

OBITUARIES

Marie (Allen) Hill Stock

1933-2021

Formerly of Union

Marie Hill Stock, 88, formerly of Union, died Oct. 22, 2021. A celebration of her life was held Nov. 1 in Mesa, Arizona, and she was buried at Paradise Memorial Gardens in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Marie was born July 6, 1933, in Hinckley, Utah, to Fredrick Allen and Thelma (Blake) Allen. Her mother died when she was 6, and she moved to Union when she and her sisters, Josephine and Blanche, were placed as foster children in the home of Grant and Ezma Baxter Wilde. Marie was raised in Union and lived there for many years. In her later years she lived in Arizona.

Marie married James

“Jim” B. Hill, and they had three daughters and adopted two sons. Jim preceded her in death in 2000. In 2014, she married Ted Stock of Seattle, and they enjoyed seven years together.

Survivors include her husband, Ted; daughters and their spouses, Crystal and Lance Voss, Merrily Verhagen, and Lorie and James; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and sister, Blanche Koehler.

She was preceded in death by her parents and foster parents; sister, Josephine Zaugg; first husband, James Hill; sons, Jonathan and Lee Hill; and son-in-law, Paul Verhagen.



Stock

Delta R. (Huffman) Phelps

1945-2021

Summerville

Delta R. Phelps, 75, of Summerville, died Oct. 30, 2021, in Spokane, Washington, due to complications from a short battle with cancer. A graveside service will be held Nov. 26 at 1:30 p.m. at the Summerville Cemetery. A celebration of her life and dinner will immediately follow at the Odd Fellows Hall on Main Street in Summerville.

Delta was born Dec. 30, 1945, in Enterprise, to Mary Lou (Lathrop) Huffman. She was the eldest of four children. She met her future husband, Roger Phelps, in Prineville. They were married in 1964 and had three children: Mike, Nikki and Tim. They lived in La Grande until 1972, when they moved to their forever home on 20 acres outside of Summerville.

Delta worked for Boise Cascade in Elgin for 33 years until retiring in 2011. She loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She especially loved

baking them their favorite goodies and giving gifts.

Delta enjoyed sewing, knitting and wood-working and always had a project going on. She liked traveling and vacations at the Oregon Coast. She enjoyed outdoor activities including gardening, snowmobiling, horseback riding,

mushroom hunting and daily walks in the woods.

Survivors include her husband, Roger Phelps of Summerville; children and their spouses, Mike and Sheila Phelps of Elgin, Nikki Phelps of Spokane, Washington, and Tim and Jenny Phelps of Summerville; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters-in-law, Steve and Karen Huffman of Sutherlin and Craig and Kylene Huffman of La Grande; nephew and wife, Bill and Tia Koops of Hermiston; and many other nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Mary Lou; sister, Billie; and a granddaughter and two great-grandsons.



Phelps

Ryan 'Jorgy' C. Jorgensen

1980-2021

La Grande

Ryan “Jorgy” Christopher Jorgensen, 41, of La Grande, died Oct. 24, 2021, at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise. A celebration of his life will be held Nov. 20 at 10 a.m. at the La Grande Nazarene Church.

Also known as Jorgy, he was born Aug. 22, 1980, in La Grande, to Jerry Jorgensen and Wendy (Lindsey) Jorgensen. He was raised in La Grande and attended Heidi-Ho preschool, Greenwood Elementary School, La Grande Middle School and La Grande High School, where he was on the football team and wrestling team and won the Reno Tournament of Champions.

He graduated from LHS in 1999 then attended two years at Oregon State University, where he was on the wrestling team. He married Jacy Murrill in 2008.

Jorgy worked for Fleetwood, the USFS La Grande District and the USFS La Grande Hot Shot Crew, then as an engineer for Union

Pacific Railroad. He enjoyed skiing, riding dirt bikes, fishing, hunting, shooting and off-road drives in his prize possession, his Toyota Landcruiser.

Jorgy loved doing anything and everything with his family. He was a dedicated father and family man and loved helping out and coaching his boys’ sports teams. He truly had a heart of gold and would do whatever he could to help others.

Survivors include his wife, Jacy; sons, Cole Jorgensen and Cain Jorgensen of La Grande; father, Jerry Jorgensen of La Grande; brother and sister-in-law, Eric and Brook Jorgensen of La Grande; six nieces and nephews; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Wendy Jorgensen; and grandparents, Elton and Pauline Lindsey, Flora Collingwood and Vern Jorgensen.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.loveland-funeralchapel.com.



Jorgensen

Jerry Lou (Halsey) Gerber

1933-2021

La Grande

Jerry Lou Gerber, 88, of La Grande, died Nov. 8, 2021, at a local care facility. A funeral service will be held Nov. 16 at 10 a.m. at Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Jerry Lou, the only child of Herschel M. Halsey and Areta L. (Titus) Halsey, was born July 23, 1933, in Baker. They lived in Union until Jerry Lou was 2 years old, when they moved to La Grande. She attended Ackerman and Central elementary schools and graduated from La Grande High School in 1951.

Jerry Lou took classes at what is now Eastern Oregon University, then worked for Evenson and Snyder CPAs as a bookkeeper for 12 years until being injured in a car crash. She then worked for the La Grande School District in the same capacity.

On April 21, 1951, Jerry Lou married Dale Niederer, and their daughter, Toni C. Niederer, was born on April 21, 1954. Toni passed away at the age of 40. Dale and Jerry Lou divorced in 1955.

Jerry Lou and Glenn A. Gerber were married on Nov. 26, 1976. They enjoyed a wonderful life together until Glenn’s passing on Jan. 23, 1995.

Jerry Lou enjoyed reading, crafting and doing crossword puzzles. Most

of all, she loved to travel, the highlight being her trip through the Panama Canal. She was a member of the United Methodist Church and a charter member of the Elks Emblem Club. She also was a member of Hope Chapter #13 Order of the Eastern Star, Wesleyan Circle, Rebekah Lodge #96, Daughters of the Nile, Eagles Auxiliary and American Legion Auxiliary.

Survivors include her cousins, Ron and Dorothy Titus of Union, Norman and Carol Titus of Hawaii, Cindy Titus Peterson of Newburg, Sharon and Larry Vermillion of La Grande, Jim and Teresa Smith of Union, and Robin Restel and Sandra Vowels of Carson City, Nevada.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn; daughter, Toni; parents, Herschel and Areta; uncle and aunt, Marvin and Gertrude Titus; and many cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hope Chapter #13 Cancer Research Committee, or PAWS (dogs assisting veterans) in care of Hope Chapter #13 O.E.S at 1411 X Ave., La Grande 97850.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.loveland-funeral-chapel.com.

Robert ‘Gene’ E. Fuller

1933-2021

Formerly of La Grande

Robert “Gene” Eugene Fuller, 88, of Hermiston and formerly of La Grande, died Nov. 2, 2021. At his request, there will not be a service.

Also known as Gene, he was born Feb. 17, 1933, in Weiser, Idaho, to Robert Fuller and Clara (Annsey) Fuller. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1951-1955. He married Betty Collins, and together they raised three children.

Gene worked for the Union Pacific Railroad as an engineer for 34 years. After retiring, he and Betty traveled all over

the United States. He was a man of God and always made people feel welcome and loved. He always had a smile on his face and was an awesome hugger.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Betty; children, Dennis Fuller of La Grande, Roxie Myers and her husband, Steve, of Stanfield, and Jim Fuller of Hermiston; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.loveland-funeral-chapel.com.



Fuller



UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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

Nov. 13 — FRED ERICKSON SR.: 11 a.m. memorial service, Elgin Nazarene Church.

Nov. 13 — FLORIECE PAPER-FUHS: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Nov. 14 — CONNIE CARTER: 2 p.m. celebration of life (casual dress), Elgin High School gym.

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

Nov. 16 — JERRY LOU GERBER: 10 a.m. funeral, Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Nov. 19 — CORAL

WARD: 11 a.m. memorial service, La Grande First Presbyterian Church.

Nov. 20 — RYAN “JORGY” JORGENSEN: 10 a.m. celebration of life, La Grande Nazarene Church.

Nov. 20 — CINDY SHIPP: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. viewing, Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise; 4 p.m. celebration of life, Hurricane Creek Grange, Joseph.

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

Nov. 26 — DELTA PHELPS: 1:30 p.m. graveside service, Summerville Cemetery; followed by celebration of life and dinner at Summerville Odd Fellows Hall on Main Street. — *calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*

DEATH AND SERVICE NOTICES

Richard ‘Dick’ Beedle

La Grande

Richard “Dick” Beedle, 93, of La Grande and Desert Hot Springs, California, died Oct. 19, 2021. Arrangements by All California Cremation, Palm Desert, California.

Coral M. Ward

La Grande

Coral Marie Ward, 85, of La Grande, died Nov. 9, 2019, at Grande Ronde Retirement Residence. A memorial service will be held Nov. 19 at 11 a.m. at the La Grande First Presbyterian Church. Masks will be required. To join the service virtually, go to www.facebook.com/groups/FPCLaGrande. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Hubert M. Comfort

La Grande

Hubert M. Comfort, 86, of La Grande, died Nov. 12, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Marjorie Gorham

Formerly of Union County

Marjorie Gorham, 98, formerly of Union County, died Oct. 13 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. A recitation of the Rosary and a funeral was held Nov. 12 at Heppner’s St. Patrick Catholic Church. Arrangements are by Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner.

Melvin L. Buffington

La Grande

Melvin L. Buffington, 84, of La Grande, died Nov. 8, 2021, at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MEETINGS

• **LA GRANDE** — The Grande Ronde Hospital Auxiliary will hold its November meeting on Monday, Nov. 15, at Island City City Hall. Refreshments will be available at 9 a.m. with the meeting following at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome as the auxiliary resumes in-person meetings.

• **IMBLER** — The Imbler School Board of Directors will meet for a regular Session on Tuesday, Nov. 16. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Room 1 of the high school.

• **UNION** — The Union Rural Fire Protection Board will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m. at the fire hall. For more information, call 541-910-3114.

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Cindy Lee Shipp (Fine)

July 2, 1954 - October 30, 2021

Cindy Lee Shipp (Fine), known to many as Prairie Flower, was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend. She passed away on October 30th, 2021. Cindy was born to Sonny and Darlene Fine in Dayton, Washington, on July 2nd, 1954, and raised in Wallowa County by her loving grandparents, Mildred and Clint Johnson.

She spoke very fondly of living and working with her grandparents on a ranch near Elk Mountain. They raised her to be proud of her Wallowa County heritage which included the Johnson, McFetridge, and Kinney families. She felt a deep connection with her Wallowa County roots. She also forged many friendships in her early years and treasured those relationships throughout her life.

Cindy was caring and compassionate. She earned her nursing degree from Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Oregon, and worked as a registered nurse for many years. In retirement, she used her nursing skills to give advice and support to friends and family.

Cindy co-founded the first vegetarian restaurant in Corvallis, Oregon, in 1975. The Vanburen Cafe was a place where Cindy combined her love of cooking with her love of friends and family. She gained many life-long friends and developed her famed Sunburger recipe. She sold the restaurant in 1980 but continued to cook for family and friends throughout her life. Anyone who has tasted her sourdough bread knows the love that went into every batch.

Although she was a great nurse and cook, she considered her family to be her greatest accomplishment and loved spending as much time as possible with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Cindy loved dogs as well as people and was especially fond of her Boston Terriers. Many lucky pups were spoiled by her, and she loved to watch them play with her grandkids. She was very good at fishing as well, and caught and fried up many Rainbow Trout in her day. Cindy also enjoyed travel and adventure. She lived in both California and Hawaii for a time, did a VW bus road trip through Mexico, and was thrilled to travel to Europe and Asia to visit her oldest son and his family.

Cindy was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 20 years, Norman Shipp. She is survived by her four children; Heather Bowers (John), Sol Warnock (Kelly), Grace Fitzgerald (Jake), and Bill Warnock (Allie); 11 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; and many loving nieces and nephews. Her family will dearly miss their in-person visits and video chats with her. She had a way of making each person she talked to feel like the most treasured, important, and talented person on Earth.

Cindy was quick to make friends and held them close to her heart. We, her surviving family, want to thank all her friends who have enriched her life beyond measure and comforted us with love and support in our time of mourning. We are so grateful that she made it back to her home in Wallowa County where she was able to spend her final days reconnecting with her dear friends and family. This allowed her to leave this world with peace, love, and happiness. Her heart of gold and an unparalleled sense of humor will be greatly missed by so many.

To honor Cindy, a public viewing will be held at Bollman Funeral Home in Enterprise on November 20th, 10:00 am -12:00 pm, followed by a family graveside service at Prairie Creek Cemetery. We invite everyone who loved Cindy to join us for a Celebration of Life ceremony that will be held at 4:00 pm at Hurricane Creek Grange.