

## CHICK AND SPUD KY SAR VOC/TECH SCHOLARSHIP



**Chick Kysar** was born at home, in Cushman, OR, on the Siuslaw River in 1926. He grew up in Eastside, leading a mischievous childhood with his older brother Spud, sneaking over neighbors' fences to ride horses or pick apples. He graduated from Coos River High School and was a World War II veteran, seeing action as a heavy artillery gunner in the Philippines. Chick was a fisherman and a logger. He owned and operated the Zillah B out of Charleston and was involved with the startup of the STEP Program and loved raising fish. He cut wood for many friends and neighbors and loved planting apple trees. He and his wife, Pat had wonderful vegetable and flower gardens. He was self-taught in many things, including welding, building over 100 commercial and sport crab pots. He had a deadpan sense of humor and told whopping tales. Some of his bear stories were actually true! Chick died of cancer, at his home on West Fork Millicoma, in 2010.

Born in North Bend in 1923, **Spud Kysar** grew up in Eastside with his brother Chick. He missed a lot of school due to childhood asthma. He recalled Dr. Ennis Keizer made house calls via the ferry between Coos Bay and Eastside, to treat his asthma. In frustration, Spud quit in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and went to work with his father. He worked primarily in the lumber industry for various outfits, retiring at age 62, as a crane operator for Knutson Towboat. He received great respect from his various employers for his honesty, dependability and work ethic.

Spud was also a great storyteller about "the early days". He and some teenage friends borrowed a car to go up Coos River to earn some money weeding a carrot field. After a week of heavy labor, he earned one dollar, all of which went for gas money. He and his brother Chick were driving an old truck in a bad storm when a falling tree came piercing through the middle of the windshield, right between them; neither was injured.

When his brother, Chick died in 2010, Spud endowed the Chick and Spud Kysar Voc/Tech Scholarship. Spud died in July of this year. He chose to donate his body to the Oregon Health Sciences University, just as his mother did.