

# OBITUARIES

PAID NOTICES

## Buckley deConinck-Smith



**Buckley deConinck-Smith**

Buckley Harold deConinck-Smith was born Oct. 21, 1928, in Glenwood, Wash., to Ove deConinck-Smith and Mary (Chandler) deConinck-Smith. He grew up and went to school in Glenwood, and also spent some of his teenage years living with his older sister, Becky, in Ilwaco, Wash., where he attended high school. In 1949, he married a young Glenwood girl, Meredith Steinbach. They made their home at Camp Draper and had four children before moving to the Bingen-White Salmon, Wash., area. They spent 33 years together, raising their children. They enjoyed golfing, bowling, and watching their children start their own families. He was later married, for many years, to Verna Smith.

Buck was an accomplished guitar player and loved sharing his musical talent with others. There was rarely a time when he was not a part of a local band, playing music at multiple venues throughout the Columbia Gorge. The Glenwood rodeo dances were always a highlight. He was still playing music at the local area senior dances and meal sights into his late 80s.

In his midlife, he became interested in raising dahlias. He started a small flower garden that turned into a large one, cross breeding and creating his own varieties, which he always named after a special person in his life. He loved showing off his flowers and cutting bouquets to send home with anyone who stopped by. He spent most of his working career as an equipment operator, loading logs and building roads. He retired from SDS Lumber Company, but soon decided he missed working. He continued to build roads for SDS and other local operations until his early 80s.

Buck loved people. He never knew a stranger and would sit and talk to anyone who would listen to his stories, whether it was at his home, the bowling alley, on the golf course, or sitting in a waiting room. He spent his last few months at the Prestige Care Center, in Hood River, where he passed away on Dec. 23, 2020, at the age of 92.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ove and Mary; brother Tony; and four sisters, Rebecca Eager, Caroline Kuhnhausen, Grace Garr and Margaret Hewitt; and daughter-in-law Elizabeth. He is survived by his children, Susan Rogers, White Salmon, Gary, Braintree, Mass., Kathy (Joe) Simon, White Salmon and Mary (Rick) Williams, Ellensburg, Wash.; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and multiple nieces and nephews.

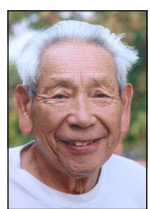
No service has been planned due to COVID restrictions.

## Patricia Minor

Patricia A. Minor, age 90, a resident of The Dalles, Ore., passed away at home Dec. 31, 2020. She is survived by her husband, Richard A. Minor, son, Allan V. Minor of The Dalles and daughter Linda A. (John) Ripplinger of The Dalles. A private family gathering will be held at a later date. Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

## George Imai

George Imai was born in Hood River, Ore., on March 28, 1929, to parents Tomoyoshi and Kotono Moriyasu. He was the fifth of seven children. The family farmed in the Dee Flat area until February 1942, when Executive Order 9066 forced many families to relocate to various internment camps. At the age of



**George Imai**

12, he followed his family to Pinedale, Tule Lake and eventually Minnadoka Relocation Center in Idaho. George and the family left camp in April 1945 and lived in Maryhill, Wash., before they were allowed to return to their home in Dee.

He graduated from Hood River High School in 1947 and for several years drove truck delivering local produce to Portland and Seattle wholesalers. He joined the Army

in 1950-1952, serving active duty in Austria.

After the army, he studied automotive mechanics in Portland. During this time, he met his future wife, Sophia Tomita, and they were married Feb. 6, 1955. They moved to Hood River, where George completed his apprenticeship at Garrabrant Chevrolet, working until 1961. He then bought the Shell Gas station on the corner of 12th and May Street and worked several years before selling it. In 1964, he started George's Automotive near Orchard Lanes. He was honest and well respected for his work. His belief in working hard and doing your best branched out to many areas of his life. He retired in 1995 after 40 years in the business.

He planted a small cherry orchard in 1981. Harvest was a highlight, having family visit and firing up the grill. He had several fruit trees around the house and loved giving away his peaches. This past summer, he canned 77 quarts of peaches, his newest hobby.

He volunteered for the Dee Fire Department, was a member of VFW, and JAACL, serving one term as president. He bowled many years, bowling a 300 game in 1980. He loved hunting for mushrooms and during each outing would recount the many stories of this pastime. He and Sophie 3-wheeled and RV traveled in the western states. He bird hunted in his early years and enjoyed crabbing and clamming at the coast. His greatest joy for most of his life was fishing. He taught his nephews to fish and kept friendships made over the waters of the Wind River for many years. He said he had fished enough that any one man can fish. Knowing his limits, he quit when it was time. He smoked and canned salmon, sharing his efforts with many. The gift came with a complete narration of the process. Family and food were important and he hosted many family meals.

When Sophie began having memory issues, he became her caregiver, cook and housekeeper. He embraced his new role as cook and bought various new cooking gadgets. As a mechanic, he had been problem solving all his life and figured out ways to make tasks easier as he aged. Meeting for coffee with the guys was a ritual. George was a fixture; he knew so many people in this valley and many knew him. He lived a long, full, life that ended with a short battle with lung cancer. The shop is a little quieter without his chatter and stories.

George passed away Dec. 29, 2020, at Parkhurst Place in Hood River at the age of 91.

George is predeceased by his parents, his wife Sophie, brothers Shiro, Hit and Shig, and sisters Molly and Aki. He is survived by his brother Tetsuo of Placentia, Calif.; daughter and son-in-law Teri and Tom Dahl of Hood River; and several nieces and nephews and their families.

Considering his generosity with all things related to food, in lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the FISH Food Bank, or the Odell Fire Department. He greatly appreciated their service to the community. Contributions may be sent to Anderson's Tribute Center.

The family would like to thank Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital and the coordinated efforts with Parkhurst to make his desire to live at Parkhurst during this difficult time. The family also thanks Providence Hospice of the Gorge.

Due to state restrictions, services are pending at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center (Funerals • Receptions • Cremations), 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

## Barbara Young

Barbara Jane Young died Dec. 8, 2020, in her home. She was born in Woodland, Wash., on Oct. 11, 1936. Barbara married Walter M. Young III on April 7, 1956.

Barbara graduated from Battle Ground High School in 1954 and went on to work at Jantzen Knitting Mills as a seamstress, supervisor, and model of swimwear where she retired after 25 years. Then she went on to work at Nike in quality control. Barbara and Walter owned and operated Christensen Radiator Shop in The Dalles, Ore.

Barbara enjoyed hunting, fishing, boat racing and was a long-time member of the Vancouver Yacht Club. She was a 30-plus year member of the Eagles and the American Legion. She was also a faithful blood donor for more than 50 years.

Barbara was preceded in death by her husband, Walter, and later by long-time companion Ronald Rone. She is survived by her son, Rick (Jodi) Young and daughter, Teri Young, and her grandsons Ryan Young, Tyler Young, Adam/Bubba (Lissa) Young, and Frank Buford Jr. Barbara was blessed with five great-grandchildren, Taylor, Turner, Thomas, Ryler and Savannah. She is also survived by her brother Jim (Alice) Hunter and sister Donna Cahoon.

At her request, there will be no service.

Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center • Celilo Chapel, 204 E. Fourth St., The Dalles. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

## DEATHS AND SERVICES

**Shirley S. Lee (aka Shirley Lee Haynes)** died Dec. 17, 2020, at her home at Rockaway Beach, Ore. Shirley was born on March 21, 1928, and was 92 years of age at the time of her passing. A virtual service took place on Jan. 7 and can be viewed anytime via Anderson's Tribute Center's Facebook page (access on Shirley's web guestbook at [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com)). Shirley was laid to rest at the Pine Grove Butte Cemetery of Hood River, Ore. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center, Hood River.

**Lunelle "Lou" Lewis** died Jan. 3, 2021, at her home in Hood River, Ore.

Lunelle was born on July 11, 1927, and was 93 years of age at the time of her passing. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center, Hood River. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

**Ryan Marshall Ranson**, age 33, a resident of Queen Creek, Ariz., and previously of Lake Stevens, Wash., died Jan. 3, 2021. Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

**Hubert Stephen Brown**, age 68, a resident of The Dalles, Ore., died Jan. 4, 2020. Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

**Charlotte K. Royers**, age 73, a resident of The Dalles, Ore., died at a local care facility Jan. 4, 2021. Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

**Joyce Mildred Smith** died Jan. 5, 2021, at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital in Hood River, Ore. Joyce was born on July 9, 1937, and was 83 years of age at the time of her passing. A private graveside committal service is planned for immediate family but will be live-streamed at 11 a.m. on Jan. 29; to access, visit Joyce's webpage at [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com). A public celebration of life service for friends and

family will be this summer.

Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center, Hood River.

**William Williams**, age 88, a resident of Fossil, Ore., died Jan. 5, 2021. Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

**Bill V. Holt** passed away on Jan. 6, 2021, at The Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles, Ore. Bill was born on Jan. 21, 1935, and was 85 years of age at the time of his passing. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center Celilo Chapel, The Dalles. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

**Mary Jean Blumenthal** died Jan. 7, 2021, at Ashley Manor of Hood River, Ore. Mary was born on Nov. 2, 1937, and was 83 years of age at the time of her passing. A private family graveside committal will be at The Upper Valley Parkdale Cemetery where she will be laid to rest with her husband Dale. Family is looking to do a public gathering in the summer, when pandemic restrictions have been lessened. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center, Hood River. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

**Maria De Jesus De La Mora** died Jan. 7, 2021, at home in Hood River, Ore. Maria De Jesus was born on Oct. 1, 1919, and was 101 years of age at the time of her passing. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center, Hood River. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

Maria De Jesus De La Mora falleció el 7 de enero 2020 en su casa en Hood River. Maira de Jesus nació el 1 de octubre de 1919 y tenía 101 años de edad cuando falleció. Arreglos fúnebres están bajo la dirección de Anderson's Tribute Center.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

*What's Happening is a free service of Columbia Gorge News. Send items to [trish-aw@gorgeneews.com](mailto:trish-aw@gorgeneews.com).*

### Children and Teens

■ **Thru Jan. 31 — Hood River Valley Little League Registration**, ages 4-12 at [www.hrville.com](http://www.hrville.com). Some grants available (limited time).

■ **Mondays — 4-H Chess Club**, 3:45-5 p.m. Grades 5-12; online, free. Register at 541-298-4004 or [hammackd@oregonstate.edu](mailto:hammackd@oregonstate.edu).

■ **Tuesdays — Sea Scouts**, 7-8:30 p.m. downstairs at The Dalles UCC, 111 E. Fifth St. (marine branch of Boy Scouts). Open to all teens ages 14-20. Bring mask. Info at 707-363-5353 or [ssfree-dom399@gmail.com](mailto:ssfree-dom399@gmail.com).

■ **Tuesdays & Thursdays — Online Homework Help for Students and Parents**, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursdays; Hood River County Library staff available by Zoom at [zoom.us/j/91001800954](https://zoom.us/j/91001800954).

■ **Wednesdays — Online Teen Hangout**, 5 p.m. Sponsored by the Hood

River County Library District. Email [rachel@hoodriverlibrary.org](mailto:rachel@hoodriverlibrary.org) to join.

■ **Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Virtual Storytime**, 10:30-11 a.m., sponsored by Wasco County Library. For information on how to join, contact [thedallespubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:thedallespubliclibrary@gmail.com) or 541-296-2815.

■ **Wednesdays — 4-H Girls Who Code**, 3:45-5 p.m. Free. For girls grades 6-12. Register at 541-298-4004 or [seapyl@oregonstate.edu](mailto:seapyl@oregonstate.edu).

■ **Thursdays — Storytime on Facebook**, 10:30 a.m. Sponsored by Hood River County Library District.

■ **Thursdays — 4-H Coder Club**, 3:45-5 p.m. Free. Grades 5-12; program games and animations. Register at 541-298-4004 or [hammackd@oregonstate.edu](mailto:hammackd@oregonstate.edu).

### Community Events

■ **Jan. 13 — Sense of Place**, 7 p.m. at [mtadam-sinstitute.org/senseofplace](http://mtadam-sinstitute.org/senseofplace). With Bill Weiler. Free; option to donate. See page 2 for details.

■ **Jan. 14 — Hood River County Democrats Virtual**

**Meeting**, 6 p.m. via Zoom. Visit [hoodriverdemocrats.org](http://hoodriverdemocrats.org) to register.

■ **Jan. 14 — Dallesport-Murdock Community Council Meeting**, 7 p.m. at the Community Center on Sixth Street, Dallesport.

■ **Jan 16 — Gorge Grown Winter Market**, 10 a.m. to noon, ground floor, Ferment Brewing Co., 403 Portway Ave., Hood River. COVID safety, fresh sheets and vendors at [gorgegrown.com](http://gorgegrown.com).

■ **Jan. 18 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day Virtual Events**, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. For a schedule and to register, visit [gorgeem.org](http://gorgeem.org) — click the "calendar" tab; additional info on page 2.

■ **Jan. 18 — Lyle Lions**

**Club Meeting**, 6 p.m. at the Lyle Lions Community Center, corner of Fifth and Highway 14. No potluck; masks required.

■ **Thru Jan. 30 — Oaxaca Printmaking Exhibit**, Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the lobby of Columbia Center for the Arts, Hood River.

### Ongoing

■ **Monday thru Friday until Jan. 20 — Christmas Tree Disposal**, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Hood River City Public Works Department, 18th and May.

■ **Mondays & Thursdays Wednesdays — The Dalles Rotary Club**, noon via

Zoom. Address: [us02web.zoom.us/j/693639881?pwd=UFINdWw2QTZGTURmRHVhY3VlZUQvQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/693639881?pwd=UFINdWw2QTZGTURmRHVhY3VlZUQvQT09) (us02web.zoom.us).

■ **Thursdays — The Dalles Kiwanis Club Online Meetings**. Log in between 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. at [www.thedalleskiwanis.org/](https://www.thedalleskiwanis.org/) or The-Dalles-Kiwanis-Club on Facebook. **Jan. 14**, Kate Franko on Google databases and other info; **Jan. 21**, Scott

Baker, Parks and Recreation, update on Sorosis Park restoration; **Jan. 28**, Brad DeHart, ODOT, The Dalles Bridge construction project.

■ **Fridays — Bilingual Conversation Series**, noon to 1 p.m. via Zoom, [us02web.zoom.us/j/88382995731](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88382995731). Casual language exchange; part English and part Spanish. Sponsored by Hood River County Library District.

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