

Memorial Minute for Timothy Milton Travis

June 21, 2026

Timothy Milton Travis was born in Bloomington, Indiana, on April 3, 1948. He died on August 18, 2025, in Portland. He is survived by his wife, Lynn Johnson Travis; his daughters, Rachael Travis and Luci Travis; and his younger brother, Jeffrey Travis.

His family moved to Medford, Oregon, when Timothy was 2 years old. He graduated from Medford High School in 1966, where he participated in theater and debate. He served in the Marine Corps from 1966-1970, then returned to become a leader in University of Oregon's anti-war movement in Eugene.

He ran for State Representative, and owned a farm in Marcola with his first wife, Mary. He taught and coached at Marcola High School, then ran a kite store on the coast after a heart-breaking divorce.

Timothy entered U of O Law School in 1982, where he met his wife, Lynn Johnson Travis. After a few years in private practice, Timothy began his work with the Juvenile Rights Project in 1990 as an attorney and an advocate for children's and families' rights in the Oregon State Legislature. In the mid-1990s he joined the Oregon Judicial Department. In his work there and with the American Bar Association he strove to mold the system into one that made a positive difference in vulnerable children's and their families' lives. He spent decades training judges, lawyers, social workers, volunteers, and everyone else in the juvenile law family. His engaging style and deep knowledge kept him in demand across the country. His passion for keeping families together, unless there was a real and present safety threat, was well known. Even in tough lobbying situations his faith guided his work. He would say, "we are going to approach this in the loving, Quaker way." He was always a calm and learned colleague.

Timothy was active in Multnomah Monthly Meeting and among the founding members of Bridge City Friends Meeting, both in Portland, OR. He served as clerk and recording clerk of BCFM and on Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, and was an enthusiastic leader of Adult Religious Education. Friends particularly appreciated his Spirit-led vocal ministry in Meetings for Worship. In North Pacific Yearly Meeting he clerked the Discipline Revision Committee for many of the years of its careful and committed work to expand and update the Faith and Practice book. Friends' spiritual practices and Quaker history gave him a new intellectual leading in his life. He spent time at Pendle Hill (PA) researching unprogrammed Friends' migration to the Pacific Northwest.

Above all, Timothy was a loving and supportive husband to Lynn and father to Rachael and Luci. He went to countless softball and volleyball games, dance competitions and music concerts to cheer their participation. He nearly froze taking Rachael to President Obama's first inauguration, and in taking Luci to tour University of Montana during a blizzard. He protected them through bad break-ups and even taught them to drive. He travelled with his and Lynn's extended families and kept standing phone dates with his brother and his mother-in-law, Joyce.

Timothy also loved writing; the dog and cat; the garden; bird feeders; the Portland Thorns; Mark Knopfler; Taylor Swift; the University of Oregon Ducks; and, of course, the NY Yankees.