

Juanita Helen Herman

Jan. 1922 – June 2015

Juanita Helen Herman, 93, of La Grande, formally of Baker City, passed away at home with her family by her side on Monday, June 22, 2015. At her request, there will be no service.

Helen was born Jan. 16, 1922 in Jasonville, Ind. to Curtis and Lily (Harris) Michael. She attended Christ Hospital School of Nursing, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She met and married Robert Kingman. Later on she married Herschel Kelly, and finally Don Herman.



Helen was a wonderful and dedicated nurse and a devout Christian. She loved to study the scriptures whenever she had free time.

Helen is survived by five children, Louis Kingman and his wife Pat of Wilsonville, Ore.; Margaret Kingman of La Grande; John Kingman of Portland, Ore.; Mary Karl and her husband Mark of La Grande, and Nancy Simonis and her husband Dustin of North Powder; grandchildren Kate and Mark, Camille, Spencer and Hannah, Ashley, Josh and Amy, Nick and Kristi, Marie and Garrett, Nate, Jayme and Joe, and Dustin and Brittany; great-grandchildren Levi, Finley, Quinn, Sidera, Theda, Cabe, Mia, Cecily, Tanner, and Shaun.

She was preceded in death by her husband Don Herman and her parents Curtis and Lily Michael.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovlandfuneralchapel.com.

Catharine Johanna (Leggett) Ott

Jan. 1922 – June 2015

Catharine Johanna (Leggett) Ott, of Baker City, returned to her heavenly home on Sunday, June 21, 2015 at the age of 93. Her devotion to her family and her firm belief in God supported her in her final days and ultimately gave her peace. Catharine was immersed in the Christian community that would be her lifelong support from an early age. As a member of the United Methodist Church, she served in numerous leadership capacities with the United Methodist Women, as well as at the Conference level, devoting many hours to serving others.

Catharine was born to parents Robert L. Leggett and Virgie Shaver on Jan. 1, 1922 in Seattle, Wash. As a young girl, Catharine grew up near the Ballard Locks in Washington before her family moved to Baker City in 1935. Catharine's family lived at the Balm Creek Mine where she and her siblings rode the school bus to Baker City to attend school. In her late teens, Catharine and her sister, Shirley, lived with a family in South Baker so they could attend Baker High School. One of Catharine's passions was dancing and she shared many accounts of dances in Sparta and Baker City, twirling on the dance floor with her brother, Bill.

On one of those evenings in South Baker, a young man, named Bob, approached Catharine and offered her a ride on the handlebars of his bicycle. Bob was so smitten with Catharine's beauty and kindness that he determined at that moment there could be no other girl as amazing as her! He courted her for a short time before asking for her hand in marriage.

On Dec. 2, 1939, Catharine married the love of her life and soul mate, Robert Vernon Ott. Because of Catharine's age, they "hopped the border," and were married in Weiser, Idaho. For the next 72 years, they were nearly inseparable, holding hands wherever they went.

Catharine and Bob raised two sons, Robert Lewis Ott and Billy Lee Ott. Catharine and Bob were extremely involved parents, serving as leaders for Scout troops to youth groups for the United Methodist Church and any other activity their boys were involved in—sports, leadership, you name it! Catharine and Bob served as surrogate parents to numerous friends of their boys throughout the years, often remembered for their generosity of a hot meal and tire chains for college students traveling the winter roads of Eastern Oregon.

Upon the onset of WWII, Catharine and Bob vol-

unteered their services to the war effort by spending time together on top of the former Antler Hotel as Civil Service Air Ground observers for two years. Catharine spent many years as a homemaker, known for her cinnamon twists while the boys were young, but also worked as the head Baker County Tax Collector for 10 years. She also served as an "unofficial" matron of the jail and transport monitor for the Sheriff, Delbert Dixon. In addition, Catharine was commissioned as a Notary Public, and worked as a secretary for Lyle Laeger Real Estate, as well as appointed to the Baker County Budget Board, volunteering for five years.

Catharine and Bob, as well as the rest of the family, were outdoor enthusiasts. They spent numerous weekends camping and fishing with various friends in their trailer at places such as Phillips Lake, and an annual ritual of "opening weekend" at Unity Reservoir, Two-Color campground in the Eagle Cap Wilderness, and a couple of cross-country treks. Pinochle and picnics were essential to every outing.

Catharine and Bob were also actively engaged as grandparents and great-grandparents. Catharine was notorious for turning cartwheels, jump roping, building snow caves, climbing into bunk beds and traveling with Bob to multiple ballgames throughout the state to watch her grandchildren and great-grandchildren compete.

Catharine was known as "Grandma Ott" to many youth throughout Baker and was loved by everyone's lives she touched.

Catharine appropriately chose Father's Day to rejoin her "Daddy." Just like Bob did for 72 years, he is now holding Catharine in his arms, once again.

Catharine is survived by her sons Dr. Robert Ott of Damascus, Ore., and Billy Ott and his wife Carmen of Baker City; a granddaughter, Colleen (Ott) Grigg and her husband, Mark and their children of Moses Lake, Wash.; and a grandson, Steven Ott and his wife Jennifer of Damascus, Ore.; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Ott; her sister, Shirley (Leggett) Guyer; and her brothers, Albert and Billy Leggett; as well as her parents.

A memorial service was held at the Baker United Methodist Church, Saturday, June 27 at 10 a.m. with a lunch reception following. Pastor Ralph Lawrence of Boise, Idaho conducted the service.

The family would especially like to thank the staff of Heart n' Home Hospice & Palliative Care for their constant, attentive treatment and loving care. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Baker United Methodist Church or Best Friends of Baker, Inc. in care of Gray's West and Co. Pioneer Chapel.

Patty E. (Gelo) Hunter

Feb. 1921 – June 2015

Patty E. (Gelo) Hunter, 94, of Baker City passed away on Sunday, June 21, 2015 at Meadowbrook Place. Her service was held at Meadowbrook Place Sunday, June 28 at 2 p.m. A graveside service will take place in Benton, Ill. at a later date.

Patty was born Feb. 28, 1921 in Illinois, the daughter of Ila (Stauffer) Gelo and Anthony Gelo. She was raised with her brother F.B. Clarke in Benton, Ill. Patty married Thomas C. Hunter on Dec. 24, 1940. They celebrated nearly 68 years of marriage and had one son, Francis Clark Hunter.

Patty worked as a secretary and stenographer in the mayor's office and also for many years at the

Benton School District. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Benton.

After her husband's death, Patty remained in Benton for several years, later moving to Baker City in 2012 to be closer to her extended family in Oregon. She was a kind and generous spirit, and we are grateful for the time we had with her.

Patty Hunter is survived by her son Clark Hunter (Eve), grandson Lucas Hunter (Chantelle), and great-grandson Travis, all from Toronto, Canada; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Tommy; brother F.B. Clarke; sister-in-law Zona Clarke; brother John A. Clark; and sister-in-law Ella Mae Clark.

The family would like to thank the staff at Meadowbrook Place for their loving care and support.

Alice Marie (Stroud) Williamson

Dec. 1935 – June 2015

Alice Marie (Stroud) Williamson, 79, of La Grande died June 6, 2015 at Grande Ronde Hospital. A Viewing was held at Loveland Funeral Chapel on Thursday, June 11, 4-7 p.m. A Funeral Service was held at Loveland Funeral Chapel on Friday, June 12 at 10 a.m.

Alice was born on Dec. 15, 1935 in Williston, ND to Leland and Emma (Edd) Stroud. She attended Condon High School in Condon, Ore., and studied Agribusiness at Eastern Oregon University.

She was first married to Jim Devine. From that marriage she had two children, Susie and James Devine; they later divorced. She remarried John H. Williamson, and together they had two children, Christine and John Leo Williamson, which also ended in divorce. Later, she had a daughter, Beth Williamson.

Alice was an incredibly gifted child, an avid pianist by the 6th grade. Her musical talent spanned from the piano to the clarinet, with an occasional interest for the accordion. Her sheer joy was reading and writing, and was a passion of hers throughout her life.

Because Alice was such a quick learner, she had

many hobbies, and activities. Her zest for life never slowed down. Alice was an award-winning photographer and quilter. Many family members and friends have the honor of owning one of her treasures. Another area of interest was computers, technology, and web design; she often built many websites. Once she became so involved in the internet, she also began researching genealogy as well.

Alice was a telephone operator for The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company in Arlington, Ore. from 1953 to 1955, and if many have heard the story before, she was there the day they turned on the 8 bar.

Alice's heart and soul truly revolved around her children and grandchildren. Alice was a dedicated mother and grandmother. She encouraged all of them to seek out the best of themselves and in life.

She is survived by her children, Sue Carner of Lincoln City, Ore., James Devine of Sandpoint, Idaho, Christine Carlson (Bryan Stuckman) of La Grande, and Beth Schmidt (John) of Sacramento, Calif.; brother, Donald Stroud of Anchorage, Alaska; sister, Bobby Joe Adlard of Haines, Ore.; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins of Seattle, Wash.; grandchildren, Amanda, Laura, Trevor, Jeffery, Rachel, Steven, Donald, Lucas, Nathan, Parker, and Claire; and all of her great-grandchildren.

Alice was preceded in death by her parents, Leland and Emma; her son, John Leo Williamson; and great-granddaughter, Laynee Stewart.

Death Notices

Sharon Gobindpuri-Rowe, 38, of Baker City died June 23, 2015 at her residence. A memorial service will be planned for a future date and will take place in Ontario, Canada. Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel is assisting the family with arrangements.

Jimmy Lloyd Rea, Jr., 63, a resident of Baker City died Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at Saint Alphonsus in Nampa, Idaho. Services are under the direction of Coles Tribute Center.

Steve Sheridan, long-time resident of the Halfway area, recently passed away. He was 67. Services are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Ore. 97834. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

MayDay Recognized at Conference

A spontaneous visit by Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum resulted in recognition of MayDay, Inc. at the annual conference of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (OCADSV).

While in Baker City in early June, the attorney general happened to walk by the MayDay office on Main Street. Noticing the sign on the front of the building, she decided to stop in for a visit. A MayDay advocate greeted her, answered questions and showed her around the office.

Last week, as the keynote speaker at the OCADSV conference, Rosenblum cited MayDay as an example of the important work being done by agencies across the state to combat domestic violence and sexual assault and to provide needed support to victims. She specifically recognized the achievements of MayDay Executive Director Milli Joseph, who met with her at the conference.

Rosenblum's presentation at the conference focused on the needs of victims and the importance of local efforts to reduce violence. She also discussed legal changes recently passed or being considered by the Oregon Legislature and how they could affect crime victims and the agencies who serve them. Some of those bills will add protections for victims and increase consequences for offenders.



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