

TOM’S REST: Sisters woman fulfills late husbands dream

Continued from page 23

Tom leaning on the counter.

“He took two steps toward me and then fell. I heard his head hit the ground,” Cheryl recalled through tears.

Cheryl performed CPR until the medics arrived, although she doesn’t remember hearing their sirens.

“Tom reached up and squeezed my arm and then his arm fell to the ground. I just kept doing CPR. I didn’t know what else to do.”

She remembers sitting alone on the laundry room floor as the medics worked on Tom.

“This muscular, fit, force of life was dragged by the medics to an open space where they had room to work. His brain was functioning but his heart wouldn’t start.”

Tom was gone.

They were married so young.

“We raised each other. We became each other. It’s almost like he’s still here. It feels like everywhere I go, he’s leading me,” she said.

Tom’s impact on others was clearly evident after his death. Cheryl found numerous awards and certificates that this humble man had received that she never knew about. The young men with whom Tom worked all wanted to be pallbearers at the funeral, fully surrounding his casket. Those same men came to the house in Sherwood to tend to the landscaping until the house sold. They come out now to help Cheryl here on the property.

After the funeral, Cheryl said, nothing seemed right to do. When she made the move to Central Oregon and said she was going to follow through on Tom’s dream, “Everyone thought I was nuts,” she said. “They didn’t see that it’s what was keeping me alive.”

Cheryl recently moved into Pine Meadow Village, as she was isolated out on the

property.

Tom’s Rest is open for business. Cheryl is renting out all the facilities to groups, couples, and individuals for a modest charge and makes it available for retreats for widows, grief support groups, and healing workshops free of charge or a minimal charge. Guests may be able to do work in exchange for lodging.

Two grief groups and the Ride Like a Girl bike group out of Portland are among those who have heard about Tom’s Rest.

“Tom’s Rest is overflowing with the love you have for your husband. I will tell everyone about it,” one of the biking ladies recently told Cheryl.

The first weekend of October, Cheryl is offering a grief retreat for people who have lost their spouses and partners. She is recruiting volunteers who could provide music and art activities, offer massage or acupuncture treatments, and counseling services. Participants will be able to experience the healing energy of the property while walking the labyrinth or sitting quietly on one of the overlooks, gazing out over the peaceful landscape.

“If I can keep it open and rent it inexpensively to cover taxes, utilities, maintenance, and the retreat costs, that’s what I want to do. If I could fill it every day with people who need the help, I’d be happy. If people can use it, that’s what matters,” Cheryl explained.

A beautiful hand-forged gate greets arriving guests, with TOM’S REST spelled out in hand-cut metal letters and a bronzed bicycle. This dream conceived of and built by Tom and Cheryl allows Tom to go on doing what he always did – making people feel important and that they matter.

“His greatest pleasure was giving to others,” Cheryl concluded.

For more information, see Tom’s Rest on Facebook and on the Motion Social website. Cheryl can be reached at 503-332-2114.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Cheryl Edwards is operating Tom’s Rest as a retreat in honor of her husband Tom, who died suddenly. It is a fulfillment of his dream.

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 “__ Me Tender”; song for Elvis
 - 5 Engagement
 - 10 Powerful wind
 - 14 Fills with wonder
 - 15 Sound portion of a telecast
 - 16 “__ in Love With Amy”
 - 17 Irritating
 - 19 __ out; quit school
 - 20 Literary composition
 - 21 Lock of hair
 - 23 Female animal
 - 24 Cafeteria patron’s item
 - 26 __ a hard drive; clear all data
 - 28 Part of an address
 - 31 Terrified
 - 34 Misery
 - 35 Horse’s home
 - 37 Eatery
 - 40 Actor __ West
 - 42 Father of Esau and Jacob
 - 43 Mind
 - 44 Snout
 - 45 __ on; betrayed
 - 47 Actress Remick
 - 48 Peaceful
 - 50 Under __; being forced
 - 52 Disney dog
 - 54 Brief note
 - 55 Broadcast
 - 56 Good wood for making rafts
 - 60 Handles roughly
 - 64 Emulates Jean-Claude Killy
 - 66 Skin mole
 - 68 Canvas shelter
 - 69 Sculpt
 - 70 Mother-__; one who’s pregnant
 - 71 Nervous
 - 72 __ on; watched from hiding
 - 73 Winter weather

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71					72						73			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 9/6/17

- DOWN**
- 1 “Penny __”; Beatles song
 - 2 Has bills to pay
 - 3 11/11 honorees
 - 4 Manor and the land around it
 - 5 Edison’s initials
 - 6 Out of practice
 - 7 Stench
 - 8 Magazine title
 - 9 Soil looseners
 - 10 “__ Bless America”
 - 11 Illegible
 - 12 Harbor boats
 - 13 Conical tent
 - 18 Stringed instruments
 - 22 Yellow or Black
 - 25 Clothing
 - 27 Puerto __
 - 28 White waterbird
 - 29 Excited activity
 - 30 Comforting
 - 31 Lessen
 - 32 Apartment
 - 33 Flow back

— Last Week’s Puzzle Solved —

C	R	A	G		S	T	A	B		A	B	O	D	E
R	O	S	E		C	O	M	B		B	E	V	E	L
A	P	A	T	H	E	T	I	C		S	T	E	A	K
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S	T	A	Y	S		C	Y	S	T		P	E	N	T

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36 As wise __ owl	54 Purple shade
38 Charges	57 Basics
39 Peepers	58 Jump
41 Sporting event	59 Calcutta dress
46 Large puppet	61 Come __; find
49 Steal from	62 Mexican wolf
51 Cuts of beef	63 Crock-Pot dish
52 White adhesive	65 Swine quarters
53 Was fond of	67 Cruz or Turner

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