

SB

95

<TARGET><BILL>SB 95</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
95</SUBJECT><COMM>HTRA27</COMM></TARGET>



SENATOR DENNIS EGAN

SB 95

Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal

Frank Palmer was an icon who worked for nearly five decades at the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal. Palmer, who died last year at the age of 69, first began pulling trailers off the Alaska Marine Highway System's ferries in 1962, the year service from Prince Rupert started. Since then, Palmer drove trucks and met ferries for Lynden Incorporated, Orme Transfer, Douglas Trucking (of which he was also a co-owner), and Alaska Marine Trucking. No matter which company he was working for, Palmer's reliable presence at the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal was a constant.

He was well known as a man who could skillfully get large vehicles on and off of ferries with ease. Although most of them are completely unaware, the list of Alaskans whose lives were touched indirectly by Palmer as he helped move their goods on and off of ferries is long.

Frank Palmer grew up in Auke Bay and for the entirety of his working life (47 years) he was a staple at the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal. Through his decades of work loading and unloading ferries, he was an integral part of the marine highway system that serves as the road that connects the communities of Southeast Alaska.

It would be a fitting and appropriate tribute to a man so intertwined with the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal to rename it the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal.

ALASKA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182 • (907) 465-4947 • FAX (907) 465-2108
SENATOR DENNIS EGAN@LEGIS.STATE.AK.US



*Arrowhead Transfer, Inc.
Arrowhead LP Gas*

1517 Sawmill Creek Road
Sitka, AK 99835-9704
(907) 747-8647 phone
(907) 747-6433 fax

February 24, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that there is a resolution to consider naming the Juneau Ferry Terminal after Frank Palmer.

Our Company and its people would be thrilled to see Frank honored in this way. It would be wonderful for his family and for all of us who knew and respected him.

I doubt that records have been kept, but it would be reasonable to assume that no one driver has ever moved or ever will move more equipment on to and off of Alaska Marine Highway System vessels than Frank.

Arrowhead Transfer, Inc. would be in strong support of this resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon S. Harang, President
Arrowhead Transfer, Inc.

100 Mount Roberts St.
Juneau, AK 99801-7700
(907) 586-3960 phone
(907) 586-3358 fax

7857 N Tongass Highway
Ketchikan, AK 99901
(907) 225-4313 phone
(907) 247-4313 fax

Post Office Box 788
Petersburg, AK 99833-0788
(907) 772-2288 phone
(907) 772-9318 fax

Post Office Box 349
Wrangell, AK 99929-0349
(907) 874-3314 phone
(907) 874-3315 fax

Post Office Box 707
Craig, AK 99921-0707
(907) 826-3419 phone
(907) 826-3916 fax

Post Office Box 584
Kake, AK 99830-0584
(907) 785-3158 phone
(907) 785-3150 fax



Friends of Frank Palmer:

I understand that there is consideration of naming the Juneau Ferry terminal after Frank Palmer. This is a wonderful tribute to a great man and I strongly endorse the idea.

Frank began pulling Lynden Trailers off the Alaska Ferry's in 1962, when the 1st. vessels began operating from Prince Rupert. He began driving for Orme Transfer, then as an owner of Douglas trucking (when Orme went out of business) and finally for Alaska Marine Trucking, a Lynden Company. He met ferries in Juneau, at all hours of the day and night, in any type of weather, safely, reliably and professionally for 47 years.

Frank is well known by AMHS personnel for 5 decades, as the guy who was always there, and who could thread a needle with a tractor trailer.

Thank you for your consideration of our long term friend and fellow Lynden professional, Frank Palmer.

Jim Jansen
CEO
Lynden Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Jansen', written over a light blue horizontal line.

March 21, 2011

Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol
Room 510
Juneau, AK 99801-1182



RE: HB 95
Dear Senator Egan:

We are writing to express our support for renaming the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal after Frank Palmer.

Besides being a local business owner for 25 years, Frank was our co-worker, our mentor and our friend. The importance of the Alaska Marine Highway system to the commerce of Southeast Alaska was always in the forefront of his thoughts. Frank was well known to personnel at the Alaska Marine Highway Auke Bay Terminal and to vessel crews. He made himself available to help many passengers' equipment on and off the Marine Highways vessels over his long tenure meeting the ferry.

Thank you for initiating this bill.

Sincerely,
The Crew at Alaska Marine Trucking

Eric Lodge
Thomas M. Knutson
John E. Hunt
Teresa J. Gamble
Don Reed
Shirley
Mark
Dave Peterson
D. P. H.
John K. Paul
Ken W. Bunch

Wally Bann
Mark Miller
Valerie Swindson
Ray Thibodeau
Gene M. M. M.
John K. Paul
Frank Ginn Jr.
John Paul
John Paul

man 2, 2011
rough chills

100 Mt. Roberts Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-3790
Fax: (907) 483-3298

3295 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 225-7660
Fax: (907) 225-6291

3 1/2 Mile Mitkof Hwy.
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
(907) 772-3278
Fax: (907) 772-9318



February 24th, 2011

To Whom It May Concern;

I have been in communication with the office of Senator Dennis Egan to provide information and support his efforts to name the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal after a dear friend of mine, Frank Palmer. Those of us that were blessed to work with him feel that this gesture would be a fitting tribute to this man and his family. A man that has meant so much to this community and other communities throughout Southeast Alaska serviced by the Alaska Marine Highway.

It would be impossible to even guess the number of trailers he pulled off and put on the ferries over the course of his 47 plus years in transportation here in Juneau. Think of the lives he touched either directly or indirectly by being the one there at all hours of the day or night moving the mail, moving the freight and moving our lives.

Frank Palmer was a special person who was perfectly matched for the career he chose, and especially loved working the ferries of the Alaska Marine Highway. Thank you for considering this honor for my friend.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric W. Badger".

Eric Badger

Port Manager Alaska Marine Trucking

George W. Davidson PE, LS (retired)
2616 Douglas Hwy. #206
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Home 907-789-7529
Cell 907-321-3565
gdavid8174@aol.com

March 15, 2011

To Whom It May Concern

Re: SB 95 -- "An Act naming the ferry terminal located at Auke Bay in Juneau the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal."

It is with great personal pleasure that I write in support of this bill and the proposed name change from the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal to the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal.

I knew Frank since the early 1960s and considered him a good friend. In 1969 my wife and I purchased a home "out beyond the ferry terminal" on Lena Loop Road. Thus my life and the life of my wife and 3 daughters began each day and ended each day with a trip past the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal. Over the years since, my family and I have used the ferry system far more than the average Southeast citizen. We traveled regularly on the ferries using them for access to places like Anchorage, Mat-Su, Tok, Haines & Skagway. Our trips north number in the hundreds. The trips were for pleasure but also for business and education. All this travel required that I spend many hours at the ferry terminal waiting to be loaded or waiting to pick up family or friends arriving.

During all this time at the terminal there was one thing that was a constant and that was Frank Palmer. Be it 3 in the morning or 3 in the afternoon -- be it raining, snowing, blowing or (occasionally) sunny -- Frank was always there. He was always pleasant and never too busy to say hello with a hand shake or a good natured headlock. It seems that not only when we were traveling on the ferry but also when just driving by -- there was Frank pulling in with a load or pulling out with one.

When traveling one would see different AMHS employees at the terminal depending on their shift but Frank was always there. Watching him was always interesting as he had the skills to load those trailers quickly into the tightest places. I learned the difficulty of his task and appreciated his skills by having had to personally load horse trailers on and off the ferries -- sometimes by backing up or backing down a steep ramp -- doing so gave me a great appreciation for Frank's skills.

It seemed impossible to think about the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal without thinking about Frank Palmer. He was a good person with great skills and a pleasant manner that set standards for all of us to strive for in life. Your support for this name change will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



George W. Davidson PE, LS
Juneau, Alaska

March 18, 2011

Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol, Room 510
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: SB 95 - Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal

Dear Senator Egan,

I am writing to express my appreciation for your introduction of this bill. Frank Palmer was my brother, his two passions in his life were his family and driving trucks. Other than his yearly hunting trip, Frank rarely left Juneau, in part because of his dedication to his job. In the times that I was able to ride with him as he worked, I saw the flawless talent he had for loading and unloading the ferries. His love and commitment to his job was seen everyday by those around him.

The ferry captains and dock workers could never say enough about the job he did for them. Once the ferry was loaded if needed, he would move the containers around to ensure that the ferry was balanced if they needed him to. He would remain until the ferry was not only loaded, but ready to leave, ensuring that he could make any last minute changes that they asked of him. He was never too busy to help the dock workers move the equipment and other heavy containers when the weather wouldn't let them do it with their machines. If passengers or other truck drivers had problems loading or unloading he was always there to help them on their way.

Frank's love and dedication to not only his job, but to the community of Juneau goes without saying. Ask most anyone, and they could tell you about Frank Palmer waving as he moved his big AML truck down the road, and if you need help, didn't matter what, just ask and he was there to help.

The renaming of the ferry terminal in his name would be a great honor, and in many ways fitting, since Frank grew up across from it. He loved the water and working the ferries was his life. Thank you again for sponsoring this bill.

Sincerely,



Earl 'Bosco' Palmer
22 SE Ashley Rd
Shelton, WA 98584

CARLA B. SEIBEL
15825 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801

Home: 907-789-9035
Cell: 907-321-3306

March 28, 2011

The Honorable Dennis Egan
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 510
Juneau AK, 99801

Re: SB 95

Dear Senator Egan:

I would like to express total support for Senate Bill 95, naming the ferry terminal located at Auke Bay in Juneau the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal."

For nearly fifty years, Frank faithfully met nearly every ferry—day and night—to skillfully load and unload containers. His kindness, skills, and work ethic were reflected in the admiration of not only his fellow truck drivers but also by the ferry employees.

One of the real joys of arriving back in Juneau on the ferry was seeing Frank in his tractor truck, ready to unload and load those many containers that kept Juneau businesses supplied with inventory.

I applaud you for recognizing the talents and goodness of Frank.

Sincerely,

Carla B. Seibel

Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol Room 510
Juneau, Alaska 99801

March 21, 2011

Dear Senator Egan,

I want to thank you for sponsoring SB 95 Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal. Frank Palmer was a tireless advocate of the AMH System, defending it against any and all criticism.

During his 35 years as an owner of Douglas Trucking, Frank Palmer met 99% of the AMH Ferries that stopped in Juneau, pulling on and off vans of freight and mail at all times of the day and night. He would voluntarily help AMH personnel in every way possible to keep the ships on schedule.

Frank would often pull stalled vehicles off or on the ships, or snow bound vehicles out of the stuck positions with his own company tractor, never asking for anything in return, even when the extra stress on his vehicle caused mechanical problems.

I cannot think of anyone better to be honored by having his name attached the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal.

Respectfully,



Gerald Kuelbs

Chester Carson

From: medjed@ptialaska.net
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 11:57 AM
To: Chester Carson
Cc: agsstaku@gmail.com
Subject: Frank Palmer, Naming

Andrew W. & Janet L. Pekovich
P.O. Box 210287
Auke Bay, Alaska 99821
Phone: (907) 789-7581
E-mail: medjed@ptialaska.net

March 21, 2011

Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee
C/o Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol, Room 510
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Proposed Naming of
Juneau's Auke Bay Ferry Terminal

Dear Chairman & Committee Members:

It is my understanding that Senator Egan has sponsored a bill to name the State's Auke Bay Terminal after Frank Palmer. As a 70 year resident of Juneau I would like convey our **whole-hearted support for this action.**

Frank was a high-school classmate, teammate and friend. Although as life typically has it we took different paths after graduation, it was clear from the response to his death that he was admired by so many. This included not only his classmates, peers (including those her competed with), the many young drivers he mentored, visitors using the marine transportation system he came to the aid of, and just as important those operating the marine transportation system which held him in such high regard. Frank, like his father before him, and who in the 50's was our little league and American Legion coach, had a positive affect on so many. The proposed naming of terminal for Frank seems even more appropriate in light of the fact that in the 50's the Palmers resided just across the street from what is now the ferry terminal.

Please accept my apology for having had to direct this though Senator Eagen's Office.

Sincerely,

Andrew Pekovich

Chester Carson

From: Jim Weber [reischl1950@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 10:51 AM
To: Chester Carson
Subject: Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal

Dear Senator Egan:

I am writing to you to show my overwhelming support toward renaming the Auke Bay ferry terminal in Juneau in honor of my good friend and business associate Frank Palmer.

I knew Frank Palmer for over 20 years and know him to be a highly valuable member of the community and a gold plated asset to the trucking industry in Southeastern Alaska. I worked for Lynden Transport in various locations throughout Alaska over roughly 17 years. 6 of those years were spent domiciled in Juneau in charge of Lynden's daily activities throughout all of Southeastern.

Frank Palmer at that time was an owner of Douglas Transfer in Juneau and had been for many years. Frank came through the ranks along with Pat Orme through Orme Transfer. Douglas Trucking was Lynden's Juneau agent. The most famous and well liked of all the Douglas hands was certainly Frankie. No one could match the expert driving ability that Frank had going on and off any ferry under the most adverse weather and technical conditions.

Often times Frank would be called out ship side to untangle the messiest car deck transportation problems one has ever encountered. All AMHS masters, Tow Boat masters, First Mates and deck hands knew Frank Palmer because of his friendly spirit, attitude and driving ability. Frank was a man with a wonderful imagination and humorous, always ready to get the job done no matter under what conditions or time of the day. Palmer had a heart of gold.

I strongly support Senator Egan effort in proposing renaming the Auke Bay Ferry terminal to show Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal. It is an honor truly befitting a gentleman of Juneau and the transportation industry.

Sincerely,
/s/ Jim Weber
former 15 year resident of Juneau
2755 W. Riverdell drive
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

From: Patricia O'Brien [<mailto:patriciaobrien@aci.net>]
Sent: March 21, 2011 12:25
To: Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: SB 95 FRANK PALMER FERRY TERMINAL

Dear Senator Egan,

As a long time Juneauite, I was pleased to see the introduction of SB 95 honoring Frank Palmer. As a senior in Juneau I appreciate the recognition of competent, caring, fun loving individuals like Frank.

Juneau would be honored to recognize this colorful jovial man who was loved by the trucking industry, ferry terminal employees, family and friends. I will share just one Frank Palmer story from a friend who does not have a computer. Years ago she took her young grandson every day to the Auke Bay Ferry terminal to watch Frank Palmer load containers onto the ferry. This preschool boy never tired of the grins, waves and skill of Frank Palmer, so grandma had to take him to the dock nearly every day in the summer to watch – over three years. And Frank always noticed him and waved. One day Frank asked if his young admirer would like to ride with him in the truck as he loaded a container. It was to be a wonderful lasting memory for the child who is now a young man. Frank has influenced many of us with his support, skill, generosity, and humor.

Thank you for recognizing Frank and his contributions to this community through SB 95.

Warm wishes,

Pat

Patricia OBrien
(907) 789-9405
PO Box 35451
Juneau, Alaska 99803-5451

From: bonniebryson@comcast.net

I think it is a wonderful idea to name of the Auke Bay ferry terminal after Frank Palmer. I knew Frank over 50 years. I think his only problem would be finding which pair of pants to wear at the dedication, but he wouldd be so proud he would be splitting his pants with pride.

All puns aside, Frank was an all 'round great guy, and very deserving of this honor. I think it is very nice to have the terminal named after a person who had a close association with the ferry terminal before the terminal was built, and just a hard working, good guy.

Jill 🌻

From: Marsha Bennett [<mailto:marsha9flower@yahoo.com>]

Sent: March 21, 2011 11:38

To: Sen. Dennis Egan

Subject: Frank Palmer

I just want you to know that virtually all of the class of 1958 is strongly behind naming the Juneau Ferry terminal after him. He was a great guy and inspired so many truckers among others to do the best job--he was an outstanding mentor. I went to his funeral and was amazed at all the rigs lined up and the testimonials from all his friends. He was a good friend to me and all my closest friends too, who were/are female. I sent your newsletter to several close friends in the Lower 48 and all have been asking where the legislation is now and to add their support.

If you need names I can get them for you.

Marsha Bennett

From: bonniebryson@comcast.net

Dear Mr. Carson,

Thank you for offering your web sight regarding the proposal of the naming Auke Bay of the ferry terminal in honor Frank Palmer. I was a friend of Frank's and his family starting in the 1940's. He was a school chum as well as a dear friend until his untimely death. Frank was a good guy, an upstanding person with a huge heart as well as his own unique personality. I support Dennis effort to name the terminal after Frank. To Dennis: My auntie Flossie Ditman would be proud of you for backing this effort to honor Frank.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Bryson

Tucson, Arizona

From: DeeAnn Grummett [<mailto:dhgrummett@qci.net>]

Sent: March 12, 2011 12:35

To: Sen. Dennis Egan

Subject: Re: Sen. Egan's Legislative Corner

Wonderful to hear about the Frank Palmer tribute.

Mike and DeeAnn

From: marleneciraulo@gmail.com

Mr. Carson:

First, let me introduce myself. I am Marlene Palmer Ciraulo, sister to my beloved brother, Frank Palmer. My family and I are honored and humbled by the recognition of our dear brother, Frank, and the possibility of the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal being renamed the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal.

Our family grew up on the shores of Indian Cover (where the terminal is located) and it would be a tremendous show of respect to our brother and our family, for that terminal to be renamed for our brother. Frank gave his heart and soul to the people of Juneau and the trucking business to make sure goods were delivered to and from the ferries. His tireless efforts to meet those "middle of the night" ferries was unprecedented.

The outpouring of love and respect for our brother, Frank, has been overwhelming since his passing a year ago. Should this honor take fruition, Frank's legacy lives on.

Please convey the complete gratitude of the Palmer/Ciraulo families to Senator Egan, for this incredible honor to our brother, Frank.

Marlene Palmer Ciraulo
4615 193rd Pl. SE
Issaquah WA 98027.

From: Larry Edfelt [<mailto:larrythefishguy@yahoo.com>]

Sent: March 11, 2011 18:52

To: Sen. Dennis Egan

Subject: Frank Palmer memorial

Hi Dennis

I heartily support naming the ferry terminal for Frank Palmer. He truly was a fixture there, loading and unloading vans at all hours, day or night, for decades. He was tireless, and loved his work. I am sure I join hundreds of others in Juneau in supporting the naming of the terminal for Frank. God bless him. He touched us all.

best wishes,
Larry Edfelt

From: Mgaalstead@aol.com [mailto:Mgaalstead@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2011 10:06 AM

To: Sen. Dennis Egan

Subject: Auke Bay Ferry Terminal/Frank Palmer

Dear Senator Egan,

I am writing to express support for the naming of the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal after Frank Palmer. He was a classmate of mine from grade school days and a very good friend until his untimely death. Everyone who knew Frank was aware that if he was unable to attend some event, it was because he was "meeting another ferry" and doing the job he could evidently do so skillfully. He was a fixture at the ferry terminal. Frank had a strong work ethic and sense of personal responsibility and he cared very deeply about the job he did there over the decades. He loved Juneau and Auke Bay. Naming the terminal after him would honor the values of hard work, pursuit of excellence, responsibility and community mentoring that Frank stood for during his lifetime. Coincidentally, he grew up in the family home across from the terminal and spent his childhood rowing around in the cove and exploring the woods around it. We all knew Frank to be a kind and caring person who would have never thought to promote this idea for himself, but there is some poetic justice in the idea of an "unsung hero", as one of my friends termed him, being remembered in this way. It would definitely please my heart, and those of his family, friends, and colleagues, to know his name would be carried on in this way. This is a wonderfully just idea. Thank you for suggesting it. So be it!

Sincerely,

Margie Alstead Shackelford

From: Donald Nowacki [ddnowacki@yahoo.com]

Dear Senator Egan

Although I am no longer an Alaskan resident, I would still like to lend my support for SB 95.

I grew up with Frank and we have been best friends our whole life. In our younger years, Frank and I spent many a day rowing around the cove and exploring the woods across the cove from his house which was basically across the road from the Ferry Terminal. He is probably the hardest working, kindest and most generous person I have ever met. On one of my visits to Juneau, I had the pleasure of riding "shot gun" with him while he delivered a container to a waiting ferry and go onboard with him and watch him park the trailer in the vessel's hold. The Chief Mate and Captain were both present for his arrival, not to supervise, but to greet him like an old friend. After a few minutes of small talk and a couple of laughs with them, Frank excused himself and went back to work, latching onto another container to deliver it back to town.

Frank loved his work and the Alaskan Ferry System and is missed by many. Putting his name on the Terminal across the road from where he grew up and spent his working life is a fitting tribute to a fine man who deserves to be remembered.

Sincerely, Don Nowacki (JDHS class of 1958)

From: Jo Nelson [marlainajo@gci.net]

I support the bill to change the name of the Auke Bay Ferry Terminal to Frank Palmer. Although I didn't personally know Mr. Palmer, my son, Joe Purcell, worked with him and spoke so highly of him. I am pleased to see that a proposal to rename is based on the contributions made by an individual in the transportation field. Please feel free to contact me if needed. Thank you.

Josephine Nelson
6011 Gull Way
Juneau, AK 99801

907-780-4512
907-723-4512 (cell)

From: Mary Abo <maryabo@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 21, 2011 at 7:55 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: Frank Palmer (SB 95)
To: Marsha Bennett <marsha9flower@yahoo.com>

To Chester Carson:

I am a member of Frank Palmer's 1958 graduating class from JHS. He lived out in the country, Auk Bay in those days. Although I moved away from Juneau, I kept in touch with news from Juneau and knew Frank hauled freight to and from the ferry terminal. A landmark like the ferry terminal should be symbolized by a person who demonstrated work and personal ethics everyone admired. Please name it the Frank Palmer Ferry Terminal.

Mary (Tanaka) Abo

From: Mary Becker <imbecker@aci.net>
Date: March 21, 2011 3:48:49 PM AKDT
To: senator dennis eqan@legis.state.ak.us
Cc: Jim Becker Becker <imbecker@aci.net>
Subject: Senate Bill 95

Hi Dennis--

Jim and I support SB 95 that would name the Auke Bay ferry terminal after Frank Palmer. Frank was such a steadfast worker regardless of the time of day or the weather, putting vans on and off the ferry. Naming the terminal after him would be a fitting tribute to a great Juneauite.

Thank you,

Mary and Jim Becker



Frank Palmer

Sunday, March 07, 2010

Story last updated at 3/7/2010 - 2:52 am

Frank Palmer
Juneau Empire

Juneau resident Frank Edward Palmer died Feb. 28, 2010, when he drowned while swimming in the ocean during a family vacation in Kauai, Hawaii. His beloved wife, Patti, adored son Billie, cherished grandson Bill, and dear friends, Bud and Joy Hansen, were with him. He was 69.

He was born March 3, 1940, in Tacoma, Wash., to Clayburn F. "Bill" and Nona Palmer and grew up along the shores of Auke Bay. He attended elementary and high schools in Juneau, playing organized baseball and basketball throughout his youth, and he was a member of the Juneau Crimson Bear 1958 State Championship basketball team.

In his youth, he enjoyed fishing and hunting and relished learning those skills from his father. Except for attending college in North Dakota and a short stint in the Air Force, he spent most of his life in Alaska, which he loved. His passion for the outdoors enhanced his excitement for his annual hunting trip to Swan Island with his buddies and fishing with family and friends.

His work passion was the trucking industry, and he was widely known for his expert ability to spot and remove large vans from the Alaska ferries. All his working life, he worked with or for trucking companies. He worked for Orme Transfer, was part owner in Douglas Trucking for many years, and later worked for Lynden Transport and Alaska Marine Lines. The familiar sight of Frank traveling up and down Egan Highway in his truck, will be sorely missed.

"Frank was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend," his family wrote. "His love for his family and friends is cherished by all who knew him, and his great spirit and zest for life will live on forever."

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Patti Palmer; son, Bill Palmer; step-daughters, Kate and Leslie Becker, and Karen Ford Powell; step-sons, Randy and Rick Ford; grandson, Bill Palmer; granddaughters, Katie, Linda and Lisa Palmer, of Juneau, and Greta Olson, Margot and Hazel Liebrecht, of Portland, Ore.; sister, Marlene Palmer Ciraulo and husband, Joe, of Issaquah, Wash.; brother, Earl "Bosco" Palmer and wife, Sheila, of Shelton, Wash.; uncle, Earl L. Palmer and aunt, Geraldine Palmer, of Tacoma; and many nieces and nephews, as well as an endless group of friends.

A memorial service is planned for 2 p.m. March 20 at the Chapel by the Lake, followed by a celebration of Frank's life at the Sandbar. In lieu of flowers, the family is setting up a trust fund for the grandkids in his memory. The family can be contacted c/o Patti Palmer, P. O. Box 240204, Douglas, AK 99824-0204.