

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Lee Hearn

Irrigon

July 13, 1948 — December 10, 2020

Kenneth Lee Hearn of Irrigon was born July 13, 1948, in Twin Falls, Idaho, the son of Kenneth and Adah (Chisham) Hearn. He passed away in Hermiston on Dec. 10, 2020 at the age of 72.

At the age of 8, Ken moved to Weston, Oregon, with his family. He grew up and attended school in Weston. After high school, he attended Walla Walla Community College where he received his associate's degree. He worked for Jaynes Business Machines in Hermiston for a few years. He then began his career with Pendleton Grain Growers (PGG) where he worked as a store manager at the Athena store for 22 years. His next job was as a corrections corporal at the Two Rivers Correctional Institution where he received the nickname "Shrek." He retired from Two Rivers after 17 years in 2014.

He lived in Eastern Oregon throughout his adult life in the communities of: Athena, Hermiston and the past 20 years in Irrigon.

Ken served as the president of the Athena Booster Club, taught Hunter's Safety Courses and girls' basketball at a summer camp in Halfway for 8 years. He was an active member of the Columbia View Community Church in Irrigon for many years and was an avid Seattle Seahawks fan.



Hearn

Ken married Sandra Murphy in Weston, Oregon, on Aug. 14, 1966.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sandra; son, William (Joy) Hearn; and daughters, Caitlin and Trinity; son, Thoren (Stacie) Hearn and children, Emily (Dylan) Thornton and Andrew and Jackson Hearn; daughter, Kendra Scott and sons, Garrett and Connor; great-grandchildren, Katherine and Thorus; and many friends and church family members.

A private family service will be held. A public ice cream social will be announced at a later time.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

Family suggest memorial donations be made to the Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Carol Kay Pomeroy

Stanfield

November 2, 1950 — December 9, 2020

Carol Kay Pomeroy was born November 2, 1950, in Wolf Point, Montana, to Donald and Elaine Sethre. She passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at the age of 70 at her home in Stanfield, Oregon, surrounded by family.



Pomeroy

Carol grew up on a large farm in north-eastern Montana. She understood hard work from a very young age, driving truck for the farm and taking care of the livestock. After she graduated from Wolf Point High School in 1968 she worked at the Montana-Dakota utility company, where she made \$1/hour. She attended college in Nebraska, where she studied shorthand and secretarial work.

In 1977, she moved to Pendleton, Oregon, and graduated from Blue Mountain Community College, majoring in dental assistant studies. Not long after moving to Oregon she was introduced to Steve Pomeroy on a blind date, and on January 14, 1978, just six months later, they were married.

She worked for many years as a dental assistant in the Hermiston area and then moved on to secretarial work at Stanfield High School. After failing her first retirement attempt, she worked part time in product distribution and bookkeeping. Carol was also involved in various volunteer positions in the area, including the Stan-

field Senior Center, Hope Presbyterian Church, the Stanfield Library, and the Stanfield Cemetery Board. She enjoyed traveling across the U.S., spending time on the coast, camping, and visiting her grandchildren.

Carol was survived by her beloved husband, Steve Pomeroy, Stanfield, Oregon; son Michael (Ashley) Pomeroy, Hermiston, Oregon; daughter Alaina (Jr) Ena, Tualatin, Oregon; brother Gary (Phyllis) Sethre, Wolf Point, Montana; sister Karen Jones, Richmond, Virginia; sister Joyce (Steve) Lawrence, Fairfax Station, Virginia; brother Mark (Theresa) Sethre, Kalispell, Montana; and grandchildren Norah, Will, Layne, Weston and Lyla.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Donald and Elaine Sethre.

With current COVID-19 restrictions and out of concern for everyone, we will be limiting the service to family only. When it is appropriate to do so, the family will be having a celebration of her life.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to the American Red Cross, or if able, donate blood so others in need can benefit, just as Carol has for the last several months of her life.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Carol with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Jeanette Wenholtz

Irrigon

February 9, 1938 — December 9, 2020

Jeanette Wenholtz of Irrigon was born February 9, 1938, in Chipewa Falls, Wisconsin, the daughter of Earl and Freda (Donner) Hurlburt. She passed away in Kennewick, Washington, on December 9, 2020, at the age of 82.



Wenholtz

Jeanette moved to Washington as a child and grew up in the communities of Longview and Tacoma. She graduated from Franklin Pierce High School in Tacoma in 1956. She then attended the Tacoma General School of Nursing where she received her training to become a registered nurse, graduating in 1959.

In the early 1960s she moved to Portland, Oregon, where she worked as a charge nurse in the maternity ward at St. Vincent's Hospital.

She moved to Eastern Oregon in 1973 and lived in Boardman area for a short time before making Irrigon her home.

Jeanette married John Wenholtz in Portland, Ore-

gon, on October 6, 1967. Jeanette was an avid Mariners baseball fan, loved horses and dogs and spending time at the Oregon coast. She always enjoyed going to the drag races with her family to watch her son race and to see all the hot rods.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, John; son Jeff Wenholtz; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Jennifer, in 2009; her parents; and two sisters.

A private family burial was in Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery in Irrigon. Memorial donations in Jeanette's memory can be made to Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB).

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arlene Sharp

Stanfield

December 11, 1921 — December 12, 2020

Arlene Sharp (formerly of Stanfield) passed peacefully in her sleep one day after her 99th birthday on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020. She was born in Fryberg, North Dakota, on Dec. 11, 1921, the daughter of James and Rosa (Pagel) Lease.



Sharp

She made the move to San Diego, California, in 1940, married Kenneth Bucher in 1941 and worked to support the World War II effort while Kenny was deployed. In 1943, they settled to Portland, Oregon, and ran a small business restoring cane furniture. She remained in the Portland area until moving to Clatskanie in the mid-1970s.

She settled in Eastern Oregon (Stanfield/Hermiston) in 1981 where she resided until health issues necessitated a return to the Portland/Vancouver area in 2014.

Arlene was passionate about staying active physically and being involved in the community. She would often be found cooking weekend breakfast at the local Senior Center, work-

ing with community garage sales, her church, or anywhere she could lend a hand. She loved to fish, camp, garden and be in the outdoors in general. But her biggest passion was dancing. She seldom missed a dance be it at her local Eagles Lodge, or anywhere else in her vicinity.

Arlene was preceded in death by her mother, Rosa; and father, James; sisters, Dora, Vera and Thelma; brothers, Phillip and Edgar. She is survived by a daughter, Terry; grandson, Frank; and great-grandsons, Wyatt and Griffin.

Arlene will be laid to rest at Pleasant View Cemetery in Stanfield, Oregon. Due to COVID-19, there will not be a public service. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. To leave a condolence for the family please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Memorial donations in her honor can be sent to the Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011 Washington, DC 20090-6011.

Parks and Rec hosts holiday light contest

Hermiston Parks and Recreation is hosting a Christmas light contest.

Voting opened on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and will end on Sunday, Dec. 20. To vote on the best light display in Umatilla County, visit the Hermiston Parks and Recreation Facebook page and leave a comment under the photo of your favorite house.

"Photos do not do these homes justice," the department's post states. "Take some time and go out and see them in person!"

A map of Christmas light displays in Umatilla County can be found online at bit.ly/lightup-thetown-umatillacounty. Winners will receive up to \$250 in gift cards to local businesses.

Margaret Elizabeth Blahm

Hermiston

June 17, 1955 — December 7, 2020

Margaret Elizabeth Blahm of Hermiston was born June 17, 1955, in Hermiston, the daughter of Raymond and Vara (Tolar) Blahm. She passed away in Hermiston on Monday, Dec. 7, 2020 at the age of 65.



Blahm

Margaret grew up and attended school in Hermiston, graduating from Hermiston High School in the class of 1973. After high school, she lived and worked on the family ranch for many years.

She lived in Pendleton for a short time where she owned and operated "Toys N' More."

Margaret enjoyed going

to thrift stores and garage sales looking for treasures. She also enjoyed collecting memorabilia from the Bee Gees as well as Dalmatians.

She is survived by her daughter, Jessica (Chris) Mueller; brothers, Danny, Steven, Dennis and Chuck; and a sister, Melanie; and many extended family members.

A private family interment will be in the Echo Cemetery.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Lynn 'Gus' Marion Wahner

Stanfield

August 19, 1948 — December 12, 2020

Lynn "Gus" Marion Wahner, was born in Pendleton, Oregon, 19 August 1948, to Patricia Joan Finch and Royce Eldon Wahner.

He passed or as we say "Graduated off earth" Saturday 12 December 2020, at his home in Stanfield, Oregon, at the age of 72 years.



Wahner

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Shannon Meree McDonald Wahner; aunt, Fran Coppinger; cousins, Chuck Higganbotham, Sandi Greene, and Suzi Thompson; and many longtime friends.

Gus served on the Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District board for more than 15 years, promoting regenerative agriculture, improving soil biology, implementing soil health measures, and promoting local small farmers.

Gus lived on the family farm on the Umatilla River since he was 11 years old. He moved away briefly to expand his knowledge of locally produced whole foods in Pullman, Portland and Aptos (Santa Cruz area of California). He attended school in Stanfield in the early years and finished at Hermiston High School in 1967, where he was a standout wrestler and football center and middle linebacker. He was selected to the All Star football team and played in the all-star game in Portland in 1967. He recalls it was hot and they practiced three times per day.

He received an athletic scholarship to Washington State University where he studied animal science and pledged to the Sigma Chi fraternity. He reflects that he met some great people and found this to be an excellent learning experience despite adversities which led him to leave school early. "Adversities in my early years helped prepare me to get through more difficult adversities

later in life."

Gus met Shannon the first day of June 1985 in Stanfield and they were married 7 December 1985, in Herm-

iston which solidified his life. They traveled to Portland and in 1989 to the Santa Cruz area to learn more about the economics of growing and marketing organic sustainable produce from Cabrillo Junior College. Gus was baptized and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 2004. He and Shannon were sealed in the Columbia River Temple in Richland, Washington, 7 December 2005.

Upon moving back to the Stanfield area, Gus and Shannon started their own small farm business called Way of Life Farms, implementing many of the sustainable farming practices and marketing they learned on their travels. Gus, with a group of other local small sustainable farmers, started the Pendleton Farmers Market which sustains today. Gus is an educator and mentor to other farmers and interns assisting them in establishing their own small farms and marketing their produce at farmers markets or direct sale. In his passing, Gus is hopeful that all those he mentored will continue to make the soil great and grow healthy food for themselves, families, and our communities.

Gus was preceded in death by his parents.

A graveside funeral service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020, at 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Gus' name may be made to Vange John Memorial Hospice Education Fund.

Please share memories of Gus with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

BIRTHS

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston
DEC. 5, 2020

MEXICANO LLERENAS — Ruby M. Llerenas of Hermiston: a girl, Ivelisse Elena Mexicano Llerenas.

DEC. 7, 2020

KETTLER — Kayly E. Abercrombie and Austin N. Kettler of Irrigon: a girl, Magnolia Grace Kettler.

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