

OBITUARIES

Jessie Margaret Wakefield Almquist

March 21, 1918 — Jan. 12, 2017



Jessie Margaret Wakefield Almquist was born in Crescent City, California, on

March 21, 1918, to Josie Parks Wakefield and William Wakefield. The family moved to Cottage Grove and then on to Scotts Mills, where Jessie graduated from Scotts Mills High School. She later attended George Fox College.

Jessie married Paul Donald Almquist on Sept. 6, 1957. Together they had two children, Janell Joy and Paul Mark. Prior to marriage, Jessie did clerical work at PGE and Cascade College and worked in restaurants. After marriage, she pursued a career in cooking at camps, schools and nursing homes. Some of her favorites included Twin Rocks Friends Camp, George Fox College and Cascade College. She finished her career at Victor Point Elementary School in Silverton, where she was well known for her pizza and cinnamon rolls.

Jessie's faith was of primary importance in her life. In her younger years, she became a Christian at Scotts Mills Friends Church. She and Paul were actively involved with their kids at Piedmont, Scotts Mills and Silverton Friends Churches. She served as a church elder, a teacher and volunteer in women's ministries.

Jessie's husband Paul passed away in 1983. She lived many years on her own, and continued driving until she was 90 years of age. In her most recent years, she lived in assisted living and memory care, bringing joy to her fellow residents and caregivers.

Jessie is survived by her daughter Janell (Dave) Meireis; son Paul (Nancy) Almquist; three grandsons, Tim (Emma) Almquist, Mark (Mackenzie) Almquist-Murray and Andrew Almquist. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul, in addition to all seven of her sib-

lings: Alva, Cleo, Marie, Marion, Marvena, Ralph and Violet.

A family graveside service will be held Friday, Jan. 20, at Valley View Cemetery in Silverton. A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21 at West Chehalis Friends Church, located at 16700 NE North Valley Road in Newberg.

Memorial contributions may be made to Twin Rocks Friends Camp.

Rick Miller

July 8, 1964 — Jan. 7, 2017



Rick Miller was born July 8, 1964, in Taft, California, to Sue and Richard

Miller. On Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, a beautiful and kind heart stopped beating and hard working hands found rest when his battle with leukemia ended.

Rick graduated from Taft High School in 1982 and spent most of his youth working in the oil industry. He was creative and passionate about learning, taking pride in sharing his experiences and skills. It was his nature to help and share with those around him.

With Daniel, Rick dreamt of, opened, and ran for 17 years a hugely successful nightclub, "The Casa Blanca," in Bakersfield, California. Rick enjoyed that success, but dreamt of the mountains. They left the fast-paced lifestyle to settle in the foothills of the Cascades above Silverton in July 2005. It was in their beautiful art deco, country, Bogart inspired home that Rick spent his last days surrounded by the snow covered trees and the rippling creek that he so loved.

Rick is survived by his best friend and partner of 26 years, Daniel R. (Reed) Miller. He is also survived by his loving mother, Sue Clinton; brother Danny Frye; and four nephews and nieces, all from Taft, California.

A celebration of life is planned for May 27 at the couple's home in Silverton. At that time, his family and friends will be invited to share memories

and stories. Donations are suggested to the Cancer and Leukemia Societies.

Arrangements by Unger Funeral Chapel, Silverton.

Jean Leota Phelps

Jan. 6, 1925 — Jan. 11, 2017



Jean Leota Phelps, 92, passed away on Jan. 11, 2017, in Silverton.

She was born in Rainier, Washington, to Nils and Mable (Nissen) Jorgensen on Jan. 6, 1925. Jean was one of six children. She was living in Gladstone when she met Lloyd Phelps in 1939. They were married on March 15, 1942. She was an amazing cook that enjoyed sewing and working outside in her garden. Jean was an active member of the Silverton Seventh-day Adventist Church and volunteered at community services.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd. Jean is survived by her children: Eada Pagar, Jan Cochran, Sherri Sockerson, Janice Lytle, Marilyn Bullock and Donna Phelps; brother Don Jorgensen; 14 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Jan. 22, at the Silverton Community Seventh-day Adventist Church. She will be laid to rest at Green Mountain Cemetery.

Arrangements with Unger Funeral Chapel, Silverton.

Wallace Warren Wagner

Aug. 24, 1936 — Dec. 22, 2016



Wally was born in Alliance, Ohio, to Charles and Twyla Wagner.

Wally gave his heart to the Lord at an early age. He was a professional computer programmer and later a passionate horticulturist.

He was blessed to have two loves in his life. With his first wife, Twila, they had two children, Cassandra and Bryce, and one

foster son John. After the passing of Twila, he met his second love, Marvel, with whom he spent the last 26 years of his life.

Wally was a member of Salem First Church of the Nazarene, who loved his Sunday school group and his Wednesday morning men's breakfast. His hobbies were writing, photography and plants.

Wally is survived by his wife, Marvel; son Bryce; granddaughter Zoé; grandson Shad; and foster son John Wellin.

Wally was laid to rest Jan. 10 at Bethany Pioneer Cemetery.

Arrangements by Unger Funeral Chapel.

Larry Rene Carver

Sept. 23, 1954 — Dec. 30, 2016

Larry Rene Carver was born Sept. 23, 1954, to Lester 'Bill' and Dortha Carver (Minchall) in San Jose, California. He was the youngest of three children. His family moved to Silverton when he was 12 years old. Larry graduated from Silverton Union High School in 1973.

He married the love of his life, Marianne (Jensen), on April 18, 1973. Together they raised six children.

On Dec. 30, surrounded by his loving family and friends, Larry was welcomed into the arms of Heavenly Father.

Larry was preceded in death by his father and mother; sister Christene; and granddaughter Alyssa. He leaves behind his wife of 43 years, Marianne Carver of Silverton; children Jennifer, Larry, William (Sabrina), Christopher and Curtis of Silverton and Stephanie (Petra) of Salem; grandchildren Raven, Asia, Tyra, Hailey, Tyler, Bailey, Jordan, and Elijah; sister Ethelene (Ted) Osgood of Monmouth; and many adored sisters- and brothers-in-law, and nieces and nephews.

Services were held Jan. 7 at the Church of Latter-day Saints in Silverton. Larry was laid to rest at Valley View Cemetery in Silverton.

Herbert William Hutchinson

Nov. 28, 1929 — Dec. 25, 2016

Herbert passed away in his home on Dec. 25, 2016, at the age of 87.

Herbert was born in Jefferson to Gerald Hutchinson and Elise Bernice Blantied, along with his sister Marie. He lived in Molalla and worked in the forestry industry as a logger.

Herbert is preceded in death by his son, Gerry. He is survived by daughters Karen Plotts of Mill City and Barbara Mowry of Gates; significant other JoAnne Jessel of Molalla; sister Marie Callicott of Springfield; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Gary Leroy Johnson

Oct. 18, 1938 — Dec. 16, 2016

Gary Leroy Johnson, 78, passed away Dec. 16, 2016, in the Philippines.

He was born on Oct. 18, 1938, in Silverton to George and Dena Johnson. Gary served his country as a Navy sailor for 19 years. In his retirement, Gary was actively involved in many organizations, such as Veterans of Foreign Wars, Odd Fellows and American Legion. His kindness, generosity and sense of humor made a lasting impression on those who knew and

loved him. He will be sorely missed.

Gary is survived by his wife, Anita, and family: Anna, Jimmy and Lee; brother Dan (Louise); as well as nephews, nieces, step-children and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Evangeline; sister Delores; and twin brother, George.

A celebration of life will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 20 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Kaneohe, Hawaii, followed by a private internment at Kaneohe Veteran's Cemetery.

Obituary Policy

Free obituaries run on a space-available, first-come, first-serve basis, and are subject to editing. Maximum length is 250 words. Photos may be submitted, but are not guaranteed to be published.

Paid obituaries are handled by advertising and are also subject to editing.

Deadline for obituaries is 11 a.m. Friday for publication the following Wednesday.

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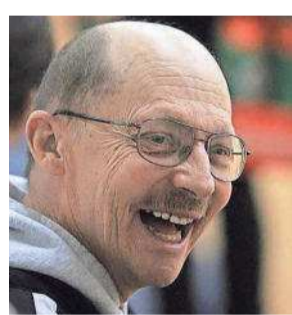
Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Silverton native Eddie Willig remembered as coach, athlete

CHRISTENA BROOKS
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

The lifelong contributions that Silverton native and coach Eddie Willig made to student athletes didn't end with his death from diabetes complications at age 62 on last month. Rather they're continuing with donations given in his name to a Western Mennonite School fundraising campaign.

Leading up to his memorial service at Zion Mennonite Church in Hubbard on Dec. 27, family members directed donors to Western Menno-



COURTESY OF THE WILLIG FAMILY
Eddie Willig.

ing expenses.

Nearly \$20,000 has been raised, with more than \$1,000 coming from Willig's friends and loved ones thus far, said Caleb Ivanitsky, marketing and community director. Willig assistant-coached Western Mennonite's girls' basketball team, and he and his wife, Lannette, were avid supporters of the school and its sports programs.

In Silverton, there is hardly a sports program not touched by Willig in some way. A 30-year teacher at Monitor School in Mt. Angel, he coached there and then at Silver-

ton High School for 22 years and at Chemeketa Community College for a total of four years. He was known for encouraging and supporting every student who wanted to play, even if meant paying their way out of his own pocket.

On his own, Willig had a storied softball career, playing amateur ball throughout the country being inducted into the Oregon Softball Hall of Fame in 1999. Western Mennonite's giving campaign is online at <http://wmstogether.org>. The school's mailing address is 9045 Wallace Road NW, Salem, Ore., 97304.

Community advocate Judy Schmidt's name graces skate park

CHRISTENA BROOKS
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Three years after larger-than-life community advocate Judy Schmidt helped cut the ribbon opening Silverton's skate park — and two years after her death — a new memorial now stands onsite.

The Judy Schmidt Memorial Skate Park, so named by the city council two years ago, is now graced with a bronze plaque and bench, memorializing the woman who was one of its biggest advocates. A city councilor and devoted local volunteer, Schmidt died suddenly in 2014 of Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease.

Private donations and money from a foundation created by Schmidt's brother-in-law, Leroy



JASON FRANZ / SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE
A plaque at the skate park.

Schmidt, covered the cost of installing the podium and plaque, said Ken Hector, who coordinated the effort. The Silver Fox Foundation donated the bench.

The bad weather on Jan. 9 broke long enough for a small audience to watch the memorial's un-

veiling, following a series of short speeches at the Senior Center. Among the crowd were Schmidt's family, chamber representatives and city leaders, as well as local business owner Jason Franz, who worked with Schmidt and others to make the park a reality.

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