



## RONALD NICHOLS

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After graduation, I thought I wanted to be an engineer, but changed my mind after one term. In the spring of '64 I went to work for the City of Salem Parks Department as a summer seasonal and loved every minute of it. Went back to OSU and graduated with a BS in Landscape Construction and Maintenance, graduating in '69.

Went back to school for a high school teaching certificate in vocational agriculture education and taught high school vocational agriculture for three years. Ended up back with the Salem Parks Department in 1973 and stayed there for four years.

It seemed like it was time to try self employment, so left the comforts of working for the City and started my own landscape company, Green Heritage Landscape Construction and Maintenance. I stayed with this enterprise for nine years. While self-employed I ended up working as a contractor for Willamette University. This lead to being hired in 1986 as their grounds manager where I worked for 21 years, retiring May 2007. It was a wonderful career and it was good to be involved with the growth of our home town and it's surrounding communities. During my landscape career I had the privilege of meeting, and even working for, some of the class of '63. It was about two years before retirement that Don Ditto made contact via email and we have been in touch ever since, even getting out and doing some fishing together.

My wife, Cheryl, and I have been married for 45+ years and have three wonderful children - two sons (Darren and Jason) and a daughter (Amy). To date, they have furnished us with four wonderful grandsons. Because my career has always been centered in the Salem area, we settled in Keizer 38 years ago, and still love it. It has been a great place to raise our family.

I'm sorry it won't work for me to attend the reunion in August. I hope you will get in contact with me so we can reacquaint ourselves and catch up on some recent past history. Take good care, each one of you folks.



*Left to right - Son Jason, 38; Son Darren, 41; Daughter Amy, 33; Cheryl; Ron.*