 PM

CT

“ *So saddened to hear of Milos passing, he was always so kind and compassionate. The Bohlender family has my condolences at this difficult time. May you all find peace.*

Carrie Tempalski - November 14, 2018 at 01:39 PM

HS

“ *Milo was a very kind man. Him and family have always taken care of our family members for so many years as they passed. Now its our turn Bless him for his kindness. My he rest in peace. God Bless the Bohlender family.*

Harold and Gina Santistevan - November 14, 2018 at 12:49 PM

GF

“ *We have known Milo since we began our careers in 1995. Throughout all those years, Milo always had a ready smile, a joke, a kind word of encouragement. Every time we ran into Milo and Gwen, our day was better. We were heartbroken to hear he had passed away and all of our deepest thoughts and prayers go out to Gwen, Gary, Kristen, and the other family members. Milo's absence will leave a hole that no one can fill and he will be greatly missed.*

Greg and Dianne Fairman - November 14, 2018 at 11:54 AM

LS

“ I would like to send my Condolences to All of Milo's Family and Friends. Although I didnt know him all that, he seemed like a Very Special Person. And he will be Missed by All!

Larry Sipes - November 14, 2018 at 11:29 AM

JA

“ When I bought the Silver Grill in 1979 no one thought we would succeed. Milo and Gwen were there from day one and have showed their support over all these years. My heart is saddened to here of the passing of my friend, he will be missed. My condolences go go out to the entire Bohlender family.
John Arnolfo, and the entire Silver Grill Family

John Arnolfo - November 14, 2018 at 11:20 AM

ST

“ I always love coming into work with Milo and Gwen. Milo always had a new joke. He always made sure you felt welcome and had a warm smile on his face. Loved watching anything on the TV that was CSU rams with him! Love you Milo. Hugs to Gwen, Gary, Kristin, the girls the family ❤️

Stephanie - November 14, 2018 at 11:09 AM

SK

“ So many great memories to our dear friend from a child working in the Spudnut Shop to holiday family gatherings. I will always be so grateful for this friendship and also the opportunities you and Gwen gave me to get through college and start my career. You will be missed and never forgotten. Big hug to you Gwen, Vaundeen, Gary and everyone in the family ❤️

scott king - November 14, 2018 at 09:32 AM

SK

So deeply appreciate knowing Milo since we moved here so many years ago and opened the Spudnut Shop. It was an honor to work for him, Gwen and the entire family. So many special memories of Milo playing Santa. Oh how he made us laugh, always had such a wonderful sense of humor. He always made me feel good. Will miss him greatly.

-Martha King

scott king - November 14, 2018 at 05:33 PM



“ *So so many memories !!! Milo was a incredible man!! He touched so many people
In so many ways.... He will be truly missed by everyone. Proud to have him as my
Uncle
Love Nat*

Natalie Hagan - November 14, 2018 at 06:20 AM

DV

So sorry to hear about Milo, he truly was a great friend, compassionate , He truly lived up to the SERVICE he provided. In my family, back to 1963 and to all of our HOLY FAMILY families,on behalf of my own family and Holy Family Catholic Church,Thank you Milo, Bolender family, your're in our prayers. Don & Toni Valdez

Don & Toni Valdez - November 14, 2018 at 02:20 PM

LA

So sorry to hear that Milo has passed. One of the first people I met was Gwen and Milo in 1965 when I was new to the city. God bless the family.

Lyle Aspegren - November 14, 2018 at 02:30 PM

BM

So sorry for the loss of Milo. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time. The Bolender family has had a special place in our hearts

Beverly Boxberger Meyer - November 14, 2018 at 06:11 PM

BL

*Our deepest sympathies to you all...we loved Milo as a neighbor and a friend. What a wonderful guy... It was our honor to have had the privilege of knowing him. We will miss him.
The Lytle family....*

Barbie Lytle - November 14, 2018 at 07:22 PM

NB

Gwen, Gary, Vaundeen and family

My memories of Milo are of a very generous man--always giving to others in every circumstance. I also think of his positive, cheerful and helpful attitude.

He will be missed not only by family and friends but the entire Fort Collins community that he served so faithfully.

May God give you peace and comfort during this very difficult time

Nelson Bachus

Nelson Bachus - November 15, 2018 at 11:52 AM

SI

Gwen and Family, My heart is sad. Losing Milo is heartbreaking. He was a kind, generous, funny, gracious, and great friend. I loved his singing and was a great fan of the Feedlot Four. He was number one in the Heiden family. Please know that you are in my heart and in my prayers.

*Sharon Heiden Inloes
Greeley, Colorado*

Sharon Heiden Inloes - November 15, 2018 at 02:00 PM

SL

Dear Gwen, Gary, Vaundeen and family, I am so very sad to hear that Milo has passed! What a great loss for the community and this world. There will never be another man as wonderful as Milo! He was always so kind, giving, generous, always with a smile, a joke or a kindness. Everyone who knew Milo loved him, including me, and he will be sorely missed. I am thankful for his gentle care and kindness during our times of sorrow. Please accept my deepest condolences and may God surround you with love, comfort and peace at this sad time. My prayers and love are with you.

Sherry Leeper - November 15, 2018 at 09:24 PM

KB

Gwen, Gary, and family,

I was so shocked and sad to read of Milo's passing. His Obituary was amazing but missed another important way he gave of his time. He volunteered 30 yrs. to high school students every semester in my Sociology of the Family classes. I will never forget the first time he came and was introduced by Harold Warren to me as the new "younger guy" the students would relate to better in the late 70's. Then in the mid 90's he was introducing Gary to me as the "younger guy", his son, who students would relate to better. Gary shared with Milo many of the classroom visits until about 2005. Those years Gwen might call me and say Gary has a funeral but Milo will be there, or Milo needs to go to the hospital for a family so Gary will be there. Time volunteered sharing in my classrooms sometimes 5 classes in one semester, greeting those classes another day to tour the funeral home, and also meeting personally with any students who needed personal council or help over a death. A trusting and close friendship over those many years made this hard to lose a family friend. Milo and Gary took care of many family members of mine also. He will be missed so much. And all his memories are a true blessing to our family.

My prayers and heartfelt sympathy to all the Bohlender family.

Karen Blanco

Karen Blanco - November 19, 2018 at 02:33 AM



I first met Milo just a few years ago. I always enjoyed our conversations and watching CSU basketball with him and Gwen. He was so kind and had a great sense of humor. I will miss him.

My condolences to Gwen, Vaundeen, Gary and the rest of his family.

Len Vest

Len Vest - November 20, 2018 at 10:05 AM