

On March 30, 2007, the Machinists Union had the distinct pleasure of honoring one of their own. A dinner was held in honor of Richard "Dick" Schneider for his almost 40 years of membership and service.

Dick initiated in 1968 as a member of the IAM and one year later transferred his membership to Local Lodge No.63 when he moved to Oregon and began working at Portland Iron Works. During the next nine years Dick served the membership in a range of positions including Shop Steward, President of the Shop Stewards, Negotiating Committee Member, Local Lodge Vice President and delegate to various councils, including serving as a delegate to District Lodge No. 24. During this time, Dick also took advantage of attending various Shop Steward and Leadership Schools.

On September 5, 1978, Dick was hired as a Business Representative for District Lodge No. 24. Included in his duties was the servicing of a diverse category of shops, including negotiating collective bargaining agreements and the handling of grievance through the arbitration process.

Also during this time, Dick serviced as Trustee of the Oregon Marie Machinists Health and Welfare Trust, Secretary-Treasurer of the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League of Oregon, as well as assisting in the organizing of several new shops.

Dick became Assistant Directing Business Representative to DBR George Miller in October of 1982.

Dick Schneider was appointed as a Grand Lodge Special Representative for the Western Territory by General Vice President Justine Ostro on October 1, 1988.

On April 1, 1990, he became a Grand Lodge Representative with duties that included NLRB work, membership on the Boeing Corporate Committee, Western Territory Can Coordinator and Vice President of the Pacific Coast Metal Trades District Council.

General Vice President Lee Pearson then selected Dick to become his Administrative Assistant on July 1, 1996. He held that position until November 30, 1997, when International President R. Thomas Buffenbarger appointed him to serve as Aerospace Coordinator for the newly formed IAM Aerospace Department. Dick was responsible for the IAM's affairs at AAI, Boeing, CAE, USA, Delaware Resource Group GKN Aerospace, L3 Aerotech, L3C Communications, L3 Vortex, Labinal Corinth, Pulau Electronics Group Rolls Royce, Spirit Aerospace, Triumph Composite Systems and United Space Alliance.

Dick and his wife Kathi (who retired from employment at District Lodge 24) have five children, 15 grandchildren, ranging in age from 6 to 29 years of age, as well as one great-grandchild (with two more on the way this year)!

During his retirement years, Dick enjoyed cruises with his wife, camping (including annual family campouts), being with family and grandkids, and checking out casinos!

Dick was born on March 24, 1945, and passed away on March 17, 2020.