



Dale Case drives a vintage tractor down Adams Avenue, La Grande, during a parade in this undated photo. Dale Case/Contributed Photo

CASE

Continued from Page A1

that Case also has a history of service to the Northeastern Oregon community.

“Dale is an all-around great person who has great community values and is always willing to help others,” Howard said.

Innovations in wheat and canola

A number of Case’s contributions to agriculture were made while serving in many roles as a member of the Oregon Wheat Growers League and the Oregon Wheat Commission. He served on the Oregon Wheat Commission from 2010 to 2019 and was its chair in 2012 and 2013. During his tenure with the Oregon Wheat Commission, he was heavily involved in helping the commission fund research on the development of types of wheat that grow best in the Pacific Northwest. He also worked to open new markets for Oregon wheat.

Case is credited by the Columbia Basin ARC with playing an instrumental role in helping to get grain loaded and transported by rail out of the Grande Ronde Valley. This helped reduce transportation costs by reducing the need for trucking grain.

The Grande Ronde Valley farmer is also being recognized for work he has done to help make crops such as canola become more viable in the Pacific Northwest. The



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group Dale Case poses for a photo next to his John Deere tractor, which he still uses to work his fields, on Friday, April 15, 2022.

Columbia Basin ARC noted that Case was among 10 agricultural producers who formed a group to advance the growing of canola in Eastern Oregon. The group worked to secure funds from the Oregon Lottery that were shared by Oregon State University and the University of Idaho to develop a line of canola named Erica, which withstands winter conditions better than many other varieties of canola, according to the Columbia Basin ARC. This work eventually led to the development of the Amanda line of canola in 2007, which grows well in dry land and irrigated regions of Oregon, Idaho and Washington.

Case also has many years of experience working in the seed industry. It includes several years as manager of Del Monte’s seed farm in Summerville, where he was

responsible for the production of seeds for peas and other crops.

Case later worked for 16 years as Del Monte’s regional manager for seed production in Oregon, Idaho and Washington. He was responsible in this position for the production of seeds including those for sugar beets, beans, lima beans, peas and hybrid corn.

‘Doing what I thought needed to be done’

Today Case serves as the chair of a six-member board of the Oregon Agricultural Foundation. The foundation promotes and assists agricultural studies at Eastern Oregon University through the management of farm properties. The organization, when money is available, distributes funds to Eastern for the agriculture program and scholarships. The Agricultural and Natural Resource program is a cooperative partnership between Oregon State University’s College of Agricultural Sciences and EOU.

Case has raised wheat for many years on his family farm in the Alicel area, without the aid of irrigation. He said local farmers almost never ask him for advice on raising wheat.

“They all know as much about it as I do,” Case said.

He also speaks humbly of the recognition he is now receiving from Oregon State University.

“I was just doing what I thought needed to be done,” he said. “I was never looking for accolades.”



Davis Carbaugh/The Observer Bob Goss, right, and his daughter Lisa Goss pose for a photograph at the La Grande American Legion Post 43 on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. He is holding the award he received in recognition of 75 years of continuous membership in the American Legion.

GOSS

Continued from Page A1

in the late 1940s and performed around the region — Goss took part in the Portland Parade of Roses on several occasions. The longtime drummer also recalled the post’s band playing for the members in years past, as those in attendance filled the dance floor of the La Grande post.

“They invited us to a lot of places to play music for them,” Goss said.

Goss joked about often being the drum corps’ go-to driver when other members indulged at the bar after performances, bringing members to and from events as far as Portland.

“We’d go to a lot of different places and usually I was the one who would drive us home,” he said.

Of Goss’ many memories with the American Legion Post 43 over the years, the 2009 Veteran’s Day Parade in La Grande stands out. Goss was the parade’s grand marshal.

Serving the country

Goss joined the United States Navy in 1942 and worked on the crew of the LSM166 Amphibious Landing Ship in the South Pacific from 1944 through 1946. The

La Grande resident saw the war through to its conclusion, serving as a motor machinist in Okinawa, Japan, for the Allied Forces’ last major victory, on April 1, 1945 — the crew served in several locations including Pearl Harbor and throughout the Asiatic Pacific Theater. Goss’ older brother, Bill, also served in World War II, stationed in Germany and France.

Goss reminisced about the six months or so he remained in the Pacific after the war ended. While traveling back through the Panama Canal on his return to the United States, he crossed paths with another La Grande resident, Charlie Snyder — the military member was stationed at the canal to care for soldiers on their return to the states.

“There he was,” Goss said. “He was there when we left and still there to welcome us back.”

Continued legacy

Following his time in World War II, Goss played a key role in the earlier days of the American Legion organization in La Grande. The La Grande Post 43 has seen several locations over the years, such as the former Sacajawea Hotel in downtown La Grande.

“For a long time, they didn’t have anyone to run the post,” Goss said. “We’d take turns running it down here for a day or two.”

After Bob and Bill Goss returned from World War II, the brothers ran M.J. Goss Motor Company in La Grande for a number of years. Bob Goss later branched off to open his own store, Gateway Motors, from 1960 through the mid-1980s. Many around town, including officials at Post 43, remarked that Goss sold them cars or parts over the years.

In 2014, Goss took part in the Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon, which sends veterans from around the region on a free trip to Washington, D.C., to visit war monuments and memorials.

After receiving his award for 75 years of continuous membership, Goss donated his drum corps uniform from the 1940s to the American Legion, for the La Grande Post to display for years to come.

Passing down recipes

AMANA
JUST RIGHT.

70TH
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

ELGIN ELECTRIC

Ask us about FREE DELIVERY

43 N. 8th Elgin, OR 541-437-2054

L A Z B O Y

WORLD'S GREATEST RECLINER SALE

BORN 1927

GET RECLINING & GET SAVING!

Choose from an amazing selection of our greatest recliner styles and features including power, leather, swivels and more

MORRISON
only **\$649**

all sale priced to fit comfortably into your budget!

Hurry! Limited time only!

JASPER
Rocker Recliner
only **\$649**

JOSHUA
Rocker Recliner
only **\$699**

GIBSON
Rocker Recliner
only **\$799**

GLOBE furniture

• Free Delivery
• In-Store Credit
• 70 Store Buying Power
• Decorating Assistance

1520 ADAMS AVENUE La GRANDE, OREGON 97850

HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 9:30 am-6:30 pm
Sat. 9:30 am-5:30 pm
Sun. 12 noon-4 pm

(541) 963-4144 • 888-449-2704