

# In Memory of...

## MARK ALAN DREXEL



Mark Alan Drexel, 56, a resident of Rainier, Oregon, died Sunday afternoon, October 9, 2011 at the Peace Health St. John's Medical Center in Longview, Washington.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 10:30 AM at the St. Edward Catholic Church, 10990 N.W. 313<sup>th</sup> Avenue in North Plains, Oregon, with Bishop Kenneth Steiner, celebrant. Recitation of the Holy Rosary preceded the Mass at 10:00 AM

MARK ALAN DREXEL was born September 2, 1955 in Glendale, California, the son of Henry Joseph Drexel, Jr. and Elsie Agnes (Hudec) Drexel. He was raised and received his education in the communities of San Mateo, California; St. Patrick's

Parochial School in Honolulu, Hawaii; and Sunset High School in Beaverton, where he completed his schooling.

He was united in marriage to Anita M. Ellefsen on December 13, 1998 in Hillsboro, Oregon. They celebrated their 12<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary this past December. Following their marriage they made their home in the Hillsboro community, until 2000, when they moved to the Rainier community, where they have resided since.

Mark owned and operated a High Performance Auto Engines Company in Hillsboro for fifteen years and the past dozen years working as a craftsman in the woodworking industry. He also worked for the Columbia County Flood Relief Effort for three years in Vernonia, Oregon.

He was a member of the Community Action Team, the United Way of Columbia County and the Food & Shelter Resource of Columbia County.

Among his special interests he enjoyed airbrush painting, remodeling projects, Nascar Racing and he was an active volunteer in rescuing dogs and finding them loving homes. Mark also had a special love for caring for his black Labs, "Samantha" and "Thor".

Survivors include his wife, Anita M. Drexel, of the family home in Rainier, Oregon; his parents, Henry J. "Hank", Jr. and Elsie Drexel, of North Plains, Oregon; his four children and their spouses, Reed and Tina Copey, of Bellingham, Washington; Shauna Marie and Shawn Brooks, of Oregon City,

Oregon; Mark Alan Drexel, II, serving in the United States Army Reserves, of Rainier, Oregon; and Elizabeth D. and Kevin Nicholson, of Oregon City, Oregon and his two sisters and brothers-in-law, Diana Marie and Eric Strom, of Danville, California; and Judy Ann and Ward Jones, of Vancouver, Washington.

Also surviving is his granddaughter, Emily Nicholson, of Oregon City, Oregon; and his three nephews and a spouse, David M. Jones, of Seattle, Washington; Peter A. and Mylena, serving in the United States Army, of Japan; and Samuel Jones, of Vancouver, Washington.

The family suggests that remembrances may be contributions to the Building Fund, c/o St. Edward Parish, P.O. Box 507, North Plains, Oregon 97133, in his memory.

To sign the online guest book or to send a condolence to the family go to [www.fuitenrosehoyt.com](http://www.fuitenrosehoyt.com).

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove is in charge of the arrangements. (503)-357-2161



## Frank Lee Steele Sr.

Frank Lee Steele Sr. passed



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away on Thursday, October 20, 2011, at his home in Saint Helens, Oregon, with his family and close friends by his side. Frank was a long time resident of Vernonia and Columbia County, Oregon.

Frank was born April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1932 in Dow, Oklahoma to John and Mary (Boniedot) Steele. The family moved to Vernonia in 1935 where Frank attended school. In 1948, when Frank was 16, he went to work for the Vernonia Mill and worked there until it closed down. Frank also worked at Forstex - Stimson Lumber Company for 35 years. In 1953 he was married to Joyce Mollohan, of Portland, Oregon. They had five children together that they raised in Vernonia, where they resided until 1989. They then moved to Hillsboro, Oregon where they resided until retirement in 1994, after which they returned to live in Columbia County.

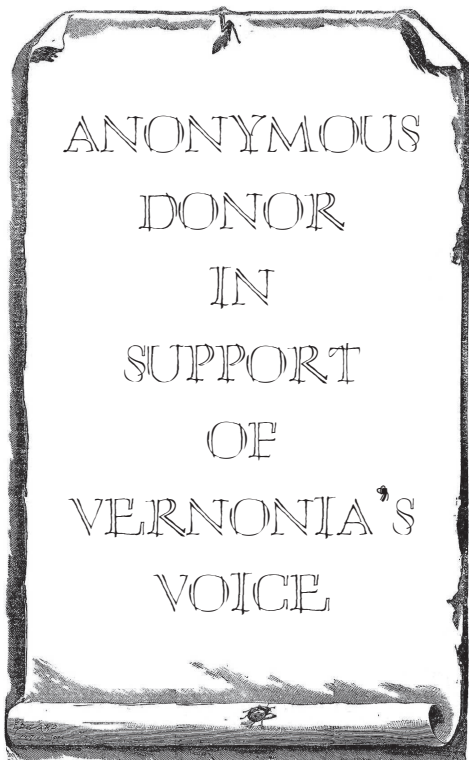
Throughout his life Frank was an avid fisherman and hunter, specifically with his life-long best friend Harvey Gore. In retirement he also enjoyed various home improvement projects as well as spending time with his family.

Frank is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Joyce Steele and their loving dog, Heidi. His five children and their families; Patricia and Virgil Lynch of Saint Helens, Oregon, Mike and Holly Steele of Clatskanie, Oregon, Karen Kjelland of Clatskanie, Oregon, Pam Lucero of Hillsboro, Oregon, and Frank Steele Jr. of Florida. 12 Grandchildren and 5 Great Grandchildren (with an additional Great Grandchild on the way). His sister Betty Bailey of Portland, Oregon and his brother John R. Steele of Yamhill, Oregon. As well as many nephews and nieces.

Frank is predeceased by both his mother and father, brothers; Claude and Clarence and two grandchildren.

Services will be held at Skyline Memorial Gardens in Portland, Oregon on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 11:00 AM A remembrance dinner will be held after the service at The Church of Jesus Christ LDS, 2755 Sykes Rd., Saint Helens, Oregon.

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Look for our next issue November 8th.



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