

Cathy Sue Cox Peplinski

Oct. 1955
– Feb. 2015

Cathy Sue Cathy Sue (Cox) Peplinski, age 59, of Spokane, Wash. and formerly of North Powder, left us peacefully on Feb. 25, 2015.

Cathy was born to Edward and Jessie (Davis) Cox on Oct. 6, 1955 in Baker City. She was raised in North Powder and Pendleton and graduated from Pendleton High School. She attended a year at Oregon State University and another year at Washington State University before permanently moving to Spokane, Wash., where she married and started her family.

After a few years working in the Central Valley School District, Cathy began her 25-year career with Blankenship and Associates, where she made many friends within the commercial lighting industry.

Cathy loved spending time with her family, es-

pecially birthday get-togethers and sleepovers with her grandsons. She was an avid golfer and enjoyed time with friends at Deer Park Golf Course. In her younger years, she was a skilled and enthusiastic snow skier. She had a passion for Gonzaga basketball and loved caring for her various pets and horses.

Cathy's favorite vacations were travelling to Hawaii, San Antonio, Tex., and Phoenix, Ariz. with Gary.

She is preceded in death by her father, Edward and her sister, Lucinda.

She is survived by her mother Jessie Cox; her long-time partner Gary Britt; daughter Nicole Leonard (husband Zac); son Matthew Peplinski (wife Meriah); her grandsons Blaine and Garrett Leonard; her niece and nephew Kelsey and James Higley; and brother-in-law Tony Higley.

Cathy's family would like to give special thanks to the Holy Family ICU nurses and doctors for her exceptional care. A Memorial Service was held at 1 p.m., Monday, March 2, at Opportunity Presbyterian Church, located at 202 N. Pines Road, Spokane Valley, Wash. Kevin Lind officiated. In lieu of flowers, her family requests a donation to the Inland Northwest Blood Center.



Jeanette Kellar

Oct. 1928
– April 2015

Jeannette Kellar, 86, of Colorado Springs, passed away April 10, 2015. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, April 17, at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Colo. Arrangements are under the direction of Memorial Gardens Cemetery and Funeral Home.

Mrs. Kellar, the second of five children, was born Oct. 28, 1928 in North Powder to William Ernest and Vivian Clare McGrath Davis. She grew up on the John W. Davis ranch, four miles west of North Powder, which was homesteaded by her great grandparents, John Samuel and Susan Dealy Davis in 1872.

The family lived on the ranch until 1937 when Kellar's parents and grandfather purchased what was originally Sanders Ranch from their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Holmes. Kellar is the descendant of early pioneer families in Union and Baker Counties, those of her great grandparents, Patrick and Mary McGrath, and Alfred and Ida Sisley Gardner. Her grandfather, Walter Vincent McGrath, a coal dealer, served as mayor in North Powder.

She attended elementary school in North Powder and graduated from North Powder High School in May 1946. She was active in athletics and orchestra, playing saxophone in high school. Jeanette attended Eastern Oregon College of Education in La Grande from fall 1946 to spring 1947. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics from

Oregon State College in 1951.

In 1965 Jeanette earned a Teachers Certificate from Oregon College of Education in Monmouth, Ore. She received her Masters of Education at Lesley College in 1987. She retired from 20 years of teaching in 1993 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Jeanette Davis married Robert Harvey Kellar on Nov. 25, 1957 at the First Presbyterian Church in Baker. Jeanette's husband's lifetime military career has taken the family all over the world. However, after their three children were born, they made their home in Colorado Springs.

Jeanette is survived by her husband, Robert H. Kellar of Colorado Springs, Colo.; daughters and their husbands: Michelle Ann and Bruce Vinson, Kimber Lee and Michael Haley of Las Vegas, Nev., and Kelly and Andrew Beavor of Colorado Springs, Colo.; three grandchildren: Allan Robert Klingbeil, Robert George Beamish, and Cambria Nicole Beamish; siblings and their spouses Jessie Lou Cox of Spokane, Wash. and William Fred and Marilee Davis of Nampa, Idaho; brother-in-law, Kenneth Myers of McMinnville, Ore.; and nieces and nephews: Carol Lynn and Roger Hildebrandt, Martin Davis and Anne Myers, Scott Jerome and Tamara Myers, Jeffrey John Davis and Debra Kay Davis.

She was preceded in death by her father, William E Davis; mother, Vivian C Davis in 2008 at the age of 100 years; infant brother, Walter John Davis; sister, Betty Jean Myers; brother-in-law, Edward Lee Cox; and nieces, Cathy Sue Peplinski and Lucinda Higley.

Cards and letters may be sent to 3030 Enchanted Circle, W. Colorado Springs, Colo. 80917. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Care and Share Food Bank of Southern Colorado.



Russell David Taylor, Sr.

Oct. 1947
– April 2015

Russell David Taylor, Sr. was born on Oct. 25, 1947 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Baker City. Russell passed away from end-stage diabetes April 6, 2015 at his home with his family.

Russell lived most of his life in Baker City where he received his education and learned to tinker on cars, one of his favorite pastimes -- along with watching the Oregon Trail Blazers and Seattle Seahawks with his nephew Andrew.

Russell met his future wife Lola Dodson in the fall of 1968. They married Nov. 27, 1969, later celebrating 45 years of marriage with five children and their spouses, 22 grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and a great grandson on the way.

In 1970 they bought and operated Baker Delivery Service. Relocating to Ketchikan, Alaska, Russell drove cab for three years then moved to the Oregon Coast.

Russell worked as a greens keeper for the Agate Beach Golf Course for a year. He was a distributor for the *Oregonian* newspaper for five years. Moving back to Baker City from 1983 to 1986 they

owned and operated Baker Taxi. Developing Type I diabetes, Russell was unable to work for some time. Russell drove for Pizza Hut for 15 years until being injured by a falling tree that left him badly disabled on Oct. 3, 2007.

He was preceded in death by both parents, Jack and Hattie Taylor; brother Ronnie Dean Taylor; sister-in-law Nancy Taylor; mother and father in law Joyce and Wally Short; brothers in law Mike and Lyle Dodson; all grandparents; and several aunts and uncles.

Russell is survived by his wife Lola (Dodson) Taylor; son Russell, Jr. and his wife Autumn Taylor and family; Daughter Yvette and her husband David Dykstra and family; son Christopher and his wife Reanna Taylor and family; son Curtis and wife Kellie Taylor and family; daughter Kristy and Zane Rice and family; sister-in-law Shirley Taylor and family; brother Bill Taylor; sisters Joan Mitts, Debra Davey, Melonie Daniels, Valerie Taylor, and families; several aunts, uncles, and cousins; and many children adopted by love -- you all know who you are.

There will not be a formal service, but those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Russell may do so to help defray end-of-life service expenses through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Ore. 97834. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.



James Edward Johnson

May 1940 – April 2015

James Edward Johnson, 74, of Elgin, passed away on April 10, 2015 at his home from mesothelioma. A Memorial Mass will be held at a later date and time to be announced.

James was born in Bend, Ore., on May 4, 1940 to Willard and Helen Johnson. He was raised in Anchorage, Alaska and attended Anchorage High School. His favorite subject was auto shop where he learned to work on cars and small planes. In 1958 at the age of 18, he entered the Navy where he served three years. During his stint in the service he went through helicopter training.

In 1961 James began working at Transport Dynamics in Santa Ana, Calif., where he became a lead for the production department for six years. James also worked at Ford Aerospace for 14 1/2 years in Newport Beach, Calif.

In 1966 James met Toni Mankowsky in Fountain Valley, Calif. They married on Dec. 23, 1966. Jim and Toni remained in California and welcomed two boys into their lives, James Edward Johnson II and Kirk Alan Johnson.

James enjoyed riding his motorcycles and re-

building cars to keep them running as well as playing on his ham radio and talking to people in Alaska about his life there. He also loved boating at Lake Mohave, Nev., camping at Katherine's Landing in Laughlin, Nev., enjoying dinner at the Queen Mary, and fishing with his family and friends. In 2010 James and Toni retired and moved to Elgin to be closer to family, most especially their grandchildren Chris and Makayla.

He was preceded in death by his son James Johnson II; his parents Helen and Willard Johnson; and brother Robert Kacer II.

James is survived by his wife Toni Johnson; son and daughter-in-law Kirk and Stacy Johnson and their children Chris and Makayla Johnson, all of Elgin; a sister and brother-in-law Leita and Floyd Green of Weston, Ore.; and brother and sister-in-law Steve and Carol Kacer of Hemet, Calif.

James had great wit and a wonderful sense of humor. He will be so missed.

Those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of James may do so to the Wounded Warrior Project through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Ore. 97834. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Death Notices

Roy Grover, 86, of Baker City passed away on April 10, 2015 at his residence. Arrangements are being handled through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, Ore. 97814.

Beverly "Gail" (Butterfield) Reitz, 72, died at her home in California. A graveside service will be held Monday, April 27 at 10 a.m. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

William Shelley, 92, of Baker City passed away on April 14, 2015 while at Settlers Park in Baker City. Arrangements are being handled through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, Ore. 97814.

Margaret Iva Griffith

Dec. 1927 – April 2015

Margaret "Maggie" Iva Munn Griffith was born in Baker City on Dec. 1, 1927 to Mary and John Munn. They lived in various places all over Oregon during her childhood; the Unity area was her favorite.

Graduating from Baker High School in 1946, Margaret married Jim McElroy and had daughter Julie in 1947. The two divorced soon after.

Margaret married Elton Griffith in 1949, and they moved to the Dixie Creek Ranch. Daughters Ellen and Marylin completed the family unit.

Margaret was active in the Huntington community for 50 years, leading 4-H clubs, Sunday school classes at the Methodist Church, chaparoning school field trips and events, and holding various offices in Grange.

They moved from their ranch in 1998 to a senior park in Ontario, Ore. Margaret was active in the Ontario Nazarene Church, hosting a weekly Bible study for many years.

"Maggie" entered Presbyterian Community Care Center Aug. of 2013.

She was preceded in death by her husband Elton and grandson Roy Busby.

Survivors include three daughters and son-in-law, two grandsons, and five great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life for Margaret will be held Saturday, April 18, 2015 at the VFW Hall in Huntington, Ore. at 2 p.m. with dinner to follow. In lieu of flowers, memoriums may be made to the Chapel Piano Fund at PCCC. The family wishes to thank PCCC for their wonderful, loving care of Maggie.



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