

Christine Courtright celebrates 90th birthday



Family and friends are invited to join in the celebration of Christine Courtright’s 90th birthday from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Island City City Hall. Christine, of Island City, moved to Union County when she married Burr Courtright in 1950. Since that time, she has supported her community through volunteering. She is a two-time winner of the Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year award, led 4-H clubs and is active in the First United Methodist Church, Grande Ronde Hospital and Union County Fair. The Courtright building at the fairgrounds is named in recognition of her years of support to the fair.

Courtesy photo

OBITUARIES

Ruth E. (Igo) Weaver

Union
1922-2019

Ruth Eudene Weaver, 97, of Union, died Sept. 24 at her home. A viewing will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 4 at Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, followed by a funeral at 2 p.m. A reception will be held after the funeral at La Grande’s Calvary Chapel.

Ruth was born July 7, 1922, in Fullerton, Nebraska, to Elerie and Vivian (Warn-staff) Igo. She came to La Grande in 1940. On Oct. 6, 1940, Ruth married Selby Weaver in Weiser, Idaho. During World War II she followed her husband around the country to various military camps until he was transferred to Europe.

In later years, Ruth worked as a custodian at Ackerman Elementary School, where the students called her grandma, until she retired. Ruth worked hard in her yard and had many beautiful flowers. She loved crocheting and reading. Three years ago, Ruth moved to Union to be with her daughter and family.

Ruth loved greatly and wanted to help anyone in need. She especially loved her daughter and son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and she was very loved by them all in return. Many people were

touched by her life, her love and her care for those God placed in her path.

Surviving relatives include her daughter and son-in-law, Dawn and David Rogers of Union; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Vinita Foland, LeRoy Igo and ElRoy Igo.

Memorial contributions may be made to Holt International Children’s Services, 250 Country Club Road, Eugene 97401, for children needing surgery for cleft lips.

Carol Tate

North Powder

Carol Tate, 81, of North Powder, died Sept. 29 at her residence. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 5 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. An obituary is forthcoming.

Eugenia Smith

La Grande

Eugenia Smith, 83, of La Grande, died Sept. 30 at a local care facility. An obitu-

ary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Gary L. Tate

North Powder

Gary L. Tate, 78, of North Powder, died Sept. 30 at his residence. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 5 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. An obituary is forth-

George O. Hansen

Union

George O. Hansen, 94, of Union, died Sept. 30 at Grande Ronde Hospital. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

William L. Knight

North Powder

William L. Knight, 85, of North Powder, died Oct. 1 at a local care facility. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Jacob Henry Berado

June 4, 1984 - September 25, 2019



“Jake” Henry Berado of Welches, Oregon passed away unexpectedly on September 25th, 2019 at the young age of 35. Jake was the dearly beloved son of the late James Joseph Berado and Susan Lee (Berado) Eder, a loving brother of Jennifer Berado Jarvis, Jocelyn Berado and Jordan Berado, the fond uncle of Matthew Jarvis, Brandon Jarvis and Isaac Morgan, and a caring

grandchild, nephew, and cousin of many.

Mourners are asked to gather at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood at 11:00a.m., Wednesday, October 2nd for a brief ceremony followed by a caravan to the Deschutes River in Maupin to scatter Jake’s ashes in the place he so loved. A Celebration of Life will follow at the Mazama Lodge from 4:00-8:00p.m.

On Friday, October 4th, an additional Celebration of Life/ Open House will be at the home of Steve and Susan Eder in La Grande, Oregon from 4:00 to 8:00p.m.

Please bring your memories and stories of Jake to share at either or both events.

Jake was born on June 4th, 1984 in La Grande, Oregon but spent his early years in Corvallis and Bend, Oregon. He returned with his family to La Grande as a teenager and graduated from La Grande High School in 2002. After high school, he attended Central Oregon Community College. He worked in construction in Bend for years before moving to the Mount Hood area where he worked in the tourist industry. His love for the beauty of the natural world in that place kept him there until his death.

It is an understatement to say that Jake loved fly fishing; he was always the happiest on the river. His other passions included snowboarding, creating art, and following sports, especially the Chicago Cubs. He also had an insatiable thirst for eggnog.

Jake was not only a fisherman, artist, and “boarder”, he was a deep thinker with a wonderful wit and a quick sense of humor. A keen observer of the world, Jake was often quiet and reflective, yet at other times competitive and even a bit outrageous. He was a loyal friend and was loved by all who knew him. He will be dearly missed by his many friends and family. He was truly a very unique man.

Jake is survived by his mother, Susan; stepfather, Steve; sisters, Jennifer, (Dave), Jocelyn, (Ben), and Jordan, (Chaz); nephews, Matt, Brandon and Isaac; many loving cousins, uncles and aunts. He was predeceased by his father, James, his paternal grandparents, John and Lorraine Berado, his aunt, Julie Berado Krueger, maternal grandparents, Don Kuester and Jean Lane, and his cousin, Kathleen Kuester. He also leaves behind a numerous variety of friends, especially his dearest friend and longtime love, Renee Moore.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to “Save Our Wild Salmon” <https://www.wildsalmon.org/> in Jake’s name. He would like that...

Oh, Jake, we love you so.

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Parent-child sign-making class offered

ISLAND CITY — Cinda’s Signature Workshops is offering a “Fall Trio / Inter-changeable Sign” workshop at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at Island City City Hall, 10605 Island Ave. The workshops are usually limited to adults, but this one is kid-friendly. A parent and child may work on the same project for one price (age 8 and older recommended). No construction is required; all projects are pre-made and ready for sanding and paint choices. Pre-registration is required. For more information, go to Cinda’s Facebook page.

Get your raffle tickets for ACE’s first batch of prizes

LA GRANDE — Art Center East’s “Raffle Extravaganza” is underway, with proceeds going toward improving the quality and quantity of arts and culture programming available to the community. The first batch of winners will be drawn at 11:30 a.m. Oct. 5 at ACE’s Art at the Market booth in front of the library at the La Grande Farmers Market. To view the prizes, purchase raffle tickets or more information, go to www.artcentereast.org or stop by ACE’s Gift Gallery to see the goods

in person. Batch 2 raffle tickets go on sale at noon Oct. 5.

Tickets on sale for ‘Comedy with Character’ show

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon Youth for Christ is hosting comedian Bob Stromberg at 7 p.m. Nov. 8 in the La Grande High School Auditorium. Stromberg’s family-friendly “Comedy with Character” show is described as “hilarious, clean comedy.” Tickets are on sale now at www.eoyfc.org/events/comedycafe. Early-bird tickets are \$15; after Oct. 15, tickets will be \$20. This Comedy Cafe event is a fundraiser for a YFC’s Union County youth center.

Future of Union United Methodist Church considered

UNION — The public is welcome at a meeting with state Methodist Church officials at noon Oct. 4 at the historic United Methodist Church building on Main Street in Union. Community members are invited to share their memories of the past and bring their ideas for the future use of this landmark building.

— Observer staff

Michael Wayne Gooderham

June 30, 1941 - September 24, 2019



Michael Wayne Gooderham, 78, of La Grande, died Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at his home after a long hard fought battle with Renal Cell Carcinoma. A viewing will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 4 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. A funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church. Casual dress is preferred by the family.

Mike was born June 30, 1941, in the St. Joseph Hospital, La Grande, Oregon to Wayne and Lois (Burnett) Gooderham. He attended Greenwood Elementary School and graduated from La Grande High School in 1959.

Mike married Patty Parker on August 6, 1960 and they celebrated their 58th anniversary this year. He would tell the story of them being girlfriend, boyfriend as far back as 2nd grade. She was a partner in all of his endeavors. They became parents to son, Eric and daughter Gretchen.

His father started him at an early age enjoying the activities of hunting, fishing and the great out of doors. They enjoyed these activities together for many years. Mike continued this tradition with Patty, their children and grandchildren and many friends, teaching them the joys of the outdoor life.

Mike started working during the summer for the Oregon State Forestry as soon as he graduated from high school. After the summer work was over he went to work seven years for La Grande Lumber Company. He then started his career with Boise Cascade Corporation (BCC). He wore many hats at BCC including as an Industrial Engineer, Joint Facilities Supervisor at the Elgin Complex, Log Yard Supervisor at La Grande Complex and finally as the BCC Region Road Building Supervisor. He supervised the maintenance and building of all BCC roads within the Northeast Oregon Region which includes parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Also, as part of his responsibilities at BCC, he taught the management personnel their American Red Cross and CPR required by law. Boise Cascade Corp. Volunteer Program Award was given to Mike in 1987, which had with it a \$1,000 donation to a charitable organization of his choice. He designated the award to the Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol.

As the supervisor of the road crew, he was also responsible for the maintenance and use of the company’s wild fire equipment. The crew also fought wild fires on BCC properties and adjoining USFS properties when needed.

In 1975 BCC loaned Mike to the Grande Ronde Hospital to establish an Advance Life Support Ambulance System, which he did for most of that year along with his job at BCC.

He retired from BCC in 1999, which allowed him to hunt fish and ski full time!

He was a charter member of the Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol which started in 1963. He continued on the patrol until he retired after 51 years. During that time he held many titles starting with Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol Director, Southern Idaho Region Director, Pacific Northwest Division Director and Board Member the National Ski Patrol, which includes USA and Europe Divisions. He was a certified National Ski Patrol Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor and Instructor Trainer, an Avalanche I & II Instructor and Instructor Trainer and Instructor Development Instructor and Instructor Trainer. He won many awards with the ski patrol includ-

ing the Claude Anson Distinguished Patroller, Ed Orbea Southern Idaho Region Award for Excellence in First Aid Skills, the PNW Division Alpine Patroller Award, National Ski Patrol Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award, Distinguished Service Award and Yellow Merit Stars for Attempting to Save a Life and for conducting the first Mountain Rescue Clinic in the Pacific NW Division.

Mike was an avid American Red Cross supporter and was on the Union County American Red Cross Board for over 50 years. He was also an American Red Cross Advance First Aid Instructor and Instructor Trainer and CPR Instructor and Trainer. He estimated that between teaching these courses to the general public and to the BCC employees that he taught 8,000+ people.

In 1972 he attended one of the first Oregon EMT classes that were held. He traveled to Baker City weekly for the class and eventually became an EMT II. From 1964-66 he was elected as District Representative to the State of Oregon EMS Committee.

He was Chairman of the Union County Ambulance Advisory Committee from 1986-2015. The committee developed the Union County Ambulance Plan that coordinates all of the county’s First Responder systems.

He was honored with the Union County Chamber of Commerce’s “Man of the Year” in 1993.

The Governor of Oregon appointed Mike to the Oregon Rural Health Care Council and Coordinating Council Grant Review Committee from 2000-2008.

He was a La Grande Volunteer Fire Captain for 25+ years. There is an annual award given by the La Grande Fire Dept. in honor of Mike Gooderham to an active fireman for “being steady, reliable, prepared and always vigilant and ready to perform”. It is called “The Vigilant Spanner Award”.

He was on the Eastern Oregon Fire Museum Board from 2006 to present.

Mike and Patty owned many horses and mules over the years. He raised his main mule, Wenaha, and rode him for over 30+ years. They were a fine tuned pair and Mike swore that Wenaha alerted him many times when there was game (elk, deer, bear, or cougar) around!

He spent many years with family and friends riding, hunting, and packing in the Eagle Cap Wilderness and at Camp 5 in Wallowa County. He enjoyed having his family and friends bagging their game so that he could butcher and pack them out on the animals. He was an excellent packer and took pride in doing the Double Diamond packing hitch.

Surviving relatives include his wife Patty, son, Eric (Heather) Gooderham, daughter, Gretchen Forkan, granddaughter, Amy (Jake) Thronson, grandson, Kyle Forkan, granddaughter, Kara Gooderham, great granddaughter, Kamber Forkan, sisters Pam Maggs, Judy Johnson, Nancy Findeisen, brother, Bill (Denise) Martens, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wayne Gooderham, stepmother, Evelyn Gooderham, mother Lois Martens and stepfather Al Martens, brother, Steve Gooderham, sister, Sue Hart.

Online condolences may be made to www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS
Sponsored by

LOVELAND
FUNERAL CHAPEL AND CREMATORY

**Oct. 4
Jacob Berado:**
4-8 p.m., open house celebration of life, Steve and Susan Eder residence, La Grande.

**Jacqulyne
"Jackie" Hiatt:**
10 a.m., graveside service, Island City Cemetery.

**Oct. 4-5
Michael
Gooderham:**
5-7 p.m. Oct. 4, viewing, Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande; 2 p.m. Oct. 5, funeral, Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

**Oct. 10
Maryann "Annie"
Richmond:**
7 p.m., memorial service, Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

**Oct. 27
Jerry Johnson:**
1 p.m., memorial service, Eastern Oregon Livestock Show Clubhouse, Union.

