

## Lynn Ryle Pryse

April 1933 - Oct. 2015

Lynn Ryle Pryse, 82, of Baker City died Oct. 21, 2015.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date.

Lynn was born April 11, 1933 in Prairie City to Gladys and John Pryse. He attended Prairie City High School where he excelled in basketball and football and general pranks. Lynn was drafted in the Army during the Korean war and was stationed in California. After the Army, he was recruited to play football for Eastern Oregon College.

He married Sandra Yokom on Sept. 11, 1955 which began a 60 year adventure. Lynn began his professional career with a series of leadership positions in varied fields. From the timber industry, to helping open the first Les Schwab store in Burns, to managing the John Day pool, and then ultimately working for 30 years for California Pacific utility, Lynn retired from Oregon Trail Electric Co-Op in 1993 and embarked upon an active retired life.

Lynn loved archery, hunting, golfing, camping, fishing, his Alpenlite travel club, watching his grandchildren in various sports and activities and giving back to his community.

Lynn was active in the Baker City and Burns Lions Clubs, the Golf Board, American Red Cross, Trails Tenders, the Episcopal Church and various other service organizations throughout Eastern Oregon. Lynn was chairman of the State 1A basketball tournament for several years and loved watching basketball at Baker High School.

Lynn was a welcoming man who never knew a stranger. He was a great father and grandfather who enjoyed life to the fullest. He will be missed by all.

Lynn is survived by his wife of 60 years Sandra Pryse, his children Cammy Warner (Fred Warner, Jr) of Baker City, Kevin Pryse (Donna Pryse) of Burns, Ore., Mary Gerson (Jim Gerson) of San Clemente, Calif., and Jennifer Riley (Kevin Riley) of Milton-Freewater, Ore., his brother Dean Pryse of Parkdale, Ore., and step-brothers Marv Sumner of Baker City, and Richard Sumner. Lynn's grandchildren include Courtney Warner Crowell (Adam Crowell) and Mackenzie Warner, Jamie and Katrina Pryse, Taryn and Bryce Gerson, and Megan, William (Mica Riley) and Camille Riley and great-grandchild, Hazel Crowell.

Lynn was preceded in death by his brother Daryl Pryse, and parents John and Gladys Pryse and his in-laws Orval and Camille Yokom.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Baker City Episcopal Church and the Baker High School Athletic fund.



## Marcella Taylor

Oct. 1914 - Oct. 2015

Marcella Taylor, 101 years old, and a lifelong Halfway resident, peacefully died early Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. A Viewing will be held on Friday, Oct. 30, from 4-7 p.m. at Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home 125 N Main Street in Halfway.

A celebration of Marcella's life service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015 at 11 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Halfway with Rev Bill Shields presiding. Interment will follow the service at Pine Haven Cemetery. Friends are invited to join the family for a potluck reception to be held following the interment at the Lions Hall in Halfway.

Marcella was born in Halfway Oct. 16, 1914 to Willis and Jessie Urdike Mitchell. She married Floyd Taylor in Sept. 20, 1933 in Halfway. She lived her entire life in Pine Valley except for two short times in Baker in the early 1940s. Marcella and Floyd had four sons.

In 101 years, Marcella had many life experiences that many would not understand, having not lived in this early era. As a girl she remembers standing outside the gate waiting for food. She enjoyed riding her horse to Halfway High School. During the winter she told of many times that Jim Alexander, the custodian, let the girls into the furnace room to warm themselves. Vernon Thomas, a great friend, enjoyed saddling her horse, getting it ready to go take Marcella home, however her saddle would be cinched on her horse backwards! During her life, the world changed from Model T Fords to space travel, from "party lines" to cell phones, from outhouses to indoor plumbing, and from pencil and paper to computers and internet, from reading books to watching TV. She lived 99 years within 100 feet of where she was born. The memories shared of Marcella's life will live on for generations to come.

Marcella was the last remaining Charter Member of Pine Valley Grange #815 and longtime member of Eastern Star. She cared deeply about Pine Valley and the people who lived there.

She was preceded in death by her husband Floyd on Oct. 21, 2001; daughter-in-laws (Keith's wife) Shirley and (Bill's wife) Karen.

Marcella is survived by her sons: William Floyd "Bill" Taylor and companion Jan Stewart of Pendleton; Elton Dale and his wife Judy Taylor of Halfway; Keith Marvin Taylor of Long Creek and Michael Blair and wife Shirley Taylor of John Day; 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 20 great-great-grandchildren.

Those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Marcella the family suggests The Hilary Bonn Benevolent Fund, Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation or the charity of your choice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home PO Box 543 Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)



## Alan William Fine

Feb. 1948 - Oct. 2015

Alan Fine, 67, of Richland and Baker City, died on Oct. 19, 2015 in Richland, Ore.

A Catholic Mass will be held on Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015 at 2 p.m. at St. Frances de Sales Cathedral in Baker City. Friends are invited to join the family for a potluck reception to be held immediately following the Mass at the Veterans Memorial Club in Baker City.

Alan William was born Feb. 27, 1948 to Herald and Ruth Fine of North Brunswick, NJ. He attended Catholic Schools. When he was a teenager, he had many stories about how much fun he had skydiving.

Allan moved out west to be with his father on the reservation where they were members of the Colville Indian Tribe of Washington. He later moved to Klamath Falls where he met his beautiful wife Virginia. They were married June of 1981. Shortly after being married they were blessed with their son Allan Ovey Fine. They moved to Bend where Allan managed Jakes Truck Stop. In September of 1985 they were blessed with their daughter Dawn Marie Fine.

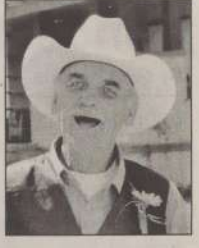
Allan decided to start his own contracting business in 1991 while in Bend, later he moved his family to Baker City and continued his contracting business for a more few years. In 1995 he started working as a Store Manager at Cenex gas station and worked there until his retirement in 2000.

Allan loved sports and enjoyed coaching his sons basketball team during his junior high school years. Allan enjoyed hunting, fishing, wood working, watching football and, as he would say, he loved "drinkin' my beer" and spending time with all his friends and family. He loved to make people laugh at all his silly jokes. Allan made friends everywhere he went and will be missed by so many.

He was preceded in death by his mother Ruth McNally, father Herald Fine and brother Herald Fine Jr.

Allan is survived by his wife Virginia of Baker City; son Allan Fine of Baker City, daughter Dawn and her husband Kyle Knapp of Baker City, granddaughters Celeena, Jordynn, Briannah, and Katrienna Fine, Emma, Eunie and Molly Knapp all of Baker City; uncle Thomas McNally and wife Pat of New Jersey; special friends Jim Noland and his wife Debbie of Prineville; Allen and Tana Morris of Richland and many friends and loved ones.

Those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Al, may do so to defray his service expenses through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services PO Box 543 Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)



## Death / Service Notices

**Judith Lee Becht**, 76, of Baker City died Sunday, Oct. 25, 2015 at Settler's Park Assisted Living Community in Baker City. No services have been planned at this time. Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel is assisting with arrangements.

**Marlene Frost** - A Celebration of Marlene's Life will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015 at 3 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Club in Baker City. A potluck reception will follow the service at the club. For those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Marlene, the family suggests the Muscular Dystrophy Association 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](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)



## Death / Service Notice

**Steven Riker Jackson**, 59, of Baker City died at his home in Baker City on Friday, Oct. 23, 2015. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home PO Box 543 Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

## Chamber Announces Annual Awards Banquet

Baker County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Bureau Annual Awards Banquet will be held Jan. 16, 2016 at the Sunridge Best Western.

For 89 years the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet has provided the community the opportunity to thank those volunteers that help our nonprofit organization thrive, to recognize the businesses that provide excellent customer service and build equity for all Baker County businesses and recognize those people that have dedicated countless years helping others.

Nomination forms are available on line at [www.visitbaker.com](http://www.visitbaker.com). Nomination forms must be received by Nov. 13, 2015 to be considered by the

Judges. This year's theme is Dean Martin, Wine and Roses. Tickets are \$35 or \$30 for Chamber members in good-standing. This year's fundraiser will be a Wine and Whiskey pull. Please consider making a donation of Wine, Whiskey or a non-alcoholic alternative for the Banquet fundraiser. The Banquet fundraiser helps the Chamber offer the award winners their banquet ticket at no cost as well as the spectacular trophies that will remind them that they were appreciated for all their volunteer hours.

For more information contact the Baker County Chamber of Commerce 490 Campbell Street, Baker City or call 541-523-5855.

## Editorial

### You Have a Voice, Use It

Last week, Commissioner Tim Kerns announced he will not seek reelection. Just prior, Sheriff Ash, who was appointed unanimously by the Commissioners to complete the remainder of Mitch Southwick's term, announced that he had filed to run for Sheriff.

It will be interesting to see who else decided to run for either position. These positions, and the po-

ple ultimately elected by the citizens to fill them, play a vital role in our local government.

In my opinion, Baker County is at a critical crossroad and this next local election will have far reaching consequences and implications. Many people may feel in state and national elections their vote does not count. While it is a statement with which I don't necessarily agree, I especially urge every single citizen to engage locally. It's more than registering to vote and mailing your ballot. While this is important, so is becoming and remaining educated about the individuals choosing to run and the groups backing them. Don't take things at face value just because a particular party espouses something. Take time to attend meetings yourself or at least read about what's taking place. Ask for meeting minutes or recordings. Send an email or make a phone call to your local officials. It's everyone's responsibility to make certain government officials are conducting

the county's business. It is difficult for working people, business owners, and those busy raising families to find time to attend meetings, especially those routinely held during working hours. However, if you're not engaged, the same handful of people will shape the future of your community. Regardless of who decides to run, hopefully we've seen the last of anonymous nasty mailings, guileful online impersonation tactics, and inflammatory statements alluding to armed citizen revolts as a way to resolve matters with federal agencies.

The citizens of Baker County, like any other employer, need thoughtful, experienced and effective problem solvers as their leaders. Those willing to step forward to run should not have to fear an onslaught of vicious, personal attacks and underhanded campaign tactics by power and control hungry ideologues willing to stop at nothing to advance their not-so-hidden agendas.

Every Baker County citizen has a right and responsibility to help shape the future of this community. You have a voice, use it.

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## Letters

### A Night with Nancy...a night to remember!

To the Editor:

Wow! Occasionally we are blessed to be part of such a truly incredible event, a celebration where we are able to enjoy and honor a truly special person. Saturday night was one of those occasions and Nancy Basche is that special person.

There were two goals for the night and both were met far beyond our wildest expectations. Your incredible generosity helps lighten Nancy's financial burden, and just as important, was your attendance. Thank you for turning out in incredible numbers and for showing Nancy that she is not alone in her journey, and she is very dear to so many hearts.

The night would not have been the success it was without the help of exceptional people. Tom Lager, Rocky and Diana Brown, and the Baker County Board of Realtors stepped up and brought "The Chaz Browne Group" to the event. This amazing band had the juke joint jumping all night. Bev and Dave White, Tabor and Dee Dee Clarke, Scott and Tracy Warner and the lovely Amy Dodson were the backbone of the event. They joyfully put in the time and resources needed to make this night over the top! A night that will keep us talking and fondly reminiscing about the fun,

the friends and the great time we had with Nancy for years to come.

Thank you Megan Paoletti and Ember Smith, you added your own special magic to the evening. You must have set a world record delivering 400 syringes of "medication!" You were a joy to everyone who attended. Without your participation part of the magic would have been missed. A sincere thank you to Timothy Bishop who preserved the evening by taking hundreds of professional photos for Nancy and her family to enjoy.

The "ultimate" auction was made possible by the vision of two groups and the generosity of the bidders. Casey Vanderweile and the folks at Triple C Redi Mix donated the excavator and Mark and Lisa Ward of Ward Ranches generously provided the building to be "removed." Auction winner, Rob Miller, was as classy as they come as he proved when he insisted that Nancy receive the honor of destroying the pesky building with Triple C's excavator! Rob, you are truly first rate.

Thank you everyone for all you have done. I ask one more thing of you. Keep Nancy in your prayers and near to your heart as her journey continues.

**Randy Dodson**  
Baker City Beach Club

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Thursday, October 29, 2015



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