

OBITUARIES

Sterling John Ficken

Astoria

Nov. 1, 1949 — Feb. 27, 2021

Sterling John Ficken, 71, passed away Feb. 27, 2021, at his home in Astoria.

Born Nov. 1, 1949, to John Nicholas Ficken and Angela Elaine (McGovern) Ficken, he was the oldest of five siblings. He married Dawn Colleen Headley in 1976 in Astoria.

Sterling attended Lewis and Clark Consolidated Grade School and Astoria High School, graduating in 1968. In 1970, he received an associate's degree from the Clatsop Community College agriculture program.

Sterling held many jobs during his youth, caddying at the golf course, milking cows, logging and cutting and wrapping meat at Zero Zone Locker. He was a shareholder at the Astoria Plywood Mill before its closure.

Working for Ag-Bag, his travels took him across farmland throughout the western states. Talking to potential customers was right up his alley! He worked at the rock pit for Warrenton Fibre/Nygaard Logging, and was employed for over 20 years, refusing to retire!

Sterling and his brother, Jack, started the Ficken Brothers Hog Farm, raising both commercial and show pigs to help and support the area youth. It was at this time he affectionately became known as "Boss Hog."

4-H and Future Farmers of America were the cornerstones of his youth, offering him many opportunities for travel and education, but most of all, fun! He was the first Clatsop County chapter president.

Some of his best memories were of summers spent with friends at the county and state fairs. His involvement with the fair continued as an adult. Serving as an auction ring-man he hustled the bids with his iconic "yeeeeeeup" and his cane to get the best price possible for the kids.

He served as a Clatsop County Fair

Board member for many years, and was a current member and past president of the Clatsop County Livestock Association.

He was a cheerleader for the youth in the community. His passion was coaching Little League and Babe Ruth baseball teams, including being the "Commish." He could always be found at Astoria High School basketball games, and as part of the Chain Gang at football games.

Well known for his trading abilities, he always had seafood, apples or asparagus to share with friends and family. Sterling was blessed by many friendships, including the Lewis & Clark gang, golfing buddies, Scandinavian Benevolent Society, dinner group, party group and the Big O. He didn't know a stranger.

Always there to offer his support and encouragement to his children, Sterling was the best "Poppa" to his grandchildren, taking an active interest in all their activities, making sure the kids always had an ice cream and a little "jingle" in their pockets.

Sterling is survived by his wife, Dawn; daughter, Heather Ficken-Sovince (Ben) and grandchildren, Callahan and Clayton; son, Jason Ficken, and grandchildren, Hunter, Alice and Fiona; siblings, Molly (Leonard) Brown, Mindy (Ron) Sloper, Tracy Gray and Jack (Teresa) Ficken; sisters-in-law, Sandra (Chuck) Kienholz and Roxanne Headley; cousin, Mike Roby; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Astoria High School athletics, the local Clatsop County 4-H scholarship fund or the Astoria FFA chapter.

Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements. Please sign our online guest book at caldwellsmortuary.com



Sterling Ficken

Donald Duane Schock

Yuma, Arizona

April 1, 1940 — Oct. 4, 2020



Donald Duane Schock passed away peacefully in his sleep on Oct. 4, 2020, with his loving wife, Carol, by his side at their home in Yuma, Arizona.

Born April 1, 1940, to Henry and Edna Schock, he graduated from high school in Colorado Springs, Colorado, then attended college in Pueblo, Colorado, studying refrigeration.

He was instrumental in the concrete construction of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He was drafted into the Army National Guard and served until released.

He moved to Astoria in 1965 to work on the Astoria Bridge with his father, Henry. While in Astoria, he met and married Dorothy (Sharon) Whitsberger and her two daughters, Julie Niemi and Pam Marez, in 1968. They had one son, Donald Doyle Schock. They later divorced.

Don then met, and eventually married, Carol Sutcliffe and her two girls, Gina Govea and Janelle Norton, in April 1981.

After losing his father, Don owned and operated the Triangle Tavern for many years. He enjoyed hosting pinocle and cribbage tournaments, and delighted in serving the military members who stopped by while visiting the area for the Astoria Regatta or heading to the Portland Rose Festival.

Don owned and operated D&D Concrete for 40 years. His work can be found throughout multiple counties in Oregon.

Some of his work includes the foundations of many well-known places: Hauke's Sentry Market (now Safeway), Astoria Builders Supply, Stephanie's Cabin (formerly The Dutch Cup), McDonald's and Burger King, the tall retaining wall located behind Dairy Queen, the concrete framing of the "Welcome to Astoria" sign on the east end of town, Jeffers Gardens Mini Storage, his own house and many other sidewalks, driveways, retaining walls, foundations, patios and various other projects around town. If you look down while walking around town, you may

see his stamp.

He was active member of the Jaycees, Astoria ABATE motorcycle club and, in 2016, received the honor of being an active member of the American Legion for 50 continuous years.

He enjoyed spending time with children by being a part of the Start Making a Reader Today and Lunch Buddy programs for the Astoria School District. He helped construct a BMX course in Alderbrook Park, coordinated the ABATE toy drive for several years and coached T-ball.

He always encouraged the kids to give it their best, and treated the kids to ice cream after every game; every kid on the team was a winner.

Halloween was his favorite time of year. Kids would flock from all over Astoria (some from Seaside) to receive a king size Snickers bar.

He spent his spare time making wooden toys for kids, especially large wooden rocking horses, one of which adorned the reception area of Dr. Gary Pedersen's dental practice in Astoria.

Don is survived by his wife, Carol; his daughters, Gina Govea (Leo), Janelle Norton (Grant), Julie Niemi (John) and Pam Marez; his younger brother, Edward Schock; his grandchildren, Daniel Green (Holly), Kari Rochester (Garette), James Green (Erica), Zackry Norton, Shoshanna McCleary, Christopher Barnett and Allen Barnett; and several great-grandchildren, Hunter and Harper Green, Beckett and Claire Rochester and Mercedes, Bentley, Aston and Iyah Green.

He is preceded in death by his father, Henry Schock; his mother, Edna Schock; and his son, Donald Schock. His older sister, Lois Hedges, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, passed away shortly after Don's passing.

Due to COVID-19, a celebration of life will be held at a future date. An announcement will be made when a date and location are determined.



Donald Schock

Ronald Dale Elmes

Seaside

July 14, 1937 — Feb. 24, 2021

Ronald Dale Elmes, 83, of Seaside, passed away peacefully on Feb. 24, 2021, surrounded by his family.

A man of fortitude, determination, kindness, humor, love, strength and character, he cherished his family and friends, and was quick with a joke and a friendly handshake.

An avid outdoorsman, his love of nature took him on many camping, hunting and fishing adventures, most often in central Oregon. He also loved the game of golf, especially alongside his son, Matt, and grandson, Riley.

Born July 14, 1937, to Orvetta and Ronald Elmes in Eugene, Ron graduated from Lake Oswego High School and attended Principia College in Elmhurst, Illinois.

He served four years at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina, and later returned to Oregon in 1963 to begin a 25-year career with U.S. Bank. He appreciated being able to help people with banking solutions, giving them a way to improve their lives.

He devoted himself to community service as a member of the Rotary Foundation, where he served as secretary, vice president and president during his years of service, and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow medallion. He was also an active

member of the Elks Lodge and a U.S. Jaycee.

Throughout his life he thrived on spending time outdoors, and spent many years in central Oregon, where he enjoyed the high desert lifestyle of shooting, hunting, golfing and canoeing with friends and his beloved dogs.

Ron would say his favorite career move was serving as a golf course marshal at Eagle Crest Resort, where, on June 16, 2002, Ron used his six-iron to record a hole-in-one at the par-three first hole (146 yards).

Most recently, he returned to the small coastal town of Seaside, where he always felt most at home. Ron loved people, laughed easily and was a constant presence on local golf courses.

Ron is survived by his three children, Lisa (Doug Marunde), Tracy (Christopher Boese) and Matt (Maribeth) Elmes; and six grandchildren, Tyler, Trevor, Scott and Devon Marunde and Riley and Libby Elmes. Ron loved his family, in whom he took great pride. He lived fully, embracing all that his beautiful state of Oregon had to offer.

A private memorial service will be held for family and friends.

Share a memory at HughesRansom.com



Ronald Elmes

OBITUARY POLICY

The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria.

For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

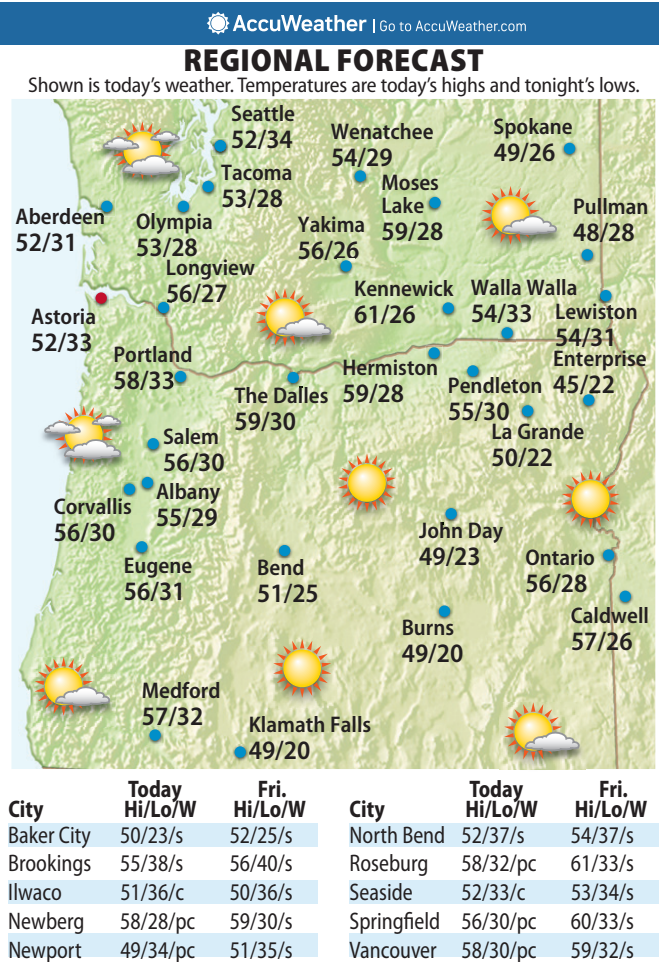
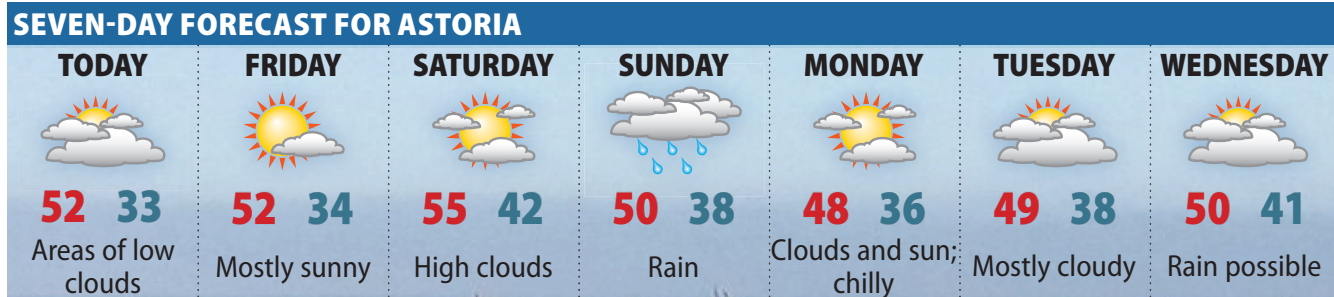
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ALMANAC
Astoria through Tuesday

Temperatures

High/low	50/39
Normal high/low	53/38
Record high	73 in 1934
Record low	27 in 1969

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.16"
Month to date	1.68"
Normal month to date	2.28"
Year to date	29.60"
Normal year to date	19.67"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: Before sunrise, conjunction of the waning gibbous moon and Jupiter.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:36 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:16 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:23 a.m.
Moonset today	4:31 p.m.

New First Full Last
Mar 13 Mar 21 Mar 28 Apr 4

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
	12:10 a.m.	7.6	5:55 a.m.	2.3
	11:41 a.m.	8.3	6:36 p.m.	-0.4
Cape Disappointment	11:21 a.m.	8.4	5:14 a.m.	-2.8
	none		5:51 p.m.	-0.2
Hammond	12:05 a.m.	7.7	5:32 a.m.	2.4
	11:32 a.m.	8.6	6:05 p.m.	-0.5
Warrenton	12:05 a.m.	8.0	5:39 a.m.	2.5
	11:36 a.m.	8.7	6:20 p.m.	-0.3
Knappa	12:47 a.m.	7.8	6:56 a.m.	2.0
	12:18 p.m.	8.5	7:37 p.m.	-0.3
Depoe Bay	10:36 a.m.	8.5	4:43 a.m.	2.8
	11:45 p.m.	7.8	5:18 p.m.	-0.3

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	74/52/pc	78/55/c
Boston	67/51/pc	61/33/pc
Chicago	60/36/r	55/32/pc
Dallas	78/64/c	77/62/c
Denver	46/28/c	40/28/c
Honolulu	81/69/sh	81/68/sh
Houston	80/66/pc	81/66/pc
Los Angeles	56/43/t	60/45/pc
Miami	78/68/sh	79/68/pc
New York City	68/55/pc	66/35/pc
Phoenix	64/50/pc	61/46/pc
San Francisco	58/45/pc	63/46/pc
Wash., DC	75/58/pc	70/43/sh
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.		