

Sailor of the Month – David VanAmburg

March 18th 1950 – January 2015

Written by David in 2014

I was born in Seattle and raised in Yakima. Earned my BS degree in Psychology from WSU in 1972. Clinical case worker for the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities (region 6) until 1975. Decided you cannot fix crazy... so I moved to Seattle and spent the next 10 years working on and racing sailboats. Worked for Valient Yachts, Islander Yachts and Nordic Yachts. Commissioned and delivered new yachts to locations in North America and Europe. On the side, I delivered private yachts throughout the Eastern Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean oceans. Competitive sailing included several trips to J24 nationals, Olsen 30 nationals, and SORC in Florida and countless races in the Puget Sound. Favorite boats I have sailed on..... Warrior, Pendragon, Tenacious and Wings. In 1981 I was hired by John Graham as owners representative for the building of his 87ft Ron Holland aluminum maxi sloop "Aspasia" in Antibes, France. Cruised that yacht extensively through the Med and in 1985 delivered it back across the Atlantic to Seattle. Moved to Bellingham and took a job with the ARCO refinery. Bought my first house and my first Dalmatian. Retired from BP Cherry Point refinery in 2011 and moved into my 42ft Foretravel coach. Lots of fun stuff left out. Buy me a beer and I'll bend your ear. My goal is to stay warm and be near a sailboat race. David passed in Tusan in January 2015.

