

**OBITUARY**

**Richard S. Croft**

1959-2021  
La Grande

Richard Scott Croft, 61, of La Grande, died June 4, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. An informal memorial service will be held at a later date.

Richard was born Oct. 4, 1959, in Tampa, Florida, to Allan and Barbara Croft. After graduating from high school, he attended Virginia Tech University where he went on to earn a doctorate in instructional systems development.

Richard was a professor at Western Illinois University from 1996 to 2000 and later moved to La Grande where he was a professor at Eastern Oregon University and a robotics director for Lego competitions from 2000 to 2021. He was dedicated to his students and former students.

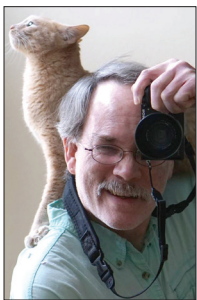
Richard enjoyed teaching, fly fishing, whale watching, hiking, birding, spelunking, crosswords, rescuing cats from the shelter, having an aquarium, reading, cooking, photography, acting and creative writing. He had many achievements but, most important, he was a kind and decent

human being.

Survivors include his partner, Kathleen "Kip" Windler; sister, Irene Haslup and husband, Lee Haslup, of North Carolina; stepdaughters, Sarah Windler and husband, Jeremy French, of California, Jenny Windler and partner, Stephen Rice, of California, and Melanie Petri and husband, Dave Conner, of California; two step-grandchildren; niece, Amber McPherson; nephew, Christopher Haslup; three great-nieces and one great-nephew; and former spouse, Theresa Eagle.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Lung Cancer Research Foundation, 155 East 55th St., Suite E, New York, NY 10022; Blue Mountain Humane Association, 3212 Highway 30, La Grande 97850; or Grande Ronde Hospital Med/Surg Fund, 900 Sunset Drive, La Grande 97850.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com](http://www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com).



Croft

**DEATH NOTICES**

**George W. Smith**  
Elgin

George William Smith, 100, of Elgin, died June 4, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A graveside service will be held June 19 at 10 a.m. at the Elgin Cemetery. Casual dress is preferred by the family. Immediately following the service, a reception will be held at his home.

Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Howard E. Castle**  
La Grande

Howard Ernest Castle, 81, of La Grande, died Jan. 7, 2021, of natural causes. The service and gathering planned for June 25 has been canceled.

**UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES**



Please follow guidelines regarding face coverings and social distancing at all services.

**June 14 — GERALD RIMBEY:** 10 a.m. graveside service, Island City Cemetery; reception fol-

lows at 11 a.m. at La Grande Christian Church.

**June 19 — GEORGE SMITH:** 10 a.m. graveside service, Elgin Cemetery (casual dress preferred); reception immediately follows at his home.

**June 26 — DAVID COUNCIL:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, North Powder City Park.

**June 26 — SALLY TOUCHE-MOSER:** 1-3 p.m. celebration of life open house, 404 Depot St., Enterprise.

**June 27 — MERI OLMSTEAD:** 1 p.m. memorial service, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**

12:23 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a possible sex crime.

1:03 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1100 block of O Avenue on a report of an assault. An officer took a report.

2:21 p.m. — A caller reported an assault at N Avenue and Willow Street, La Grande. An officer responded and took information.

4:36 p.m. — The Animal Health Center, 10302 Wallowa Lake Highway, La Grande, reported a case of animal cruelty. Union County sheriff's deputies responded and took information.

6:21 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a disturbance on the 1000 block of Jackson Avenue. An officer contacted and counseled the party.

6:57 p.m. — La Grande police arrested Scott William Devin, 20, for domestic violence assault and menacing.

7:20 p.m. — A caller reported aggressive dogs on the 400 block of North 15th Avenue, Elgin, have been attacking other dogs. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and gave options.

9:34 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a complaint about illegal fireworks in the area of 62100 Mathson Road, La Grande.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

2:27 a.m. — Local law enforcement received a report of a possible cougar sighting on the 2800 block of Cherry Street, La Grande. A La Grande police officer and Union County sheriff's deputy responded but saw no cougar.

9:03 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of an "unauthorized animal" on the 2800 block of Fir Street. An animal enforcement officer made contact and gave options.

4:11 p.m. — A caller reported a male on the 11600 block of Island Avenue got into a vehicle with a lot of empty beer bottles. A Union County sheriff's deputy checked the area but did not find the person.

5:51 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1500 block of Adams Avenue on a report of harassment. Officers counseled two people.

8:55 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to the 700 block of Second Street, Cove, on a report of a disturbance. A deputy counseled the parties involved.

9 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 700 block of 18th Street for an assault. Officers took a report.

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

**MEETINGS**

• **LA GRANDE** — The La Grande Landmarks Commission will meet for a work session at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 10, in council chambers at La Grande City Hall, 1000 Adams Ave. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and finalize a request for a proposal for hiring a historic preservation consultant.

• **UNION** — The Union Rural Fire Protection District Budget Committee meets Tuesday, June 15, at 7 p.m. followed by a regular session. The meetings will be held at the fire hall. For more information, contact Kim George, Union RFPD clerk, at 541-910-3114 or [union.rfpd@outlook.com](mailto:union.rfpd@outlook.com).

• **LA GRANDE** — A special meeting of the La Grande City Council begins at 6 p.m. Monday, June 14, to discuss FEMA Floodplain Map Revisions. The public may view the meeting via the city's Charter Communications channel 180 on the La Grande Alive website or the Eastern Oregon Alive.TV Facebook page.

**BRIEFS**

**Volunteers may attend gardening class for free**

**COVE** — Nella Mae's Farm in Cove is leading a tomato class Sunday, June 13, to help gardeners increase their production, decrease disease and make harvest easier.

Beginning at 10 a.m. Nella Mae will teach a tomato pruning and trellising class at the farm, 69361 Antles Lane in Cove. Participants will take home trellis materials and a how-to handout. Pre-registration is required. To register and for more information, go to <https://nellamaesfarm.com/2021/06/07/tomato-pruning-trellising-class>.

The cost of the class is \$8 per person or \$15 per family. Or, volunteer to join a weeding party from 11 a.m. to noon and attend the class for free.

**Oregon governor candidate visits La Grande Saturday**

**LA GRANDE** — Stan Pulliam will visit La

Grande Saturday, June 12, as part of his Gubernatorial Listening Tour. Earlier this spring, Pulliam, the mayor of Sandy, announced he is exploring a run for governor in the 2022 election. His announcement included plans to launch a listening tour across Oregon, "joining mayors, community leaders and others to talk about how to bring Oregon back to its rugged, pioneer glory of innovation, fortitude, and freedom," according to press release.

The public is invited to join Pulliam June 12 from 4-6 p.m. at Max Square, corner of Adams Avenue and Fourth Street. For more information visit <https://www.stanpulliam.org>.

— The Observer

**La GRANDE AUTO REPAIR**  
975-2000  
[www.lagrandeautorepair.com](http://www.lagrandeautorepair.com)

**Joe Horst** MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE ACDelcoTSS

**Congratulations Union graduates**



Misty Johnson/Contributed photo

Union High School graduates link arms during the commencement ceremony held at Union Athletic Complex on Saturday, June 5, 2021.



Misty Johnson/Contributed photo  
Union High School graduate Jace Phillips holds up a smoke flare during the schools graduation at Union Athletic Complex on Saturday, June 5, 2021.



Misty Johnson/Contributed photo  
Union High School graduates DeLaney Smith and Jordan DeFries smile for a photo during the school's commencement ceremony held at the Union Athletic Complex on Saturday, June 5, 2021.

**Carole Dianne Halvorson**

December 15, 1945 - April 23, 2021

For Carole, 75, a celebration of life will be planned for July 10, 2021 at the Starkey Ranch home of Carole and Bob Delve. Food and beverages will be furnished beginning at 1 p.m. Vaccinations are required (unless by doctor's excuse). RSVP please by mail to: 58310 Grande Ronde River Road, La Grande, OR, 97850, or [icyriverranch@gmail.com](mailto:icyriverranch@gmail.com) or phone (541) 428-2139.

Her father was George Halvorson of Apple Valley, Wisconsin. Her mother was Hazel Hubbs of Dent County, Missouri.

Carole was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her mother had an illness, so induced labor was used. Because she was supposed to be born in January, she claimed to be the oldest living baby boomer. The family (now with brother Steve) stayed at the Hubbs Farm, while George went to California to settle the family there.

They lived at Redondo Beach for a while, then moved to Hemet, California. They lived there to her adult years. She graduated from Hemet High School in 1964, then went to the California Hospital School of Nursing and got a diploma in nursing in 1966. She joined the US Army Nurse Corps from 1967-69. As a 2nd Lt. she was stationed at Vung Tau, South Vietnam with the 36th Evacuation Hospital from 1968-69. She specialized in pediatric nursing. There, she met her future husband, Richard Parr from Australia. In 1970, they were married in Melbourne for a year. They moved to Hemet, California, and Carole continued nursing work in home health. She had a daughter, Elizabeth Kaye Parr in 1972. Carole continued her education and got an Associates Degree in Social Studies 1974. The father moved back to Australia in 1978. Carole was a single parent for 13 years and she went back to college and got a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1979. She joined the US Army again as 1st Lt. from 1981-84, ending as Captain. During this time she graduated in 1984 with a Master of Public Health from Tulane University. She received a US Army Meritorious Service Medal for her service from 1981-84. After discharge, she worked as director of home health care at Lutheran General Hospital in San Antonio, Texas to 1987. Carole moved to La Grande to be administrator on the Union County Home Health/Hospice agency from 1987-92. She became staff development coordinator for a year, then taught nursing at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton for a year. In 1994 she got her Master of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing from Oregon Health & Science University and was hired

**HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS**



**Carole Halvorson** 2nd Lt./1st Lt./Captain

as a practitioner for the Center for Human Development in La Grande until retirement in 2014. Carole had a 48 year career in the nursing field.

In 1988, Carole and her husband Bob Delve met at a United Methodist Church fundraising dinner. They married July 8, 1990 at the Zion Lutheran Church during regular service. Both had responsible positions at Zion. Both like to travel, including going to reunions including Vietnam vets. When the moving Vietnam Memorial came to La Grande, Carole spoke about her experiences and loss of a fellow nurse killed during a rocket attack. Bob Delve acted as chaplain for the event. Carole was active in supporting causes for social justice, Union Co. Progressives, Oregon Food Bank, Oregon Public Broadcasting, A.C.L.U., Bread for the World, Lutheran World Relief, Health Care for All Oregon and Oregon Rural Action.

Carole's hobbies were quilting, sewing, crocheting, photography, yard flower gardening and traveling for new adventures.

Surviving relatives include her daughter Elizabeth Parr of Hemet, California; brother Steve Halvorson of Oceanside, California; and husband Bob of almost 31 years. Carole suffered for years with a progressive brain disease that took away her speech and mobility. She connected her problem with exposure to "Agent Orange" used in the Vietnam conflict in 1969. Her motto: "It doesn't have to be perfect, just good enough." She will be greatly missed by all whose lives were touched by her.

**TEN DEPOT STREET**  
"Real Food for the People"  
**Open Fri-Sun 5pm-8pm**  
**Take-out Menu Updated Weekly**  
[www.tendepotstreet.com](http://www.tendepotstreet.com)  
541-963-8766  
[tendepotstreet@gmail.com](mailto:tendepotstreet@gmail.com)

An Independent Insurance Agency  
**Reed & ASSOCIATES**  
Trusted Insurance Help Since 1994  
Get Trusted, Friendly, Expert Medicare Insurance Help  
  
10106 North C St. • Island City  
541-975-1364 • Toll Free 1-866-282-1925  
[www.reed-insurance.net](http://www.reed-insurance.net)