

Leta Ann (Heck) Fischer

Oct. 1958 – June 2015

Leta Ann (Heck) Fischer, 56, of Baker City, died June 5, 2015 at her residence. A memorial service for Leta is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2015 at the Calvary Baptist Church in Baker City. Pastor Dave Deputy will officiate.

Leta was born Oct. 8, 1958 in Bismarck, ND to Joseph P. Heck and Agnes E. (Hoffman) Heck. Leta graduated from Baker High School in 1977 and became a daycare provider.

In May of 1988 Leta married Landon Fisher and together they had three sons and a daughter.

Leta enjoyed taking care of children and was self-employed for 30 years when she retired in 2008.



She was a devoted wife and mother and was 100 percent committed to the health and well-being of all of her daycare children, who she considered her "kids".

Leta was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church, enjoyed going to Bible studies, and was a member of the church hostess committee. She also enjoyed ceramics, jigsaw puzzles, baking, lots of family time, and hiking with her husband Landon.

Leta is survived by four sisters; two brothers; her husband Landon; parents Joe and Agnes Heck of Baker City; daughter Jacque Fischer of La Grande; sons Jeff Fischer of Sherwood, Ore. and Jason Fischer of Boise, ID; Jake Fischer of Baker City; and her three grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by two sets of grandparents, Pevis and Anna Heck, and Timothy and Catherine Hoffman.

Memorial contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer Association of Oregon through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, Ore. 97814.

Wanda June Dima

1950 – June 2015

Wanda June Dima, 65, of Baker City died June 9, 2015. There will be a private graveside service for Wanda at Mt. Hope Cemetery on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 11 a.m. Pastor Jesse Whitford of the Baker City Christian Church will officiate. A reception will follow at Wanda's home.

Wanda lived her entire life in Baker City and lived it to the fullest. Unselfish to a fault, she would have never wanted her obituary to be a sad, morose statement that caused those who knew her sadness. She would have wanted it to be a celebration of her life and a cause for all who loved her to reminisce about the good times we had with her.

Wanda was a strong-willed woman and refreshingly honest: someone you could go to and get a true opinion on things and know that sugar-coating was out the window. She was steadfast in her beliefs but also willing to hear the other side of the story. She carried on a life long war with dirt and dust keeping an impeccable home as those of us who visited her know. She enjoyed spending time in her flower garden and making her home and yard into a source of pride. Many summer evenings were spent with family under her apple tree chatting the hours away with belly laughs and libations. An impeccable cook, Wanda was also delighted in a night out and loved any restaurant that could make a perfect martini (Grey Goose, straight up, and don't forget the olives)! Wanda very much enjoyed being outside and taking advantage of what living in Baker City had to offer.

Camping in the mountains and boating at Phillips Lake and Brownlee Reservoir always brought her joy. Traveling and getting into mischief with her sister Charmaine was always a source of enjoyment.

Her QVC addiction was legendary, putting her on a first name bases with the UPS man and constantly buying thoughtful gifts for family and friends. She touched the hearts of many people in her life through her work at Dr. Heizer's office and managed his many rental properties.

Losing Mom was a devastating event and our sorrows are many. That being said, we choose to celebrate her and the remarkable life she lived. Don't cry because she is gone, smile because she was here.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Shirley Smith.

Survivors include her father, Kenneth Smith; sister, Charmaine Boesch; children, Sandy and Brian Fosnough; niece, Amy Brownell; and a grandson, Jett Hulén.



Betty Bernice Cox Vanderwall

March 1929
– June 2015

Betty Vanderwall, 86, a resident of Baker City and long-time Haines area resident, died June 18, 2015 at Settlers Park. Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 1 p.m. in Coles Tribute Center. Mr. Clifford Cole officiated.

A private family interment followed at the Haines Cemetery with a later gathering at the Haines Baptist Church.

Betty was one of the most amazing and special ladies in the world. As most people that know her say, "She is one tough cookie!" Her heart was made of gold and she loved helping people. She was so proud of her family and loved them unconditionally.

Betty was born in Hermiston, Ore. to Emery and Ollie Young Cox, and raised in Heppner and Butte Creek until moving to Haines in the Eighth Grade.

Betty was the oldest of four children.

Betty and her sister Anita Geraldine "Geri" Riggs left our world on the same exact day, just hours apart.

Betty had a difficult life due to medical problems, but she did not let that slow her down. She never gave up. She was the right hand helper on the farm with her parents, milking cows before and after school, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, plus missing months of school during harvest. Betty was Valedictorian of the last graduating class of Muddy Creek High School. She was a cheerleader and a member of the Riding Club.

Betty and Bert were married Aug. 6, 1948, in Winnemucca, Nev. They lived in the North Powder area and then at Muddy Creek. Betty was the proud mother to three daughters: Rhea, Hilda and Roberta.



Bert and Betty bought Anthony Lakes Summer Resort in 1960. Betty followed Bert as he worked construction in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon, coming back to North Powder "every" weekend to work at Anthony Lakes.

Later she worked at Anthony Lakes Resort at the Ski Shop and cooked. Betty sacrificed so much for her family.

Betty was famous for her homemade pies and fantastic potato salad. People drove for miles just to enjoy her wonderful pies at Anthony Lakes during the summer.

Betty loved her garden, flowers, and canning. She won Grand Champion at the Baker County Fair with her Gladiolas (even though Bert made her take them). She also loved to play cards.

Betty loved her church family. She was a member of the Haines First Baptist Church for over 60 years. Betty was Sunday School Superintendent and taught for years. She had an incredible voice, and sang.

Betty will be missed by so many. She loved the staff at Settlers Park; they became her extended family.

Betty is preceded in death by the love of her life, Bert; parents, Emery and Ollie Cox; brother Edward Cox; nieces Cathy and Lucinda Cox, and Anita Geraldine "Geri" Riggs; and grandson-in-law Mike Osborn.

She is survived by sister Donna Marie Babbitt; brother-in-law Coy Riggs; daughters Rhea (Jim) Patton, Hilda (Bill) Knight, and Roberta Vanderwall /Paul Paine; grandchildren Kristie Patton Osborn, Bert (Tobey) Huddleston, Wendy (Kelly) Haufle Secl, Amanda (Travis) Haufle Bowman, Miryka (Bill) Huddleston Donovan, and Riley Huddleston; and grandchildren Drew and Emrie Osborn, Teague and Kellen Huddleston, Peyton and Cooper Secl, Tyler, Kason and Kodi Lynn Bowman, and Owen and Madison Donovan.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions in Betty's memory may direct them to Doernbecher Children's Hospital or the Haines Baptist Church, which may be done through the Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, Ore. 97814.

Lavone Millicent "Millie" George

1919 – June 2015

Lavone Millicent "Millie" George, 96, a lifetime Baker County resident, passed away June 19, 2015 in Hermiston, Ore.

A graveside service for Millie is scheduled for 9 a.m., Saturday, June 27, 2015 at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Pastor Jesse Whitford from Baker City Christian Church will officiate. Visitation for Millie is scheduled for Friday between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street in Baker City. A reception in her memory will follow the service at the Sunridge Room at the Sunridge Inn.

Millie was born and raised in the Keating Valley with her two brothers and parents. She attended the Keating school until her high school years when she transferred into Baker City, where she graduated in 1936.

Millie married her high school sweetheart Roland George that same year. Roland and Millie were married for over 70 years at the time of his



death in 2007. The two spent most of their years in the dairy business and in their later years a cow-calf operation in the Wingville area.

In addition to being an active partner in the dairy and ranching business, Millie also worked for many years at Power's Shoe Store and Neuberger and Heilner Department Store where she had a large following of loyal customers.

Millie was involved with local 4-H clubs and activities for over 43 years and in 1997 she was recognized as Legacy Woman of the Year by the Baker County Chamber of Commerce.

Millie is preceded in death by her husband, Roland; parents; brothers; two infant sons; grandson Bryan Craner; great-grandson Carson Kaemming; and sons-in-law Ray Jones and David Craner.

She is survived by daughters Annette and her husband Greg Swaim and Linda Jones; a granddaughter, Sherri Kaemming and her husband Gary; great-grandsons, Chris and Sean Kaemming and his wife Carlee, and Jamieson and wife Allison Livengood.

Memorial contributions may be made to the 4-H club of Baker County or the Baker City Christian Church which may be done through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, Ore. 97814.

Anita Geraldine "Geri" Riggs

April 1932 – June 2015

Anita Geraldine "Geri" Riggs, 83, of Baker City, died Thursday, June 18 at The Wildflower Lodge Assisted Living and Memory Care in La Grande.

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held at Mount Hope Cemetery at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 in Baker City.

Geri was born April 4, 1932 to Emery and Ollie (Young) Cox in Hermiston, Ore.

She was raised in Haines and attended the Muddy Creek School, graduating from North Powder High School.

Geri went to work for Jones Truck Line as a bookkeeper. It was there that she met her future husband Coy, when he came in to apply for a job. They were married June 3, 1961 in Boise, Idaho. Coy's job took them all over the United States,



from Hawaii to Mississippi, as he was building roads, dams, and airports. Coy and Geri bought their first travel trailer in 1974 and at one point they lived in a 35-foot space for five years. They never took for granted a moment and spent their days off together exploring the area they were living in at the time, be it the Carlsbad Caverns, NM, or Luckenbach, Tex.

Geri especially loved the outdoors, mountains, traveling, and sightseeing. She enjoyed gardening and loved spring and country western music, especially Reba McEntire.

Geri was preceded in death by her parents; brother Edward Cox; sister Betty Vanderwall, who passed only five hours before her on June 18; and nieces Cindy Higley and Cathy Peplinski.

Geri leaves behind loving husband Coy and sister Donna Babbitt. She will always be remembered for her beautiful smile.

Donations in Memory of Geri may be made to Heart n' Home Hospice 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.

Opal Valeen Creger

March 1933 – June 2015

Opal Valeen Creger, 82, of Baker City, passed away Monday, June 15, 2015 at her home. A graveside service will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at Mount Hope Cemetery. Vault interment will follow. Visitation will be held at Coles Tribute Center from 4-7 p.m. Friday, June 19, 2015.

Opal was born on March 2, 1933 in Blackfoot, Idaho. She was the fifth of eight children born to Mable and Arden (Bill) Packer. Though inactive in later years, Opal was baptized into the LDS Church in Idaho Falls, Idaho at age 8 and watched the temple being built close to her home.

Opal lived in Idaho Falls, Idaho and Portland, Ore. before moving to Baker City in 1945. She married Lyle Creger in 1953 and was later divorced. She enjoyed being involved in her children's activities which included serving as 4-H cooking and sewing leader and as Cub Scout den mother.

Opal held various jobs, including telephone operator, laundry worker, and waitress. She moved to Pendleton, Ore. in 1966, working at restaurants and the Oregon State Hospital. In 1969, she decided to go to nursing school. This began her love of nursing and developed into a long and rewarding career. She retired in 1994 and filled her time volunteering at the hospital and Community Connections.

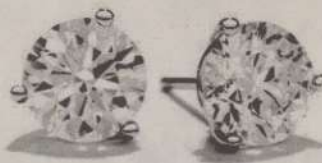
Opal loved her family and is survived by five children, Sharon Knudsen (Gary) of Hines, Ore., Stephen Allred (Wendy) of Reno, Nev., Michael Creger of Portland, Ore., Kurtis Creger (Lorna) of Pendleton, Ore., and Shawna Empey (Ernest) of Pasco, Wash.; brother Arden Packer (Ruth) of Salem, Ore.; sisters Erma Wright, Baker City, and Nelda Burns, Baker City; 20 grandchildren; 54 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Opal was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Elden Packer and Oral Packer; and two sisters, Mable Arminta Packer and Berniece Holden.

Opal lived a rewarding life and will be greatly missed by family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital. This may be done through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, Ore. 97814.



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