

OBITUARY

Roberta L. (Tibbetts) Truax

1931-2021
La Grande

Roberta Lee Truax, 90, of La Grande, died Dec. 21, 2021, at her home. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Roberta was born Oct. 29, 1931, in Hopkins, Missouri, to Robert Tibbetts and Leona (Freemyer) Tibbetts. The family later moved to Oregon and lived in both the Pendleton and La Grande areas. It was in Pendleton where Roberta met her future husband, Maurice Russell Truax. They were married on June 12, 1948.

Roberta worked in the mid-1940s as a telephone switchboard operator. In 1954, she and Maurice moved to Hopkins,

Missouri, to partner with Roberta's uncle, J. L. Nicholson, in running the family farm. Roberta helped with the farm chores, raised three children, tended a massive garden and taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School.

In the late fall of 1964 Roberta and Maurice left the farm and moved back to Pendleton. She worked as a sales clerk for J.C. Penny in Pendleton and then at the J.C. Penny in La Grande when they moved. Roberta and Maurice built and operated their own business, Valley Radi-

ator Service, in La Grande. She ran the office for the shop and did all the book-keeping, ordering and errand running.

Roberta was an avid fisherman and loved crocheting, playing pinochle and family get-togethers. She also enjoyed running the county fair booth for the local Republican Party and assisting with the precinct polling places during

elections. After Maurice passed away in 2008, Roberta started rotating residences with her children, spending the winter months in Ari-

zona with Doug, spring/summer in Idaho with Rod, and late summer/fall in Texas with Sharon. When Doug and Debbie returned to La Grande, Roberta moved with them. She loved being back where she could watch the deer wander through the neighborhood and see the beautiful mountainside from her window.

Survivors include her children, Rodney Truax of Nampa, Idaho, Sharon Hardin of Pasco, Washington, and Douglas Truax of La Grande; seven grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her siblings, Lowell Tibbetts, Denzil Tibbetts and Phyllis King.



Truax

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY, DEC. 27

9:42 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 700 block of 20th Street and disposed of drug paraphernalia.

12:10 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance in a home on the 1700 block of X Avenue, La Grande. An officer contacted both parties and explained options.

1:03 p.m. — Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of vandalism to a trash compactor at Walmart, 11619 Island Ave., Island City. A deputy made contact and took a report.

1:14 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of possible child abuse. An officer made contact and gave options.

2:49 p.m. — A caller reported animal abuse or neglect on the 300 block of 18th Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and counseled the animal's owner.

3:20 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a home on the 1800 block of Alder Street and took a report of a burglary.

5:12 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about a sex crime. An officer made contact and took a report.

10:29 p.m. — A La Grande police officer saw two suspicious vehicles at Pioneer Park and questioned the people in them.

TUESDAY, DEC. 28

5:12 a.m. — La Grande police responded to Safeway, 2111 Adams Ave., for a disturbance between a male and female. An officer resolved the situation, and the parties separated.

8:51 a.m. — A caller reported possible animal abuse on the 400 block of Fifth Street, North Powder. An animal enforcement officer made contact and will follow up.

11:08 a.m. — A caller reported a burglary at Bubbles Laundry, 2001 Adams Ave., La Grande. An officer responded and took a report.

11:48 a.m. — La Grande received a report of a suspicious person at Alliance Self Storage, 2105 East L Ave. An officer responded and talked to the subject.

12:45 p.m. — A caller reported the theft of a vehicle from the area of 49500 Highway 244, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and took a report.

1:21 p.m. — La Grande received a report of a suspicious person on the 400 block of Sunset Drive. Officers responded and counseled the subject.

4:31 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 600 block of 16th Street for a domestic disturbance. An officer took a report.

4:32 p.m. — A caller complained about a barking dog on the 1900 block of Cedar Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and warned the dog's owner.

6:35 p.m. — A caller reported animal abuse on the 1400 block of Madison Avenue, La Grande. Dispatchers logged the information for an animal enforcement officer.

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Larry E. Braden

Elgin

Larry E. Braden, 74, of Elgin, died Dec. 28, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Donna Brodhead

North Powder

Donna Brodhead, 86, of North Powder, died Dec. 24, 2021, at Grande Ronde Retirement Center, La Grande. Arrangements are by Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Halfway.

Teresa E. Hocker

La Grande

Teresa "Terri" E. Hocker, 70, of La Grande, died Dec. 13, 2021. A funeral service will be held Jan. 7, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. at the Wallowa Christian Church. Burial will be at the Wallowa Cemetery, and a reception will follow at the church. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Wanda M. Johnson

La Grande

Wanda M. Johnson, 57, of La Grande, died Dec. 25, 2021, at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Ryan Kissinger

Joseph

Ryan Kissinger, 42, of Joseph, died Dec. 17, 2021, at his home. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Patricia M. Prell

Formerly of Union

Patricia Mary Prell, 84, of Bullhead City, Arizona, and formerly of Union, died Nov. 27, 2021. Arrangements are by Dimond & Sons Silver Bell Chapel, Bullhead City.

Brian R. Spencer

La Grande

Brian R. Spencer, 83, of La Grande, died Dec. 23, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 1 p.m. Jan. 6, 2022, at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande. A graveside service will be held Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. at the Burns Cemetery. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Barbara Smith

La Grande

Barbara Smith, 88, of La Grande, died Dec. 28, 2021, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Miles F. Thompson

Elgin

Miles F. Thompson, 74, of Elgin, died Dec. 24, 2021, at Providence St. Mary Medical Center, Walla Walla. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Jerome S. Weiner

La Grande

Jerome S. Weiner, 78, of La Grande, died Dec. 28, 2021, at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Marcella M. Widell

La Grande

Marcella M. Widell, 93, of La Grande, died Dec. 28, 2021, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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

Dec. 31 — BILLY DOTY: 10 a.m. viewing, Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise; burial follows at Prairie Creek Cemetery, Joseph.

Jan. 5-6, 2022 — MICHELLE CREPEAU: Wednesday, 5-7 p.m. viewing; Thursday, 2 p.m. funeral; both at Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Jan. 6-7, 2022 — BRIAN SPENCER: Thursday, 1 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande; Friday, 1 p.m. graveside service, Burns Cemetery.

Jan. 7, 2022 — TERRI HOCKER: 2:30 p.m. funeral, Wallowa Christian Church; burial follows at the Wallowa Cemetery, then a reception at the church.

Jan. 15, 2022 — JIM LUNDY: 2 p.m. memorial service, Gilbert Center, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. — calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel

The last letter



Postal carrier Dean Varney drops off his last letter at 904 O Ave., La Grande, at 6:09 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24, 2021. Varney was joined on his final route by friends, family and neighbors. Throughout the day, numerous residents made sure to bid farewell to the retiring postman on his final day delivering letters and packages.

Alex Wittwer/The Observer

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MEETINGS

• **ENTERPRISE** — A meeting of the volunteers for January's Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, in the Tomas Conference Room, 309 S. River St., Enterprise.

BRIEFS

Cove senior lunch served twice a month

COVE — Cove senior lunches are again being served at Founders Hall on the Ascension School grounds on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Coffee and tea are available at 11:30 a.m., and lunch is served at noon.

The menu for Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022, is meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy,

corn, salad bar, rolls and spice cake.

The price is \$5 per meal and reservations are requested to ensure there is food for everyone. If you haven't been contacted or wish to participate, call Betsy Arnson at 541-568-4902 or Virginia Fischer at 1-907-299-6072 as soon as possible.

Start the new year by learning new computer skills

LA GRANDE — Training & Employment Consortium is now open by appointment and is offering free computer classes. These classes are held in person with hands-on-training. Classes run from 8:30-11:30 a.m., and pre-registration is required. To sign up or for more details, call Coral at 541-633-2084.

Classes offered in January 2022 include:

QuickBooks, Jan. 11, 12, 13 — This three-day course is based on building a sample company. Participants will create inventory accounts, make daily transactions to both vendors and customers accounts, review balance sheets and create income and expense reports.

Intro to Microsoft Word, Jan. 18 — In a one-day class designed to introduce basic word processing functions, students will learn how to create, format, save and edit documents.

Intermediate Microsoft Word, Jan. 20, 25, 26, 27 — Students familiar with the basics of word processing will learn in this four-day course how to create, format, and use the different features of tables,

place information into columns, mail merge, create and use macros and add graphics to a document.

Training & Employment Consortium is an EOE/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY dial 711. — The Observer

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