

Craig Anderson knew how to craft a fine tale

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Craig K. Anderson, teller of tales and lover of Austin-Healeys, died Jan. 19 at his home in Kent at the age of 69.

Born Nov. 6, 1941, in North Bend, Ore., Anderson graduated from Oregon's Canyonville High School in 1959. He served in the U.S. Navy with stints in San Diego and Hawaii, then entered the Oregon College of Education (now known as Western Oregon University), graduating in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science in education.

Anderson worked in the automotive industry and insurance claims before re-entering education as an instructor at Washington Corrections Center in Shelton. He subsequently earned a Masters of Science in vocational education in 1980 and a PhD in vocational and industrial education in 1981 from Colorado State University. He worked at Colorado State University, San Juan College in New Mexico, Oklahoma State University and Kent State University (Ohio) before returning to the Northwest in 1993, living in Kent.

Before retiring he served as adjunct professor for Seattle Pacific University and Renton Technical College.

Anderson was known for his 50-year love affair with

Austin-Healeys. He belonged to the Austin-Healey Club USA, Austin-Healey Club of America and Cascade A-H Club of Washington, for which he edited the club's magazine for several years before his death.

He was also a

long-time member of the Sports Car Club of America and the Western Washington Sports Car Council, which gave him its inaugural Spirit of the Council Award.

Over the years, he participated in hundreds of racing events throughout the country.

Upon hearing the news of Anderson's death, Northwest Region autocrossers were quick to share their memories.

RICK SMALE: "I got to know Craig through the local autocross community soon after my arrival in the Pacific Northwest in the mid-1990s. Craig was always an approachable autocross 'elder' and quickly became a familiar and friendly person to chat with to 'enjoy

