

**OBITUARIES**

**Thomas 'Tommy' E. Little Jr.**

1967-2021  
La Grande

Thomas "Tommy" Ezekiel Little Jr., 54, of La Grande, died Oct. 10, 2021, at St. Luke's Hospital in Boise. A celebration of his life will be held Nov. 14 at 2 p.m. at the Elgin Community Center.

Known as Tommy, he was born Jan. 9, 1967, in La Grande, to Thomas "Tom" Little and Karen Fox-Nasura. He grew up in Elgin, attended Stella Mayfield Elementary School and graduated from Elgin High School in 1985. In 1986, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served for 14 years. During that time, he resided in San Diego, California. He was a crew member with the USS Reasoner and completed a tour of duty in Desert Storm in 1991.

Tommy married Lisa Jackson in November 1989. They later divorced. He worked as a direct support professional for Rise Services.

Tommy's favorite moments were spent with his family and grandchildren. When he had time, he would go to the movies with his mom. He loved going to Wallowa Lake and he enjoyed basketball, football and playing volleyball.

Survivors include his daughters, Holly Little of

La Grande, Amber Jackson of La Grande, and Monica Jackson Mendez of Elgin; father and stepmother, Tom and Gwen Little of Pendleton; mother and stepfather, Karen and Brad Nasura of Elgin; brother and sister-in-law, Dale and Ayla Little of Pendleton; aunts and uncles, Debbie and Jimmie Stovall of Coos Bay, Carol and Chuck Fox-Jordan of Elk Grove Village, Illinois, Connie Fox of Wendell, Idaho, Jackie and Mike Fox-Reynolds of Lebanon, Debbie Nasura of Fishkill, New

York, David Fox of Jerome, Idaho, Duane and Delia Nasura of Kamiah, Idaho, and Jeff and Shannon Hall of Anchorage, Alaska; step-grandfather, Lowell Prince of Kamiah, Idaho; eight grandchildren; and one nephew.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Fern Fox; grandfather, John Fox; and uncle, James Fox.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society at [www.donate3.cancer.org](http://www.donate3.cancer.org), or to a charity of choice.

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



Little



**Norman W. Svaty**

1930-2021  
La Grande

Norman Wayne Svaty, 90, of La Grande, died Oct. 26, 2021, at his home. A graveside service was held Oct. 29 at the Union Victorian Cemetery.

Norman was born Oct. 28, 1930, in Lincoln County, Kansas, to Frank Svaty and Josephine (Doubrava) Svaty. He attended grade school in a one-room country school called Shiloh and graduated from high school in Lucas, Kansas, in 1949. After graduation he joined the U.S. Navy, serving the majority of his four years at sea on the destroyer the USS Hanson. Norman served in the Korean War, spending nearly all of his service in Taiwan and Japan. He was discharged from the Navy in October 1954, after being severely injured when a weapon malfunctioned.

Norman married Verna Marie Persigehl on June 1, 1955, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sylvan Grove, Kansas, where they spent their first six years of marriage farming and operating a grade-A dairy. In 1961, the family moved to Chino Valley, Arizona, where they lived until 1964 before moving to Idaho. During his 25 years in Idaho, Norman farmed in various areas across the Treasure

Valley. His last 32 years were spent in the Union and La Grande areas where he farmed and eventually retired.

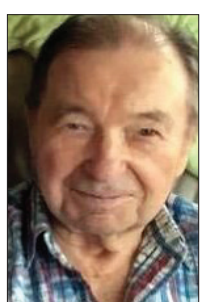
Norman was a farmer by trade, but had natural mechanical engineering skills and often designed and built his own farm equipment or creatively retrofitted whatever he could find to meet his needs at the time. He was very interested in politics and concerned for the welfare of the country he helped defend. He was a lifetime member of the VFW, DAV and NRA and an accomplished pilot.

One of Norman's hobbies was fishing, and he especially enjoyed fishing trips to Mexico with his friends. He also enjoyed traveling in his motor home. As a Good Sam member, he traveled most of the states west of the Mississippi, with his favorite being Alaska.

Survivors include his children and their spouses, Gayle and Dave Orcutt, Ginger and Eric Pentz, Gina Munoz, Myron Svaty, Max and Alita Svaty, and Mart and Diane Svaty.

He was preceded in death by his wife of more than 66 years, Verna.

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



Svaty



**Sue E. Orlaske**

1948-2021  
La Grande

Sue Ellen Orlaske, 72, of La Grande, died Oct. 22, 2021, at a local care facility after a long illness. There will be a celebration of her life at a later date.

Sue was born Dec. 26, 1948, in Benton Harbor, Michigan, to Ray Orlaske and Ellen (Marcelous) Orlaske. She graduated from Benton Harbor High School. She married Jan Burda, and the marriage ended in divorce. Sue later moved to Detroit to finish her bachelor's degree from Wayne State University. She then moved to Portland to attend graduate school at Portland State University, where she received a master's degree in biology in 1979. She lived in Oregon for the rest of her life.

While at PSU Sue met, and later married, Mitch Wolgamott, who was also pursuing a master's degree. In 1980, Sue started and managed a successful retail coffee business in Hillsboro, long before there was a Starbucks on every corner. In 1994, Sue sold the coffee business and she and Mitch moved to Northeastern Oregon where Mitch had

taken a job. She became a full-time artist specializing in ceramics, pastels and watercolors, including batik watercolors. Her art won many awards.

Sue loved the outdoors and spent many days camping, backpacking, and fishing with Mitch and her Border collie. She participated in art co-ops in La Grande and Baker City and was a member of the Pleasant Grove Grange.

Survivors include her husband, Mitch; brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Kathy Orlaske of North Plains; sister and brother-in-law, Andee and Roger Dieckman of Buchanan, Michigan; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Ellen Orlaske.

Memorial contributions may be made to Art Center East, 1006 Penn Ave., La Grande 97850, or to Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave., Baker City 97814.

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



Orlaske

**DEATH NOTICE**

**Fredrick K. Erickson Sr.**

Elgin

Fredrick Kenneth Erickson Sr., 80, of Elgin, died Oct. 23, 2021, at Central Peninsula Hospital in Kenai/Soldotna, Alaska. Arrangements are by Peninsula Memorial Chapel, Kenai, Alaska.

**UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES**



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

**Oct. 30 — SHELIA EVANS:** 10 a.m. celebration of life, Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

**Oct. 30 — LARRY ANDERSON:** 4 p.m. celebration of life and potluck, EOLS Clubhouse, Union.

**Nov. 3 & Nov. 6 — CHERYL WAGONER:** Nov. 3, 5-7 p.m. viewing; Nov. 6, 2 p.m. funeral

service; both at Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande; dinner follows the service at 62173 Lower Perry Loop.

**Nov. 6 — LaDON EVERS:** 10 a.m. celebration of life (casual dress), La Grande American Legion Hall.

**Nov. 14 — TOMMY LITTLE:** 2 p.m. celebration of life, Elgin Community Center.

**Nov. 20 — BETTY TURLEY:** 2 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande First Presbyterian Church; reception follows.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

**MEETINGS**

• **IMBLER** — The Imbler School Board meets Tuesday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. at the high school for the purpose of discussing the upcoming superintendent search.

**BRIEFS**

**Nella Mae's Farm hosts online Garden Hour**  
COVE — Garden Hour with Nella Mae Parks is now held virtually on the first Wednesday of each month. The next one-hour class will take place Nov. 3 via Zoom beginning at 6:30 p.m. Classes will feature gardening presentations, Q&A and discussion. All are welcome. There is an \$8 fee; if this is a hardship, Parks offers the classes free of charge. To register and the link to the class, go to [www.nellamaefarm.com](http://www.nellamaefarm.com).

**MENUS**

**Union County Senior Center takeout lunches**  
Pick up between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande. For delivery, call 541-963-7532 before 10 a.m. Age 60+, \$3 suggested donation; all others, \$5. All are welcome.  
**Nov. 1-5**  
**Monday:** beef curry over rice, salad greens, baked bread, fruit, dessert.  
**Tuesday:** fish and chips, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit, cookie.  
**Wednesday:** roast pork, whipped potatoes with gravy, baked apples, salad greens, dessert.  
**Thursday:** autumn stew in a bread bowl, salad greens, fresh fruit, light dessert.  
**Friday:** orange-sesame chicken, rice pilaf, spring rolls, oriental salad, fortune cookie.

**Walter Elhart**

January 7, 1944 - October 19, 2021

Walter Elhart passed away October 19, 2021 with his children and Cora, the love of his life and devoted wife of 55 years, by his side.

Born January 7, 1944 in Maywood, California, to Jack and Wilma Elhart, Walt was the fourth of six children. He grew up in La Grande, Oregon, and spoke often with fondness of his childhood and the many adventures he shared with his siblings, especially with his younger brother Kip. That love and fondness continued in the stories he told of the times he spent at his grandparent's property in Union, Oregon, where young Walt's adventures continued.

In 1961, at the age of 17 he joined the military where he was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and Manila, Philippines, and eventually met the beautiful young lady who would become his wife, Maria Corazon. They shared a long distance romance writing letters to each other for years before finally tying the knot on September 6, 1966 in the Philippines.

Being in the military took them on adventures all over, from the Philippines to Taiwan and back to the states where they lived in Washington D.C., California, and Wisconsin. Along the way their family grew. In 1967, their son Edward was born followed by another son Marty "Mort" in 1968, daughter Angelina in 1972 and Louis, their third son in 1979. In 1981 Walt retired from the military after serving 4 years in the Marines and 16 years in the Navy and moved his family to Boise, Idaho, where he lived the remainder of his civilian life working for the City of Meridian and later Micron Technology before his retirement.

Walt was a family man who enjoyed history, fishing, reading, genealogy, photography, a good conversation over a cup of coffee, numerous trips to Yellowstone, spending time with his family and later in life spending time with his grandkids.

He was his grandkid's number one fan in anything they did, whether it be sports – (he never missed a game), dance, academics, video games, or just sitting with them and hearing how their day went. Anything they did and the time he spent with them made his eyes sparkle with love and filled his heart with happiness.

Walt is survived by his wife, Cora; children, Ed (Kathleen) Elhart, Mort (Grace) Elhart, Angelina (Kjetil) Rom, and Louis Elhart; grandchildren, Delicia, Alexander, Brenna, Coralina, Walter, Daniel, Maria and Markus; siblings, Thora "Tootsie" Fuller, Kip (Irene) Elhart and Thomas "BoBo" Elhart.

Funeral services will take place 11:00 Monday, November 1, at Holy Apostle's Catholic Church, 6300 N Meridian Rd. Rosary will begin at 10:00 in the day chapel.

Walt will be buried with full military honors at the Idaho State Veteran's Cemetery at a later date.

To leave the family condolences please visit. [www.bowmanfuneral.com](http://www.bowmanfuneral.com)



**Taco Feed Fundraiser**

Friends and Family of Bob and Dorothy Kautz invite you to a Taco Feed, Silent Auction and Dessert Auction

Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 4pm-8pm at the La Grande Country Club, 10605 McAlister Ln, Island City.

\$10/person at the door.

All proceeds will go to hospital expenses and a Memorial Tribute

Questions? Call Jeromy 541-805-9228

70th ANNUAL SKI Swap

PRESENTED BY TOYOTA • Benefitting the Bogus Basin Ski Education Foundation

TOYOTA

November 5-7 in Boise at EXPO IDAHO

NEW & USED SKI EQUIPMENT, SNOWBOARD & CLOTHING SALE

Buyers	OPEN TO THE PUBLIC*	Sellers	CHECK IN EQUIPMENT*
Friday, Nov 5	1:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Thursday, Nov 4	12:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday, Nov 6	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Friday, Nov 5	10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sunday, Nov 7	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Saturday, Nov 6	10:00 AM - NOON

\*Buyers / Sellers are limited to 5 like items. BBSEF reserves the right to refuse equipment. Sellers must retrieve unsold items on Sunday, November 7, 2021 from 3:00-5:00 pm.

Admission \$5 Friday, Saturday & Sunday\*  
UNDER 18 FREE ADMISSION \*SUNDAY FREE ADMISSION WITH A CANNED FOOD DONATION!

(208) 336-5295 [www.bbsef.org](http://www.bbsef.org)