

# OBITUARIES

PAID NOTICES

## Butch Gehrig



Butch Gehrig

Six years ago, Rudy "Butch" Gehrig was diagnosed with Frontotemporal Degeneration. It is a dementia that attacks the brain and the body. He tried very hard to keep doing what he loved and never complained. His body finally wore out on Feb. 15, 2021.

Butch was born Nov. 28, 1956, and was 64 years of age at the time of his passing. Butch may have been born at the Hood River Memorial Hospital, but from there after, he wanted it known he was from Odell. Butch was the sixth of nine children born to Rudy and Margaret Gehrig. He was right in the middle of six sisters, with his two brothers being the eldest. He had a great childhood, playing with his siblings, cousins and friends who became life-long buddies. He graduated in 1975 and enjoyed every reunion.

In 1976, a 16-year-old girl caught his eye. He and Patricia Farley had their first date in a car they still own, Butch's 1966 Chevelle Beaumont. He told her he thought he would scare her off if he brought his '55 Chevy. May 22, 1982, Butch and Patricia married surrounded by hundreds of family and friends.

In 1981, his father retired and turned the reins of Gehrig's Chevron over to Butch. With Patricia as bookkeeper and Butch doing what he loved best, they have had a great 40 years serving the community he loved.

Service to the community was very important to Butch. He judged many Boy Scout cake contests. He served on the Odell Sanitary District Board for 32 years. Butch also served 23 years on the Hood River Electric Co-op board, the last few as the board president. He was on the Leadership Committee at St. Mary's Catholic Church and a lifetime member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Butch is survived by his wife, Patricia Gehrig, sons Joe Gehrig and Paco Salazar, brother, five sisters, nieces, nephews, cousins and many, many friends. He loved them all dearly. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Dan and sister Jenni.

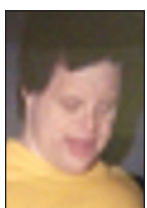
A viewing was held Sunday, Feb. 21 at Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River and a private Catholic Funeral Mass was held Monday, Feb. 22 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1501 Belmont Ave., Hood River. Butch's service was live streamed and the link can be accessed at [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com); there is also an interactive guestbook here for memories to be shared with family.

A public committal service will be at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery Tuesday, Feb. 23 at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, 1501 Belmont Ave., Hood River.

Donations can be made to the Wy'East Fire District, Hospice of the Gorge or The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration.

Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to access guestbook and webcast links.

## Patrick Wilson



Patrick Wilson

Patrick Wilson was born on Dec. 5, 1952, and died of COVID-19 on Feb. 10, 2021. He leaves his mother, Alice Wilson, and siblings Nancy Wilson Waters of Hood River, Ore., and Robert Wilson of Goldendale, Wash.; and a niece, nephews, aunts and cousins. He leaves a special friend Tad, with whom he spent 53 years. Adult Learning Systems of Oregon cared for both of them and also mourn his loss. Services will be private.

## Norma Baskins



Norma Baskins

Norma Jean Baskins, age 94, passed away of natural causes at Flagstone Assisted Living in The Dalles, Ore., on Feb. 18, 2021. Norma was born Dec. 30, 1926, in Wichita, Kan., to William and Virginia (Vergie) Himes.

When Norma was 13, her family moved to the Hood River Valley. Her father was a mechanic and he found lots of work in Hood River, and they bought a farm on York Hill Road. She met Floyd (Tiny) Baskins after he came back from service in the Navy during World War II, and they were married on Nov. 23, 1947. Floyd and Norma made their home in Odell and had four children, Floyd Jr., twins Connie and Ronnie, and Bill. They purchased a gas station in Odell that they ran together while raising their four children. In 1971, they bought an orchard, "the ranch" Norma called it. While helping in the orchard — thinning, driving tractor, and bookkeeping — she also packed pears at Stadelman Fruit Company.

Norma and Tiny enjoyed many years camping, fishing and hunting with family and friends. She loved life on the "the ranch" and spending time with her family.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Lauretta, her parents, her husband and her sisters-in-law, Nancy and Velma.

She is survived by her older brother, Harvey, and her younger brother, Billie; her sons Floyd (Janet) Baskins Jr., Ron (Louella) Baskins, Bill (Debi) Baskins, and daughter Connie (Frank) Rose; grandchildren Kathi (Jody) Sparks, Bobbi Lynn Baskins (Mary Brennock), Larry Baskins, Mark (Melanie) Baskins, Ronnie (Natalie) Baskins, Hydie (Lenny) Kazel, Brandi Baskins, Jerry Baskins, Jennifer (Kenneth) Rober, Christine (Charles) Heisler, Kellie (Scott) Hughes, Trish (Mark) Preston, and Brian (Julie) Baskins; 18 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Flagstone Assisted Living, Hospice of the Gorge and Dr. Buser at Summit Family Medicine for taking care of Norma.

Per Norma's wishes, there will be no service.

Donations can be made in her name to the Wy'East Fire Department. Norma always appreciated the men and women who would come and help when they were called. She would say she had known most of them since they were kids.

Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson's Tribute Center (Funerals • Receptions • Cremations),

1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River, Ore. Visit [www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family.

## Ernest "Norman" Bennett



Ernest "Norman" Bennett

Ernest "Norman" Bennett of The Dalles, Ore., died Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021, at home, surrounded by his family. Norman was born May 1, 1926, in Spennymoor, England, to Ernest and Olive (Messenger) Bennett. He had two siblings, an older sister Jean and a younger brother Brian. Norman attended 14 years of school prior to going to work full time to help support his family during World War II.

Norman immigrated to the United States in 1952, settling in the Bay area. He married Edith Hildebrand in 1955 in Oakland, Calif.

They had three children, Pamela Jean, Carol Susan, and Bruce Norman. Norman worked as the operations manager for Radiant Chemical of Oakland for 24 years. He retired in 1988 and he and Edith moved to Murdock, Wash., in 1990. Edith passed away from breast cancer in March 2000.

Norman married Dorothy Sharpe of The Dalles on Jan. 5, 2002. They were active members of Gateway Church. Norman served with Habitat for Humanity and also led and participated regularly in Al-Anon meetings in The Dalles.

Norman is survived by his wife, Dorothy, his sister Jean, and brother Brian; his children, Pamela and her husband Peter, Carol and her husband Graham, and his son Bruce; his grandchildren, Andrea and Nolan; and great-grandchildren, Chelsea and Maverick. He is also survived by his stepchildren, Cheryl and her husband Scott, and Scott and his wife Sally; and step-grandchildren Andrew and his wife Helen, and Allison; and step great-grandchildren, Ashton and Natalie.

A viewing was held Feb. 19 at Anderson's Tribute Center • Celilo Chapel, The Dalles. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at the Lyle-Balch Cemetery, 65-105 Balch Road, Lyle, Wash. The memorial service will be private due to COVID restrictions; however, it will be live streamed. To watch online, go to [www.gatewaypc.org](http://www.gatewaypc.org).

If interested, donations can be made to Heart of Hospice, The Dalles, or Gateway Church in Norman's name, c/o Anderson's Tribute Center, 204 E. Fourth St., The Dalles, OR 97058.

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

## Kathryn Cogswell



Kathryn Cogswell

Kathryn (Kathy) Louise Hammond Cogswell passed away peacefully in Port Townsend, Wash., on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021. She squeezed in maximum mileage during her 77 years. Kathy's journey began in Tucson, Ariz., born to Kathryn Louise and William Ira Hammond on May 28, 1943. She graduated from Tucson High, then attended University of Arizona, where she majored in English, and pledged Kappa Alpha Theta. During these years, Kathy modeled and

served on the Queen's Court in the 1963 El Paso Texas Sun Bowl.

That year, she began dating and soon married Jim Cogswell. They left Tucson for Denver, Colo., where daughters Carrie and Kathleen (Kat) were born. The family later returned to Denver after a two-year interlude in Port Hueneme, Calif. (where Kathy began the first U.S. Naval Base's recycling program).

In 1973, the Cogswells, three pets, and a U-Haul full of plants landed in The Dalles, Ore., for Jim's radiology practice. Kathy filled her decades in the Columbia River Gorge with deep friendships, family, and style. Kathy not only saw beauty in fine works of art, but also in patterns of leaves, pinecones, and stacked firewood. She and Jim designed and built "Quail Acre" at 1420 E. 16th St., then moved to "Larkspur Mountain" in Rowena, once the girls graduated high school.

Kathy impressed all she met with her intellect, wit and beauty — her uncanny ability to see and seek good in the world. A true Gemini, she fought fiercely to defend her truth and ideals. She saw the ludicrous in the mundane, sharing those insights with her infectious laugh. Generous to a fault, she gifted personal treasures at the hint of need — leaving material items in her wake.

Kathy loved all animals and children. She served as one of the original "story ladies" at The Wasco County Library. She volunteered her vision and artistry to create extravagant sets for The Ballet House productions. Her grandchildren remember "Mamama" reading them her favorites (e.g., "The Snowy Day"), making turkey table settings for Thanksgiving, polishing nails, learning games, and solving puzzle challenges faster than they could invent them.

A student of the world, from 1996 on, Kathy's wandering spirit carried her to Astoria, Ashland, Boston, Carmel, Camino Island, Santa Fe, Nordland and finally to Port Townsend, Wash. She devoured history — exploring philosophy, Christianity, art, and history — and could quote each at length after one reading. Her thirst for knowledge led her to Dartmouth College and Harvard University for courses in writing and design. She loved movies and musicals, and the spirit of Christmas the most.

Kathy ended her journey looking out over the Port Townsend Harbor and her beloved Puget Sound. She finally found the peace she always sought. Kathy will be close in the hearts of those who love her, despite the distance, just as always.

She is survived by one brother; daughters, Carrie and Kat; and four grandchildren. No service is scheduled. Please send memories and condolences to 1897 Riverview St, Eugene OR, 97403. Donations in Kathy's memory can be made to Friends of the Columbia River Gorge.

## Thomas Foley



Thomas Foley

Thomas Edward Foley passed away at his home Feb. 13, 2021, with his four children by his side. He was born on Feb. 12, 1928, in the Foley House on Fourth Street in The Dalles, Ore., formerly known as The Colonial Building. He was the youngest of five children to parents Pat and Mercedes Foley. His father had moved the family from La Grande to The Dalles in 1920 and purchased Hotel Dalles, where The Dalles Inn is located today.

Some of Tom's early work experience started at the family's Foley Lakes Dairy at the age of 13 or 14. He started his own business career in the restaurant industry, launching the original Dairy Queen at Fourth and Union Streets in 1953. Through his career, he owned a number of burger and ice cream places, including the Irish Treat, where Big Jim's is today, and the Hand-Out, now the home of Holstein's Coffee. He also owned restaurants in Hood River. He enjoyed feeding people and frequently brought his grill to local parades, rodeos, fairs and livestock shows, where he served the famous "Hefty Henry" sandwich.

In 1966, Tom built Spooky's Pizza, which he and his family owned and operated until 1984. He leased the restaurant to other pizza companies until 1999, when Bob and Joana Stanek leased the business, revived the original name, and brought back many of Spooky's original menu items, including the "Hefty Henry."

In 1954, Tom met Marjory Claire Bush, a junior high and high school English teacher, whom he married on Oct. 3, 1954. Tom and Marjory raised four children while being actively involved in many civic organizations. Tom was president of the local chamber of commerce when he helped convince the board to change the name from The Dalles to The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce in recognition of the role of rural agriculture in the community's economy. He was a longtime Kiwanis member and to this day, they hold weekly meetings at Spooky's. He also coached Little League, and served on the city planning commission and the school board.

Tom was an active member of the Catholic Church in The Dalles. He was one of the original individuals who helped save Old St. Peter's Landmark, serving as vice president on that board for a number of years. He was a board member of the local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which seeks to help people in need.

Tom and Marjory purchased a cherry orchard in The Dalles in 1981 and expanded the orchard to Dallesport, Wash., in 1984. In the orchard off season, he and Marjory enjoyed travel and took many cruises around the world.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife, Marjory who died Jan. 14, 2021. He is survived by sons, Tim (Wendy) of Hood River, Bill of White Salmon, John (Sheri) of Dallesport, and Annette Byers of The Dalles; three grandsons, Clint Foley (Kelley) of Eugene, Grayson Byers (Shelby) of Stanfield and Tanner Byers of Bend; and three great-grandchildren, Dylan and Ruby Foley of Eugene and Hays Byers of Stanfield.

The family wishes to extend their deep appreciation to Heart of Hospice and Bobbi's Way for the great care and compassion they extended to Tom and his family. In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations be sent to Old St. Peter's Landmark or St. Vincent de Paul. A celebration of life will be held for Tom and Marjory Foley at a future time.

A Rosary will be held 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 at Spencer, Libby & Powell Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be held for Tom Foley at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in The Dalles.

## Helen Kochel



Helen Kochel

Helen Dickie (Clow) Kochel passed away quietly on Jan. 22, 2021, on Bainbridge Island, Wash., just a few weeks after celebrating her 100th birthday. Helen was born Dec. 1, 1920, in Lyonsbrook, Nova Scotia, Canada. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in The Dalles, Ore., at a later date.

Obituaries continued on page 8.

## Columbia Gorge News obituary policy

Obituaries, death notices and service announcements must be publication-ready; Columbia Gorge News may edit for AP style and grammar. Prepayment is required. There is no charge for death notices and service announcements, which include the deceased person's name, date and location of birth and death, and service and funeral home information. For more information, contact Trisha Walker, [trishaw@gorge-news.com](mailto:trishaw@gorge-news.com), or 541-386-1234 ext. 109.

**Cookie cutter funerals?**

**Not from us.** In your time of loss your family has unique needs and is better served with a service that reflects your unique attributes and your unique wishes.

HOOD RIVER (541) 386-1000    THE DALLES (541) 296-2600  
 1401 Belmont Ave, Hood River    204 East 4th St, The Dalles

[www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com](http://www.AndersonsTributeCenter.com)

*Serving Mid-Columbia families with kindness & compassion at their time of need*

Victoria Lara, Derek Krentz, Domanique Krentz

Gardner Funeral Home & Columbia Hills Memorial Chapel

White Salmon & Goldendale

509-493-1323    509-773-4646

[gfhchmc@gmail.com](mailto:gfhchmc@gmail.com) | [www.Gardnerfh.com](http://www.Gardnerfh.com)

## EVOLUTION: BIOLOGICALLY IMPOSSIBLE #22

Blood. It is called the life of the flesh because of the many necessary functions it performs in the body. Blood and the many organs in the body that contain the blood are one biological system known as the circulatory system. As stated before we must actually choke down the very challenging idea that the many organs in the body that include this circulatory system evolved in a convenient organized order. Did the first animal without blood just have a heart evolve in its body waiting for the blood to evolve? Or are we to "believe" that the very first creature that did not have blood or a heart gave birth to offspring that had both? The other difficulty we see about biological systems is that they work together in the body. We have a respiration system to which is the means of how we breathe. Now take this system on its own and there are many organs here also. The difficulty is that the two systems work together so we can exist. The oxygen we need is brought into the body by the respiration system, the nose or mouth then into the lungs. In the lungs the blood picks up the oxygen and sends it throughout the body to energize it. The two systems work together. Is it possible that these two systems could evolve over millions of years by chance random mutations in order for both to allow a living body to function? It would almost seem as if these mutations had to occur with much convenience and coordination. Very strange.

[g.d.fischer](mailto:g.d.fischer) | [zionman@netnct.net](mailto:zionman@netnct.net) | 541-296-8578

Flag Stone

SENIOR LIVING

Home is where you feel it.

Independent Living  
Assisted Living  
Memory Care  
Respite Care

541-298-5656

3325 Columbia View Dr., The Dalles  
[FlagstoneSeniorLiving.com](http://FlagstoneSeniorLiving.com)