

Norma Smith

Aug. 1919 - July 2015



Norma Smith, 95, of Baker City, died July 21, 2015. Her funeral service will be held Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 2 p.m. at Cole's Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, in Baker City. Pastor Lennie Spooner of the First Church of the Nazarene officiating. Friends are invited to join the family for a reception following the service. Interment will follow at 4 p.m. at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Norma was born at Sparta, Oregon on Aug. 28, 1919 to Clyde Cassius Macy and Elizabeth Jane Butterfield. She was one of six siblings. And no, Norma did not have a middle name. She always said she got short changed because there were too many kids! Norma was raised in Baker City and attended school here. When she was quite young she met and fell in love with Mark Bernerd Smith and they were married in Jan. of 1935. They celebrated 64 anniversaries. They had two children, a son, Mark Jr. and a daughter Michael. After raising both of her children, Norma began working for Montgomery Ward in their credit department where she was employed for a number of years. She left Wards to begin her own business, Merle Norman Cosmetics. She was successful in this venture and was very proud of it. She really enjoyed her many and varied customers over the years.

Norma participated in a number of local activities during her life. She was involved in Scouting and was a Girl Scout leader, a member of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority and an active member of the Baker Golf Club. Playing golf was one of her favorite past times. Norma enjoyed traveling and was always game for an adventure. Maybe this came from her family bloodline which was traced back to the Mayflower. Along with numerous vacations to the Oregon Coast, she also traveled with Mark and her granddaughter, Robin, to the United Kingdom. Robin fondly remembers this trip and learning new things together...even the misadventure of them losing track of her Granddad during one of the tour stops!

She also traveled to Grand Cayman with family where they all enjoyed the beautiful beach and different cuisine. She took an Alaskan cruise with Michael and Bob, and put up with Bob teasing her about making use of the "poop" deck. She was fearless on the steep train ride on the White Pass and Yukon and the huge gondola ride at Juno. Norma and Mark also enjoyed many family picnic outings over the years in the surrounding wilderness of Baker County, making lots of wonderful memories.

Norma and Mark would host their grandchildren for sleep overs often. They remember Norma always reading before bedtime, golf on the television and in the summer, fresh strawberries picked from Norma's own little patch for breakfast. Robin loved the Barbie outfits that her grandma made for her and especially a poncho she made Robin that had bright red fringe and number of buttons. It was so cool!

Norma was artistic. She could sew, paint and design. She made decorative figurines, outdoor Christmas decorations, and was most proud of her homemade crêche. Norma was an avid reader and gardener, spending many hours tending to her roses, petunias and other flora.

Norma enjoyed sharing her family history. She told stories about her ancestors that traveled the Oregon Trail, of her parents humble beginnings, her father's work in the Eagle Mountains and her mother's years as a waitress at Baker's Royal Cafe. She would share a story about the visit of a young U.S. Senator to Baker City who was on the campaign trail, John F. Kennedy and of shaking his hand. She also had a chance meeting with a handsome young actor, Clint Eastwood, when he was here filming "Paint Your Wagon". They ran into each other's grocery carts one day at the local grocery store. Norma was most proud of her brothers, Johnny, Billy and Bobby and their service to the U.S. during World War II and her sister, Pauline who signed up too and served on the mainland. She would tell of their assignments, their injuries and their return home to many a listeners.

Norma's greatest joy in her life was her five grandchildren. She always had a letter, a card, a newspaper article or a picture to share with you and loved being in the middle of the many large birthday and holiday celebrations in which they were involved. All the family say she will be missed very much and loved always.

Norma is survived by her brother, Bobby Macy of Butte, Mont., her daughter Michael Black and husband Bob of Baker City, her grandchildren, Mark Smith and wife Marlayna of Silt, Colo., David Smith and wife Sue of Gresham, Ore., Robin Dennis and husband Loren of North Bend, Wash., Shannon Black and wife Whitney and Chris Black and wife Mary of Baker City. Norma has 14 great grandchildren, several great-great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Norma is preceded in death by her parents, her siblings Johnny, Billy, Gladys and Pauline, her husband Mark and son Mark, Jr.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warriors Foundation or Best Friends of Baker City through Gray's West & Company, 1500 Dewey Ave. Baker City, OR 97814.

Cliffon "Cliff" L. Welter

June 1921 - July 2015



Cliffon "Cliff" L. Welter, 94, died July 24, 2015 at the Meadowbrook Assisted Living in Baker City. As per request there will be no service. Cliff was born to parents Michael and Katherine Welter in Baker on June 27, 1921. He was raised and received his education in Baker attaining his diploma from Baker High School in 1939.

After high school, Cliff joined the Army and served from 1940 to 1942. During that time he married Beatrice May Stephens in Aug. of 1941. They had three boys Mike, Dale and Roger.

In 1946, Cliff started his own construction company "Cliff Welter Construction." It was truly a family business. His company built several medical buildings around Baker County including The Baker Vision Clinic, Saint Alphonsus Valley Medical Clinic, and The Baker Clinic. He also built the Presbyterian Church and Unity High School.

The things Cliff enjoyed the most during his life was spending time with his family, hunting, camping, fishing and boating. He loved the outdoors and had a cabin on both the Snake River and in Sumpter. When Friday's would roll around the family packed up and headed out for a weekend of fun.

Cliff was preceded in death by his wife Beatrice, son Mike Welter, his parents, and all of his siblings.

Cliff is survived by sons: Dale Welter and his companion Alice West; Roger and Sally Welter; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

For those who would like to make a memorial donation in Memory of Cliff, the family suggests "Creating Memories" (Monies help with equipment, fuel, or fishing poles to help give the opportunity to those children with disabilities a chance to get outdoors to hunt or fish) through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services PO Box 543 Halfway, Oregon 97834. On line condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Delores Irene Kissire

Oct. 1928 - July 2015



Delores Irene Kissire, 86, of Baker City died July 20, 2015 at Settler's Park Assisted Living Community. A memorial service is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015 at Mt. Hope Cemetery with Mr. Larry Albert officiating.

Delores was born Oct. 27, 1928 in Garibaldi, Ore., to John R. Dem and Irene M. Rapp Dem. She attended Baker High School, graduating in 1946. She married Henry F. Kissire "known as Friday" in Weiser, Idaho in 1947. Henry passed away on Jan. 28, 1988. Delores lived most of her life in Baker City and enjoyed being a housewife.

Delores loved to read books, watch Jeopardy every night around 7 p.m., and going for rides and wearing bright colored mummus. She also loved feeding the squirrels, often feeding them crackers with peanut butter. Her favorite flower was Ladyslippers and she loved animals and enjoyed being outdoors; however, she did have a phobia of snakes. She liked honest people like the old miners that her grandfather knew and worked with. Her great Uncle was George Armstrong who found the Armstrong Nugget which is located in the U.S. National Bank display case. Her dad worked at the Keating Mother Load Mine and some of her fondest memories were staying out there...except for the snakes!

Her mother was a housewife and her father was a barber by trade. Delores and Friday met in Baker where Friday worked mainly in the lumber industry as a millwright and operator. He also worked at many other occupations to support his family.

Delores is survived by two sons, Kerry Kissire and wife Kathy of Baker City, Kyle Shawn Kissire and wife Ronda of Baker City, a daughter, Flores Phelps of Tumwater, Wash., and a sister Arlene Fulton of Baker City; grandchildren: Tracy Kissire, Travis Kissire, Jeff Phelps and LaDena Phelps; and nieces, Annette Hagey and husband Darl, Susie Cherry and husband Dave and Joyce Mallory and husband Bruce.

She is preceded in death by her parents, John and Irene Dem, and her husband, Henry F. "Friday" Kissire.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Heart-N-Home Hospice through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814

Kenneth H. Myers

June 1926 - June 2015



Kenneth H. Myers, 88, passed away on June 21, 2015. Kenneth is now joyously reunited with his beloved wife, Betty. A memorial service for Kenneth H. Myers was held on July 6, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in McMinnville. He was cremated and placed in a niche next to his wife in Rodi Bank II at Evergreen Memorial Park in McMinnville.

Ken, the son of Windom Holly and Catherine S. Wood Myers, was born June 22, 1926 in North Powder at the family home. Ken met Betty Davis in the first grade while growing up in North Powder. He was very active in high school athletics; he played football, basketball, and baseball. He also participated in school politics as a Student Body Officer and Class Officer. He graduated from North Powder High School in 1944 and then joined Navy. About one month later, his papa passed away and he left Camp Farragut to go home for the funeral. When he went back to boot camp, he was sent to the San Francisco Bay area and they assigned Ken to Radar School. He then boarded a ship and went to the South Pacific (fueling at Honolulu) and continuing on to the Sea of Japan to refuel aircraft carriers, on his ship that carried high octane gas. He was there 13 months until the war was over.

Ken married Betty Davis Aug. 29, 1948 in Baker City. He finished his third year of college at Eastern Oregon College of Education, receiving his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, June 10, 1949. He received his Master of Education degree from Oregon State College June 4, 1956 and his Doctor of Education degree from Oregon State University June 5, 1966.

After graduating from Eastern Oregon College of Education, he took a teaching and coaching job at Greenwood Elementary in La Grande for one year. Fred Patton, then superintendent of schools at La Grande, was relocating to the Willamette Valley and invited Ken to go with him to McMinnville- along with other memorable teachers, coaches, and principals (the EOC Gang).

Ken served as principal of Columbus Grade School for five years and then became principal of the Junior High for three years. He served as principal of the McMinnville High School for 10 years and moved to Western Oregon University (then OCE) for 24 years. He was first a professor, teaching graduate classes in curriculum and administration, and then was offered the job of Dean of Education.

Ken was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. After he retired, he loved delivering for the Meals on Wheels program at the McMinnville Senior Center. He and his wife, Betty, enjoyed attending Beaver sporting events, traveling, gardening, and spending time at their beach house in Pacific City. His greatest joy, however, was gathering his family and friends together in their warm and welcoming home to sharing special times. Ken had a very tender, caring heart and will be greatly missed.

Ken is preceded in death by his wife, Betty Myers, his parents, brother Kermit Myers and his wife, Thelma, Jerome Myers, Eugene Windom Myers and Sisters: Marjorie DeMoss and her husband, Harvey; Helen Myers; Shirley Spence and her husband, Virgil; and Fern Galligan and her husband, Michael. He is survived by his three children: Carol (Roger) Hildebrandt, and their children, Jon and Kellye Hildebrandt; Marty (Anne) Myers and his four children; Jason (Sue) Myers and their children Jordan and Jackson; Casey (Leslie) Myers, their children Kai and Makinley; Eric Myers and Nick Myers; Scott (Tammy) Myers, and their children, Jenny (Jared) and Kaitlynn.

Death Notice

John "Jack" Brooks, 74, of Richland died on Sunday, July 27, 2015 at his home in Richland, Ore. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. On line condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

See the **Record-Courier** website:
therconline.com

Baker County Sheriff's Office Received Suspicious Parcel

On July 27, 2015, Baker County Sheriff's Office received a suspicious postal parcel. The parcel was unopened. Precautions were used in handling the parcel and no department members experienced any ill symptoms. The Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Oregon State Police are leading the investigation.

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