

# Meet Our Board Member

Scott Sheehan, President



**Currently I work for:** Evergreen Washelli, in my 20th year

**Education:** Not nearly enough! Formally, attended college in Montana and Graduated from the Funeral Service Education program in Oregon. Thankfully, I discovered that I enjoyed learning and that is was fun, when I made it to college. I made it out of high school because they couldn't wait to get rid of me. Because of my epiphany in college that I not only could learn but enjoyed it, I have been a lifelong learner since that time. I do enjoy gaining a broader understanding, and "attempting" to learn or gain insight from a fairly wide array of subjects.

**Family:** Married with three daughters.

**Most profound moment in my career:** Not sure there has been a singular most profound moment. I believe anybody that has been actively engaged in our profession have compiled a wide array of "moments". One that jumps out to me: I was fairly new in my career and I was making arrangements in Montana with a 93 year old woman for her husband that had just died. She had been married 70+ years. She looked at me with great sincerity and said "I never really thought this (the death) could happen". She was a bright, vibrant individual and she made this statement with the utmost honesty and sincerity. As a young director, I found myself thinking; really, you are 93 and you didn't think this could happen? Now many years later, I better understand her perspective. I blinked and have found myself realizing that I have been associated with funeral service for over 30 years and recently celebrated my 31st wedding anniversary this past year. She made me think about "perspective" those many years ago and I still find value looking at, and trying to understand life through the lens she had so many years ago. Life is incredibly short.

**When I'm not working I like to:** I enjoy working with my hands in a variety of ways, wood, metal, projects of all sorts. I enjoy cars, motorcycles, reading and learning. Fitness has been a big part of my life for many years, I enjoy being active and attempting to stay reasonably healthy. I greatly value time and activities with my family.

**Something most people don't know about me:** I worked in the Wyoming oil fields in the early 80's. Best thing that ever happened; I got my right foot crushed on the Oil Rig, while recovering, had a few moments of clarity and made the decision to jump back into school and attend the Funeral Service program in Oregon.

**Advice to others in this profession:** The more time that goes by and the more I "learn" or better said, the more I think I "learn", the more I understand how much I truly don't know. I would suggest that we all need to attempt to learn from one another, from others in our profession and we also need to find resources that allow us to gain insight from the wide array of consumers we are serving. Their "consumer" perspective, beliefs, buying preferences, and decision making processes outside of funeral service have a significant impact on what and how they view and value our present offerings.