RRP 139 — Remembering Al Hazeltine / Let’s Spend Some Time with Al and Larry

Presenters: Julie L and Peter D

Length: Approximately 79 minutes

Release date: November 6, 2026

Originally released as Episode 52 on February 28, 2025.

Summary

Our dear friend Al Hazeltine has passed away, and we’re grateful we recorded this conversation with him and Larry W. Originally released as Episode 52, it brings us back to their stories of getting sober, finding laughter again, and looking after one another. They had more than ninety years of combined sobriety at the time. This replay celebrates Al and the friendship he shared with Larry.

Key moments (approximate)

- 00:02:00 **Meet Al and Larry:** A friendship built over decades in recovery.
- 00:03:00 **Larry’s story:** Montana, the Navy, and a road trip to Alaska.
- 00:18:00 **Recovery and helping others:** Larry’s sobriety and work in employee assistance.
- 00:23:00 **Al finds his way to AA:** A limerick, a phone call, and a cab to a first meeting.
- 00:35:00 **Friendship beyond meetings:** Pie, card games, camping, and sober adventures.
- 00:44:00 **Life’s too important to be too serious:** Julie remembers bingo in the park with Al.
- 00:57:00 **Looking after one another:** The recovery community’s response during the AIDS crisis.
- 01:03:00 **Someone who listens:** Al on honesty and support without judgment.
- 01:05:00 **The no matter what club:** Larry on staying close to AA and keeping it simple.
- 01:11:00 **Living sober:** Advice, laughter, and the willingness to help somebody else.

Websites Discussed

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- AA Big Book
- Live and Let Live Club
- Alano Club of Portland
- Lunch Bunch / Extended Family AA
- Metropolitan Community Church of Portland
- USPS Employee Assistance Program
- Valley Medical Center history
- Father Martin's Chalk Talk
- Ashley Addiction Treatment
- Our House / CAP Northwest
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Crystal Meth Anonymous
- Portland Area Intergroup AA hotline
- Real Recovery Podcast

Listen to Episode 139 | Read the blog | Subscribe to the newsletter

> "Life's too important to be too serious."
>
> Al Hazeltine

> "I wanted to live the laughter I heard at the first meeting."
>
> Larry W.

#RealRecoveryPodcast, #RememberingAlHazeltine, #Recovery, #Sobriety, #FriendshipInRecovery, @realrecoverypodcast