

*The following was published in The (Everett) Herald on August 10, 2006*

## Clifford Charles Shaw & Betty Louise (Franciscus) Shaw

were tragically killed in an airplane crash on their way to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on July 23, 2006.



Clifford was born in Everett, on December 16, 1938, and Betty was born in Seattle, Washington, on January 16, 1940. They graduated from Edmonds High School (Class of 1958) and married on November 20, 1959. Cliff served in the USCG and retired from IBM. After their children were grown, Betty went to work with the U.S. Census Bureau. At the time of their deaths, both were currently employed at Galaxy Hobby. Cliff and Betty were active in scouting when their children were at home. Later, they had more time to spend on their individual interests. Cliff stayed busy with remote control hobbies and founded the NW Remote Control Ship Modelers club. Betty attended many of those activities and had a real passion for studying genealogy. During the last few years they have enjoyed flying their small plane that Cliff built from a kit and were active members of the Washington Pilots Association.



Cliff and Betty are survived by three sons: Mike (Sue), and their sons, Robert and Richard; Paul (Carole), and their children, Brennan, Aaron and Courtney; and Larry (Catharine), and their children, Steven, Roland, Andrew and Kaitlynn. They are also survived by Cliff's brothers, Fred, David

and William; Betty's brother, Gary Franciscus, and her brother-in-law, Bruce Bates. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m., on Wednesday, August 16, 2006, at the Edmonds United Methodist Church, 828 Caspers Street, Edmonds, Washington.

In lieu of flowers, the Shaw family requests that donations may be given in honor of family friend, Frank DeMiero, to fund naming rights for the Edmonds Center for the Arts. Please make donations payable to EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS and mail to: Friends of Frank, 580 Hemlock Way, Edmonds, WA 98020. Donations may also be given to the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles program to promote a love for aviation among young people. Please make donations payable to EAA FOUNDATION and mail to: EAA Foundation, P.O. Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Arrangements: Beck's Funeral Home, Edmonds, 425-771-1234

*The following from KOMO TV's Website*

## Edmonds Couple Killed In Wisconsin Plane Crash

July 24, 2006 ... By Associated Press

OSHKOSH, WIS. - The Washington couple killed in the crash of a homebuilt plane in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, have been identified as Clifford and Betty Shaw of Edmonds.

Their single-engine plane landed short of the airport runway Sunday at the Experimental Aircraft Association's annual convention. The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating.

About 10,000 aircraft are expected to use Wittman Regional Airport during this week's fly-in.

*The following article by Bill Sheets, Herald Writer*

## Edmonds couple die in plane crash

Home-built airplane goes down near air show in Wisconsin

Cliff and Betty Shaw of Edmonds had successfully flown their homemade plane dozens of times over three years. They toured the Northwest. They flew to Arizona. They made pilgrimages to the annual AirVenture show in Oshkosh, Wis. On Sunday, in the sky above Oshkosh, something apparently went wrong.

The Shaws' Europa XS homebuilt airplane crashed short of the runway. The couple was killed in the accident. Cliff Shaw was 67, Betty 66, their son Paul Shaw said Monday.

"They died doing what they loved," said Shaw, also an Edmonds resident. "They just loved to fly."

Details about the accident were not available Monday. No one else was on board the plane. The accident is being investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board.

The show at Wittman Regional Airport was put on by the Experimental Aircraft Association, of which Cliff Shaw was a member. He built his plane from a kit in his garage in about a year and a half, beginning in 2001, his son said.

"My dad was very meticulous. If there was a bolt missing, he'd take it apart and find out where it was and put it back together," Shaw said. After the plane was built, the elder Shaws couldn't get enough of flying, Shaw said. They kept the plane at Paine Field.

"They had a good time with it," he said. "A sunny day, he'd be up there, taking a grandkid up." Or the couple would fly out of town for a leisurely breakfast, he said.

Cliff Shaw, who retired from IBM more than 20 years ago, first got the flying bug when he helped a friend build a plane, Shaw said. The couple, lifelong Edmonds residents, worked at the Galaxy Hobby Shop in Lynnwood. The two were memorialized on the hobby shop's Web site Monday.

"Cliff loved teaching people more about their hobbies and helping kids with their projects," the Web site statement read. "Betty handled our inventory check-in and enjoyed notifying our customers when that special order arrived for them."

Shaw, 43, is also a lifelong Edmonds resident. He has an older brother, Mike Shaw, of Edmonds, and a younger brother, Larry Shaw, of Marysville. Memorial services had not been scheduled as of Monday. Paul Shaw said his parents were "well loved by many people over many generations, and will be missed and loved."

## *Impressions of A Pilot*

*Flight is freedom in its purest form,  
To dance with the clouds which follow a storm;  
To roll and glide, to wheel and spin,  
To feel the joy that swells within;*

*To leave the earth with its troubles and fly,  
And know the warmth of a clear sping sky;  
Then back to earth at the end of a day,  
Released from the tensions which melted away.*

*Should my end come while I am in flight,  
Whether brightest day or darkest night;  
Spare me your pity and shrug off the pain,  
Secure in the knowledge that I'd do it again;*

*For each of us is created to die,  
And within me I know,  
I was born to fly.*

– Gary Claude Stoker

(as printed in the memorial service bulletin)



Marker, Edmonds Memorial Cemetery

NTSB Reports & Updates:

[Summary report](#)

[http://www.nts.gov/ntsb/brief.asp?ev\\_id=20060727X01025&key=1](http://www.nts.gov/ntsb/brief.asp?ev_id=20060727X01025&key=1)

[Full Narrative Report](#)

[http://www.nts.gov/ntsb/brief2.asp?ev\\_id=20060727X01025&ntsbno=CH106FA196&akey=1](http://www.nts.gov/ntsb/brief2.asp?ev_id=20060727X01025&ntsbno=CH106FA196&akey=1)