



## George Belesiotis

October 4, 1941 - July 17, 2024

### In Memoriam

George Belesiotis

Oct. 4, 1941 - July 17, 2024

Well-known restaurateur and chef, George Belesiotis, passed peacefully at home in Newport, Oregon, surrounded by friends and family on Wednesday, July 17th. He was 82.

George was born October 4, 1941 in Nestani, a village outside of Tripoli, Greece, during WW2. He moved to Canada in 1957 where he married Valentina and had two children, Anthony & Natalie. He later married Judy. He had a son, Gregory.

He owned a successful cabaret named Adrian's in Banff, Alberta that he later sold before moving to the United States.

In the states, he secured employment in high-end restaurants where he learned from great chefs in Las Vegas, Nevada and California. It was there that he met and served the likes of such prominent people as Ronald Regan and played craps with celebrities such as Red Foxx and Jimmy Walker, both of whom he described as gentlemen.

George later moved to Portland, Oregon to help his brother open a restaurant. He then helped his younger brother Tom in his restaurant, The Golden Ox. It was there that he met Helen Mathioudakis in 1985. They became good friends and later married in Washington State in 1988. However, the Priest who performed the ceremony never registered the marriage, requiring another

marriage in Reno, Nevada, September 9, 1990.

The couple opened their first restaurant together in Milwaukie, Oregon called Lucky's. A few years later, they sold that business, moved to Washington State and opened Anthony's Restaurant in Westport, in 1993.

Together, George and Helen owned several businesses in Westport, including a surplus store. They had Odysseus by the Gray's Harbor Light Station, George's and of course Anthony's, both on Dock Street in Westport's Marina District.

George loved people and loved being a chef. He loved to help the homeless and found relaxation in casinos.

He is survived by his ex-wife Helen, three sisters in Canada - Matina, Voula and Bessie; adult children Anthony, Natalie, and Gregory; stepchildren Gregory, Antonia and Katerina, as well as several grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

There was no one quite like George, and there will never be a more beloved chef, family man and friend.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **23**. 1:00 AM - 4:00 AM (PT)

Bateman Funeral Home  
915 NE Yaquina Heights Dr.  
Newport, OR 97365  
(541) 265-2751  
[info@batemanpacificview.com](mailto:info@batemanpacificview.com)  
<https://www.batemanpacificview.com/>

# Tribute Wall

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“ *What can you say about George. He was one of a kind. He was so loved by so many people. I will never forget the fun we had working together in my restaurant and his 'laid back' way of handling everything. If you asked George if something was possible or even had a chance of working out he would inevitably answer you with, 'who's gonna stop us', or 'is my name George'?*  
*He was a crack up with an infectious laugh, a cheery disposition and a talent for making everything he cooked, just that much better than any other chef out there. I learned a couple of his secrets while working with him. I will never tell.... I will never forget George in this life and look forward to meeting up with him in the next one. Love you Georgie, to the moon and back.*

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**Barbara Courneya** - July 25, 2024 at 05:33 PM

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“ *I'm so blessed to have known him as a stepfather ❤️ he taught me / mentored me & always kept me safe. We worked together for several years that I look back on fondly. He was an amazing Παπού [grandfather in Greek] to my daughter. Even through his dementia he was pleasant & sweet- always expressing gratitude. Loving him was so effortless and I hold him close to my heart forever. It was my honor to support him & mom through his end of life.  
Love you forever Georgie ❤️  
Antonia*

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**Antonia Sims** - July 24, 2024 at 09:02 PM