

Obituaries

Marvin Benson

October 26, 1938–August 5, 2021

Marvin Benson passed away peacefully in his Sisters home surrounded by family on August 5. Marvin was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, and grew up helping in the family milk and grocery business, and lifeguarding on the shores of Lake Michigan.

After graduating from high school, Marvin enlisted and saw many parts of the world through the lens of the U.S. Marine Corps. Shortly after his discharge, he met the love of his life, Trine, a Norwegian nurse working in the hospital at which he was a patient. They were soon married and blessed with two sons, Benny and Sam. The young family moved from the big city of Chicago to Parker, Colorado, for the adventure of building a house and raising their boys on a farm in the country.

Marvin spent a 30-year career as a lithographic pressman. After retiring, Marvin and Trine moved to Sisters in 2008, following their granddaughter, Cammi, whose family moved to Sisters two years earlier. Marvin immediately

became involved in the local community. As a lifelong gardener, he built the Sisters Community Garden located at the Sisters Eagle Airport. As a skilled wood craftsman, Marvin was a daily volunteer at the Sisters High School in the woodshop classes.

He developed the unique skill of “painting with wood,” called intarsia art. He passed on this skill by teaching many students as the leader of a 4-H woodworking club, the Sisters Sawdusters.

Marvin also loved to swim early in the morning at Sisters Athletic Club.

To Marvin, all kids have special needs, but some more than others, and for those he always had a soft spot and an uncanny kindness to help. In Colorado, he was an active volunteer at the Praying Hands Ranch, connecting kids and horses as therapy for both mental and physical needs. In Sisters, he set up unique gardening experiences in the Sisters Community Garden for the special-needs kids, who became known as



“Marvin’s kids,” and offered one-on-one time in his personal woodshop.

Marvin is deeply missed by his devoted wife of 57 years, Trine Benson; his two sons and daughters-in-law Benny and Julie Benson, and Sam and Anne Benson; two grandchildren, Erick Benson and Cammi Benson; his sisters, Anne, Bobby, and Fran; and his Rhodesian ridgeback, Zoey.

The Benson family wishes to thank Partners in Care, and the Sisters Fire medics for their outstanding help and support. Donations in honor of Marvin can be made to the Sisters School Foundation, Special Needs Program.

Meredith Chaffin McKittrick Taylor

Passed July 26, 2021

Meredith Chaffin McKittrick Taylor, loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully at the side of her beloved husband, Al, on July 26, 2021 at the age of 90.

Meredith was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She graduated from Smith College in 1952. Meredith spent most of her adult life in Santa Barbara, California. In 1997, she began spending the summer months at Black Butte Ranch, where she became a cherished part of the Sisters community. Besides raising four children, she was actively involved in the Episcopal church and other nonprofit organizations in Santa Barbara and Sisters.

She valued most being with her family and friends, including the group of lifelong friends she met at Marlborough Prep School. She was an accomplished bridge player, an avid reader, and loved the arts. She stayed active by taking walks around Black Butte Ranch, swimming, hiking on the Metolius River, and



playing golf.

Meredith is survived by her husband, Al; her first husband, James; her brother Larry; children Mimi (Dennis), Jim (Diane), Peter (Jennifer), and Ann (Lee); grandchildren Evan (Caitlin), Heather (Miles), Timothy, Megan, and Brian; and last but definitely not least, great-grandson Amos.

She will be remembered for her intellect, quick wit, and generosity. She believed in a lifelong commitment to self-improvement, and was able to mentor and help many people along the way. She will be put to rest at her family plot at San Gabriel Cemetery in Los Angeles in a private ceremony.

Veterans memorial...



PHOTO BY LANCE TROWBRIDGE

Family members attended a memorial honoring deceased Sisters veterans Dr. Lindsay Simmons, Frank Leithauser, and Gordon Halsten at Sisters Village Green on Saturday, August 7, 2021

Community Education



Partners In Care

A Virtual Presentation

End-of-Life Doulas: An Opportunity for Extra Support

Presented by Erin Collins, founder and certified hospice and palliative care nurse, and Elizabeth Johnson, executive director and end-of-life doula.

In this one hour workshop we will:

- Share an overview of the end-of-life doula model of care
- Share details about the diversity of services offered by The Peaceful Presence Project in Central Oregon
- Review two case studies highlighting the benefits of a collaborative end-of-life approach

When & Where

Friday, August 20, 2021, noon-1pm

Use Zoom registration link to attend.

Community Education is presented at no cost.

Registration Required

Register at <https://bit.ly/3xphb1T>

Or RSVP at communityevents@partnersbend.org, and a Zoom registration will be emailed to you.

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Hours: Mon., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tues.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 7 a.m.-3 p.m.