

**OBITUARIES**

**Patricia E. Anderson**

1943-2021  
La Grande

Patricia Ellen Anderson, 78, of La Grande, died Dec. 3, 2021, at Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Richland, Washington. A funeral will be held Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, La Grande. A graveside service will begin at 2 p.m. Dec. 15 at the W.J. Ward Memorial Cemetery, Brookings.

Patricia was born Oct. 13, 1943, in Willits, California, to Marian (Hamilton) Lamm. She resided in Willits, California; Canyonville; Eureka and McMinnville, California; and Brookings and

La Grande. She attended Canyonville Elementary School and graduated from Brookings Harbor High in 1961. She married Richard Van Gordon in 1961 and the marriage ended in divorce in 1964. She married Charles Anderson in 1966, and they were married until his passing in 2018.

Patricia was a telephone operator for Bell Telephone and several other phone companies for 20 years.

She loved her dachshunds and the beach. She enjoyed reading, square dancing, embroidery, cooking and singing. She never met a book she didn't like. She loved meeting new people and talking.

Survivors include her children and their spouses,

Kathleen and Tony Boyd of Cove and Ramona and Chris Tuck of Island City, stepsons and spouses,



Anderson

Eugene and Peggy Anderson of Brookings and Duane and Sherry Anderson of Brookings; sister and brother-in-law, Janet and Terry Buness of Wrangell, Alaska; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of more than 50 years, Charles H. Anderson, and mother, Marian Lamm.

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

**Margaret J. (Powell) Moss**

1939-2021  
La Grande

Margaret Joan Moss, 82, of La Grande, died Nov. 13, 2021. A graveside service will be held Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. at the Summer-ville Cemetery. There will be a memorial service in the spring to celebrate her life and the lives of her son, Tracy, her nephew, Todd Rachau, and her sister, Marilyn (Powell) Rachau.

Margaret was born March 28, 1939, in Baker, to Earl Powell and Lucille Powell. Her family moved to Union for her father to work at the logging company. She attended school in Union and graduated in 1957.

On July 21, 1958, Margaret married Harold "Tony" Norman Moss at the First Christian Church in La Grande. Her greatest joy in life was her son, whom she adored. She would say her proudest accomplishment was being a mother.

Margaret loved puzzles and challenges in word games. Her creative hands

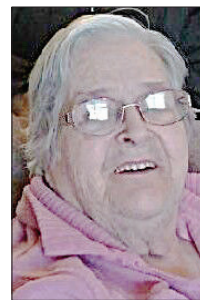
were always busy knitting and crocheting beautiful doilies and tablecloths. She was very crafty, making cherished blankets and afghans for many loved ones. She delighted in coloring bright beautiful pictures, designs, and enjoyed color in every shade, combination and blend.

Survivors include her daughter-in-law, Kathy Moss; sister, Bonnie (Powell) Lambert; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold "Tony" Moss in April 2003, and her son, Tracy Moss in November 2021.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Blue Mountain Humane Society in care of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway 97834.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).



Moss

**Vernon F. Valiant**

1930-2021  
Union

Vernon Fredrick Valiant, 91, of Union, died Nov. 24, 2021. A funeral service will be held Dec. 13 at 11 a.m. at the former Union Methodist Church.

Vernon was born May 17, 1930, in Baker, to Fred Valiant and Pauline (Olbrich) Valiant. After graduating from high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served in the World War II Occupational Forces in Japan, the Korean

War from 1950-1955 and Vietnam from 1964-1972. He retired as a lieutenant commander in 1972.

Vernon was an active member of the Lions Club, American Legion, VFW, various Masonic Orders and the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show. He served as trustee of the United Methodist Church

for many years.

Vernon was happiest out at sea. He also enjoyed gardening, roses, fishing, hunting and the mountains. He was blessed to have an additional "family by choice."

Survivors include his wife, Martha of Union; brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Marie Valiant



**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

**MONDAY, DEC. 6**

7:55 a.m. — A caller reported animal abuse on the 1600 block of Fifth Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and counseled a person.

1:05 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a juvenile involved in a disturbance at a residence at Grande Woods Apartments, 2005 Gekeler Lane. The parties separated prior to officer involvement. The officer made contact and logged information.

3:23 p.m. — A caller complained about an animal on the 1100 block of O Avenue, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and

counseled the owner.

4:13 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a resident in mental or emotional duress. An officer responded, and the Center for Human Development Inc. put a safety plan in place.

4:41 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1300 block of Seventh Street on a report of harassment and trespassed six juveniles.

7:38 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's office responded to the 200 block of North Main Street on a report of a juvenile involved in a disturbance and separated the parties involved.

9:54 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2100

block of Maple Street on a report of a domestic disturbance. The parties agreed to separate and the problem did not rise to the level of an arrest.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 7**

9:54 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of theft of services at Riverside Park. An officer made contact and will follow up.

10:09 a.m. — Local law enforcement arrested Diana Lynn Ricker, 61, on a Union County secret indictment warrant charging driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person and third-degree assault.

2:15 p.m. — A caller

reported criminal mischief on the 1100 block of Washington Avenue. Officers responded and counseled two people.

5:26 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of an abandoned vehicle at Jefferson Avenue and Fir Street. An officer responded, found the car was out of gas and resolved the situation.

6:54 p.m. — A caller reported the theft of a vehicle from a residence on the 1300 block of O Avenue, La Grande. Officers responded and attempted to find the vehicle.

7:59 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 600 block of 20th Street on a report of a suspicious person. An officer counseled one person.

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

**Holiday bazaar supports Grande Academy**

LA GRANDE — Hand-made with a Heart, a "Christmas craft bazaar," takes place Saturday, Dec. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Grande Ronde Academy, 507 Palmer Ave., La Grande. All proceeds go to support GRA, a nonprofit, nondenominational Christian private school.

**Vaccine and self-sufficiency event open to all**

LA GRANDE — The Marshallese American Network for Inter-acting Together is hosting a COVID-19 vaccine and self-sufficiency event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande. It is open to the public. To sign up call 503-208-4142. More information is available at [www.manit.org](http://www.manit.org).

— The Observer



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**Phillip Camron Miller**

August 25, 1939 - November 13, 2021



Phillip Camron Miller, 82, of La Grande, died November 13, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Phil was born August 25, 1939 in Ontario, Oregon, to Elizabeth (Bessie) McCabe Miller and Robert (Bob) Miller. He was preceded in the family line-up by two older sisters; Mary Kay Miller (Raftery) and Roberta Miller (Borgonovo), and followed by a younger brother; Francis (Frank) Xavier Miller. In 1979 Phil met Edda Schiller in La Grande. They got married and spent 42 years together. He has 3 step-children; Dawn Schiller, Terry Curtiss and Wayne Schiller. Phil was a family man and deeply devoted to his wife, children, and great-grandchildren. His grandchildren; Jeremy and Christopher Smith, Chelsie and Matthew Schiller-Curtiss were like his own children and he helped raise them in every aspect of their life. Phil loved all his grandchildren; Jade Bristol, Selina Carolson and Nicole Schiller; and many great-grandchildren. His sisters, many nieces and nephews have many fond memories and will miss him very much.

Phil moved to La Grande from Ontario when he was four years old. He graduated from La Grande High School in 1957. He was recruited to play football for Coalinga junior college in Coalinga, California. After two years he returned to La Grande to attend Eastern Oregon University where he also played football and graduated in 1961 with a bachelor's in business. During the Vietnam War, Phil, enlisted in the Marine Corps, and attended officer candidate school in Quantico, Virginia. After receiving his commission, he was sent to Okinawa for his tour of duty. After leaving the Marine Corps, he attended the University of Oregon earning his master's degree. He returned to La Grande, a city he loved and never wanted to leave. Phil worked for Union Pacific railroad for a short period. He ran Cass's Bar and Grill on Island Avenue for several years. Phil then worked for Terry Trailers for over 30 years where he eventually retired. His love for kids and sports led him to volunteer to coach Optimist football and softball for many years. Phil was always willing to go above and beyond for his family and friends. He was a very humble man, never talking about himself, instead always pointing out others strengths.

**Margaret Mary Rimbey**

July 27, 1921 - December 2, 2021

Margaret Mary Rimbey died Thursday, December 2, 2021 in her own home, surrounded by her family. She was born Margaret (Margy) Mary McGinty on July 27, 1921, in Wallasey, England, to Peter and Charolette (Welch) McGinty. At 100 years of age, she amazingly still had her natural dark hair as well as her British citizenship. She was active enough to enjoy celebrating her 100th birthday at her daughter Pam's house in La Grande, which included all her family, many coming from hundreds of miles away and receiving a beautiful letter from Queen Elizabeth II commemorating the date.

Margaret grew up the only girl in a house with 5 brothers and enjoyed an idyllic prewar childhood until losing her father at age 15. During the war, she worked at the telephone exchange in Liverpool, which carried great responsibilities due to the harrowing times. She survived bombings, endured rationing, and blackouts. Bravery was forced upon the citizenship and she often told the story that when the air raid sirens went off while she and her young girlfriends were enjoying a night at the cinema, they refused to let that "damn Hitler" take away a fun night out, but instead chose not to go to the nearest underground shelter for safety but to stay, watching the film to its end.

During this time, she met Raymond Rimbey, a handsome young US soldier from La Grande, who made one of their dates more memorable by accidentally following her like a lovesick pup into the women's loo. They were married in England at the end of the war in 1945 and Margaret came to live the rest of her life in La Grande with Raymond until his death in 2011.

Margaret was only able to return to visit her English family once in 1949. Decades of homesickness was tempered with her appreciation for the endless days of beautiful blue skies that frame the Grande Ronde Valley of Eastern Oregon.

Margaret loved being a homemaker and a mother and grandmother. She shared her British love of tea, egg cups, and British X-mas pudding (really cake) and Cadbury biscuits (really cookies).

Her three children and her six grandchildren, each in tum, enjoyed their time curled up with a book near her as she filled their ears and hearts with her beautiful north England accent. A hearty English breakfast and a house filled with the aroma of fresh baked rolls was the norm and the expected.



Margaret gave birth to three Yankee children who murdered the kings English on many an occasion. She was a generous mother. She gave the oldest, Peter, while in grade school, a microscope and a chemistry set (much to the dismay of his sister); she gave her middle child, Patricia, her gift of gab (much to the dismay of her brother); and she gave her youngest, Pamela, a love of X-mas, filling her house with light and beauty and sometimes two trees.

Margaret displayed unconditional love for all six of her perfectly wonderful grandchildren who filled her with warm memories that followed her into old age. A bit of grandma will live on in each of them: Elizabeth's dedication; Christopher's sense of humor; Colette's compassionate spirit; Blake's easy laugh; Max's broad smile; and Juliana's love of animals.

Margaret is survived by her three children; her son, Peter Rimbey of Seattle; her daughter and son-in law, Patricia and Malcolm Gordon of Eugene; her daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and David Henderson of La Grande. She is also survived by six grandchildren; Elizabeth Henderson Herman of Portland, Christopher Henderson of La Grande, Colette Gordon of Portland, Blake Gordon of Corvallis, Max Gordon of Eugene, and Juliana Joy of Seattle.

She was deeply loved. She will be forever missed.

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

**UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES**



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

**Dec. 10 — MARGARET MOSS:** 1 p.m. graveside service, Summer-ville Cemetery.

**Dec. 10 — PATRICIA ANDERSON:** 2 p.m. funeral, Faith Lutheran Church, La Grande.

**Dec. 11 — MARYANN STAHL:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Nazarene Church.

**Dec. 11 — JIM**

**TOOKE:** 1 p.m. memorial service, American Legion Post 43, La Grande.

**Dec. 12 — PHIL**

**MILLER:** 3 p.m. memorial service, Daniels-Knopp Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

**Dec. 13 — VERNON VALIANT:** 11 a.m. funeral, former Union Methodist Church.

**Dec. 19 — MARY REEDER:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Nazarene Church.

**Jan. 15, 2022 — JIM LUNDY:** 2 p.m. memorial service, Gilbert Center, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel