

DR. PETER MORGENTHALER 93rd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

3:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

146-4200 GRANDVIEW DRIVE, CASTLEGAR, B.C.

Dr. Peter Morgenthaler has contributed to the health of many animals while providing community leadership as a Rotarian and serving with the Red Cross along with many other organizations.



In the spirit of Rotary, I will share some of these experiences:

1. The Trail Rotary Club was well known for its friendly sarcasm within our membership, for example, Peter Dewedney, Corporate Counsel for Cominco, took 15 minutes to do a Thumbnail Sketch which was supposed to be 3 minutes maximum. I saw him in the hallway much later at the Trail Hospital. They had just pushed him out on his wheelchair into the hallway. Not sure if he was suffering from Alzheimer's but he was looking straight at me as I approached him.
I addressed him with "what are you doing here blocking the hallway?"
"Well, I did not know if I am in Heaven or Hell", he answered, "but now that I see you, I know I must be in Heaven because the Devil would never admit Elmer into Hell".
2. Jim Cameron, the dated Public Relations Manager at Cominco, would send letters from Hawaii to his cat being boarded at Peter's Veterinary
 - a. Jim had a summer home in Hawaii and usually went there every winter, leaving his cat in the care of Peter
 - b. Jim would write letters to his cat and ask Peter to read them to him so he would not be lonesome for his Master
 - c. Peter would read the letters to the Trail Rotary Club
 - d. They were hilarious!
3. Peter's lack of concern with the fears of AI went something like this:
 - a. "What do you think about the current concerns about AI," I asked Peter

- b. “Yes, I performed Artificial Inseminations many times and was very successful,” he answered very proud of his record.
- 4. Fundraising for Handicapped Olympics
 - a. Elmer, had volunteered to fundraise for the Rotary Fundraising Committee by walking from Red Mountain Resort in Rossland to Walmart Superstore in Trail.
 - i. Normally the dated Trail Club members would offer 10 cents a Kilometer or less
 - ii. But Peter offered \$10 on the signup sheet. I came to Peter and asked if he had made a mistake as it was 16.5 kilometers and that would equate to \$165
 - iii. His quick answer was “well I don’t think you can walk that far but if you do it would be healthy exercise.”
- 5. Peter was building his first Vet Clinic
 - a. He arrives in my office at Bear Creek with a pencil sketch on shoe-box cardboard
 - b. ‘What will you charge me to build this?’ he asked.
 - c. “Do have any drawings?” I was naïve to ask.
 - d. “I came here to get a building built as I understood you looked after all that was necessary”, he said very matter of factly.
 - e. The Clinic got built.
 - f. A few years later we built another one in Nelson in a similar fashion.
- 6. We were building these Seniors Level units here at Grandview when Peter called me one day:
 - a. “Do you have a unit up there for me?” he inquired.
 - b. “Yes, we sure have”, I respionded
 - c. “Okay I will take one”!
 - d. Here he is today.
 - e. I never realized then that Peter has very noisy parties

These are photos from the actual birthday celebrations:

Left to right are Elmer Verigin, Barbara Pistak, Helen Graham, Bill Clark, Peter Morgenthaler. Gay Prokopetz, Thorpe Watson, Ray Masleck.



On the left is Thorpe Watson reading the recent honors to Peter from the Trail

Rotary Club on 50 years perfect attendance and his contributions to the community which included President of the Red Cross Equipment organization.

Peter is sitting comfortably and enjoying the party and citation from Thoroe Watson.

Happy 93rd Birthday my friend Peter Morgenthaler!

Posted September 20, 2026 EWV

