



## SPOKANE COUNTY CHAPLAINCY SERVICES



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## A LIFE LIVED WELL

In October 2013 there was a double fatal collision outside of Spokane that gained national news attention. It was reported by WSP Troopers, who worked the scene, that Floyd Nordhagen, 92, and Margaret Nordhagen, 88, were struck after they pulled out of a store parking lot onto a state highway in front of an oncoming pickup truck. What was so newsworthy about this accident was the fact that when Troopers and paramedics arrived, Margaret was holding Floyd's hand. A State Trooper said, "We actually had to ask her to let go of him, so we could get him out of the car." Unfortunately, Margaret died a short time later.

One of the news articles added that, "The couple was married for 68 years and had lived on a

farm and ranch in Elk, in North Spokane County for 45 years. They were also popular members of their community church."

Family members told the local news station, "Floyd often bragged about how pretty Margaret was, and when he started having a hard time pushing the lawn mower, she would help and they would push it together."

"They were always together," their son, Marv Nordhagen, told one of the national news stations "They still cuddled a lot." "He would give her a hug and a kiss every day," said their daughter-in-law Lynn Nordhagen.

"Whenever they were near each other, he would reach for her and she would reach out for him."

Floyd was a deeply religious man who

dedicated his life to his two loves — Jesus Christ, and his wife. Margaret did the same. What a tragic way for this love story to go, but it hasn't ended there.

This couple has left a legacy for all those who knew them.

Romans 12:10 gives us a biblical example of this dedication and love. "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

This couple seemed to embody this verse every day of their lives. What a world we would have if everyone did the same.

Thank you Floyd and Margaret for your wonderful example of Godly love.

*"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make a difference that you have lived and lived well."*

*-Ralph Waldo Emerson*