

obituaries

Sylvia Coomler

July 22, 1920 – February 18, 2017

Sylvia Coomler, long-time resident of Keizer, passed away peacefully in her sleep in Eugene, on February 18, 2017, of age-related causes. She was 96 years old.



S. Coomler

Sylvia was born in Alexandria, Minnesota, on July 22, 1920, to Joseph Tehle and Mary Hruza Tehle. She moved from there to Wahpeton, North Dakota, then to Woodburn, Oregon, and then to Salem in 1933. As a child, she was a bit of a tom boy and liked to tell stories of playing ball with the boys and running across the tops of trains for fun. She was often asked why she couldn't be more of a lady like her sister. She wore this as a badge of honor and attributed the fresh air and physical activity to her long life.

Sylvia was in the last class to graduate from the old Salem High School in 1937 and then attended Capitol Business College. She married her first love, John K. Coomler, on November 23, 1939. They moved to Manbrin Gardens in Keizer in 1946. She worked with her husband at their business, Coomler and Franz, a hardware/grocery store that was

located on Cherry Avenue and River Road in Keizer. She later worked in accounting and as a receptionist at the Oregon State Forestry Department from 1959 until she retired in 1982.

In her adult years, she was a very elegant woman who always dressed to the nines. Sylvia enjoyed watching many sports, but became most animated watching the Blazers. She liked taking long drives with her husband and trips in their travel trailer, often spending summers in Deepoe Bay. She loved spoiling her grandchildren and spending time with her dear friends, her wonderful neighbors, and her loving family. For several years after her retirement she drove Meals on Wheels. Sylvia kept mentally active by doing crossword puzzles and by being an avid reader, especially of biographies, non-fiction, and newspapers. She kept current on politics until the end of her life. Sylvia loved to garden; her yard was always a showcase that brought her great joy.

Sylvia was an incredibly independent woman who lived on her terms in her own home for 68 years until she was 94. Although she didn't drive often or far, it made her smile when

at 94 her driver's license was renewed for 8 years, or until she was 102.

John and Sylvia had two children, Judy and John, Jr. Sylvia was fiercely devoted to and protective of her entire family. With help from her children and wonderful neighbors she lived in the home that she loved until the last few months of her life. Her love for her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren was complete and unconditional.

Sylvia is preceded in death by her husband of almost 60 years, John K. Coomler, sisters Lillian Myers and Mildred French, and brother Lester Tehle. She is survived by her daughter, Judy Boler (husband Rich); son, John Jr.; grandchildren, Linda, Leslie, and Dan; five great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews who all adored and respected her. She will be dearly missed and fondly remembered.

Thank you to the wonderful staff at Emerald Valley Assisted Living and PeaceHealth Hospice in Eugene for all of the care and kindness that made Sylvia's end of life comfortable. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Meals on Wheels. Family and friends will celebrate Sylvia's life on March 18th at 1 p.m. at McNary Golf Course in Keizer.

Submit an obituary through our website at keizertimes.com or send an email to: editor@keizertimes.com

Lorrie Jean James

May 9, 1960 – February 18, 2017

Lorrie was born May 9, 1960. She was suddenly called home by our Heavenly Father Feb. 18, 2017.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, Lorrie was raised in Vancouver, Wash. She graduated from Evergreen High in 1978, and went on to a very successful career as a licensed hearing instrument specialist in Portland and Keizer and finally Albany. She finally found her soul-mate and loving husband, Michael James, and they married January 7, 2011. She had no children of her own, but became an instant mother to Michael's sons Stephen and Christopher, and grandmother to Jeffrey, Joshua, Larissa, Chris Jr., Robbie, Stephen Jr., David, Cody, and McKensi.

Lorrie and Michael both loved to travel which included 14 cruises in Europe, the Caribbean and many trips to Mexico. She had a passion for cooking and computer games, and had just joined the Keizer

Elks Club and was learning to line dance. She was a member of Morning Star Church.

She will be missed by her many special friends as well as her hearing aid patients from Keizer and Albany.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Michael, and mother, Katherine. She is survived by father Curtis Schaeffer, sisters Sharon Green and Carolyn Woltman, brothers Randy and Roger, five nieces, seven nephews, six great-nephews, and four great-nieces.

A memorial service will be held at Morning Star Church in Salem on Saturday, March 11 at 2 p.m. and eulogized by Pastor Scott, who had officiated at her 2011 wedding to Michael.

In lieu of flowers you may donate to your local food bank.



L. James

Betty Corey

June 4, 1925 – December 31, 2016

A celebration of life for Betty Corey will be held March 11, 2017, at John Knox Presbyterian Church 452 Cummings Lane N, Keizer OR at 2 p.m.

Betty, a long time Keizer resident, passed away on Dec. 31, 2016.

She is survived by Donna Benjamin (Tom), Steven Corey, Patricia Newton (Richard); grandchildren Scott, Greg, Justin Benjamin, Travis, Sean and Adrienne Newton; great grandchildren Patrick, Kevin, Dakota, Nikki Benjamin; Joby (by marriage), Justin Ace, Lilliana and Grady Newton.

The family is asking any donations be made to John Knox Presbyterian Church.



B. Corey

Theatre Fest begins March 17

The Salem Theatre Network will be hosting the Cherry Blossom Theatre Festival, a city-wide event in downtown Salem March 17

through 19.

The festival will feature 20 performances, five workshops, six of Salem's downtown theatre venues, exclusive wine and beer tasting, and passports and prizes.

A one act competition will feature performers from Beaverton Civic Theater, Gallery Theater and Pentacle Theatre. Four area theater companies, including Keizer Homegrown Theater, have performances slated. Workshop topics include acting auditions, tools for devised per-

formances, directing actors, nailing mass auditions and body awareness on the stage.

A River City Rock Academy performance will close out the weekend.

Passes for the entire weekend are available to purchase at salemtheatrenetwork.org. There are discount passes for students with a special educational track, and VIP passes for adults with wine and beer tastings.

Prices start at \$25 for students. Basic adult passes are \$35.



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