

Obituaries

Sharyn Kay Fetrow

December 28, 1946 – July 2, 2018

Sharyn Kay Fetrow passed away Monday morning in her house at Black Butte Ranch after a six-month battle with brain cancer.

Sharyn was born in Chicago, Illinois, and moved to Rainer, Oregon, with her family in 1948. She graduated valedictorian from Rainer High School in 1965. She went to Oregon State University and graduated third in her pharmacy class in 1970. She worked in hospital pharmacy at Salem Hospital until retirement in 1991.

After retirement Sharyn became the energizer bunny for everyone she became associated with. From rafting the Colorado River, riding Cycle Oregon along with rides in Washington and Idaho, riding bikes in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, and Austria finishing with the ultimate ride in 2006 from Los Angeles, CA to Boston, MA. After a pause with cancer at age 59, she decided to start doing running races throughout the United States. She completed marathons, half marathons, and many other distances. She qualified for the Boston Marathon but decided that traveling to Israel was more important. She also loved downhill skiing at Mt.



Bachelor, cross-country skiing in Central Oregon, and hiking with her friends.

She loved to travel and went on trips somewhere in the world every year. She loved meeting local people and discovering their culture and history. She will be missed but never forgotten by all who knew her.

A private family memorial will be held in the future at the Head of the Metolius River. She will be cremated and her ashes will be sprinkled in the headwaters where those of her youngest daughter were previously sprinkled.

Sharyn was preceded in death by her parents Robert and Anne Bullis, and her daughter Jennifer Lynn Fetrow.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Russell Fetrow; her daughter Christine Pothering; her grandson Ethan Pothering; granddaughters Hayley and Sophie Pothering; and her brother Bob Bullis.

CHARITY: World's Children is small but has a long reach

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Purviance's personal experience helps him recognize that the needs of bereaved and needy children go far beyond the immediate material requirements of food and safe shelter.

The communications professor at University of Montana moved to India in 2003. When a massive earthquake and tsunami hit southern and southeast Asia, "I knew I had to go," he recalled. "I had to go to the ocean, even though I had no charity behind me. I had never seen such devastation in my life."

The emotional needs of bereft children had to be met. Purviance gave out teddy bears and used art therapy to help children. He built playgrounds — anything to help give them back a bit of their childhood.

"They had lost all the joy in their hearts after the tsunami," he said.

Soon after, a UK-based charity called Wherever The Need asked Purviance to be its India Country Director, providing water and sanitation systems for orphanages. That work positioned him perfectly to understand what orphanages were doing good work and needed help when, in 2009, he and Jean took on the struggling World's Children.

David was ready. During



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

The staff at World's Children reach out from Sisters to embrace those in need in India, Africa and Central America.

all of his work with orphanages, "a very magical thing happened," he recalled. "I fell in love with the kids."

World's Children now supports 29 orphanages and two nursing schools in India, as well as orphanages in Ethiopia and Guatemala.

“We want all the kids to feel that they’re wanted and loved.”
— David Purviance

The staff consists of David Purviance, executive director; Jean Purviance, finance and communications director; Andy Gillihan, operations director; Amy Burgstahler, development director; and Kat Larson, administrative specialist.

"We could use some volunteers," Purviance said.

One important volunteer function is to write personal letters to the children at the orphanages.

"We want all the kids to feel that they're wanted and loved," Purviance said.

In addition to his work with World's Children, Purviance offers talks to churches and civic organizations on topics including street children in India, child trafficking, HIV/AIDS and more. Anyone interested in Purviance's talks can call World's Children at 541-904-0789 or email david@worldschildren.org to find out more or schedule an event.

Area residents also are welcome to stop by the World's Children office, located above La Magie Bakery, 473 E. Hood Ave. The entrance is at the back of the building, off Cedar Street.

Blair L. Osterlund

July 5, 1933 – June 15, 2018

Blair L. Osterlund is survived by his loving wife Kathleen Osterlund; son Aric Osterlund; daughter-in-law Kimberlee Osterlund; granddaughter Nichelle Hill, her husband Kris Hill; and Blair's great-grandchildren, Konner and Easton Hill.

He will be greatly missed.

There will be a Celebration of Life which will be attended by family and close friends. Family



and close friends will be notified personally of the date to come.

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