

Marilyn Kay Bowers

Astoria

Jan. 1, 1941 — Jan. 25, 2022

Marilyn Kay Bowers was born at home in Abilene, Kansas, on Jan. 1, 1941, the first to be born in Abilene that year. She passed away while in hospice care in Vancouver, Washington, on Jan. 25, 2022.

Growing up, Marilyn's dad was the caretaker of the Eisenhower Park where they lived, so the park was her playground. Lots of hours were spent playing in the pool and around the park.

After graduating from Abilene High School in 1958, Marilyn went to work for Bell Telephone as an operator. Wanting to see other places, she transferred to Orange County, California, where she remained with the phone company, working her way up to an estimate assigner locating phone lines, until her retirement 30 years later.

Marilyn had a yearly pass to Disneyland for many years, and was delighted to take her nieces, nephews and their families there when they came to visit. Also, being a big sports fan, a trip to watch the Los Angeles Angels was usually on the agenda.

Oddly enough, Marilyn had three best friends, all named Mary Ann. They all had many adventures, and traveled together over the years.

After retirement, wanting a quieter lifestyle and to be closer to her sister, Marilyn moved to Astoria. To keep busy, she volunteered to operate the snack shack at Tapiola Park for Babe Ruth Baseball. She also took on a walking paper route for The Daily Asto-

rian on the steep hillside of Astoria. Marilyn was also very active in her church, First Baptist Church of Astoria.

Marilyn was a lifelong animal lover who had a horse and many special dogs and cats over the years. She was also a huge sports fan who followed professional and college baseball, football and basketball. Her favorite sport was whatever season we were in at the time.

After having suffered two major strokes, she gave up the home she loved and moved to Astor Place Assisted Living Community, where she made lots of new friends. Thank you to those who cared for her there for the past seven years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ellis and Iris (Callahan) Bowers; brothers, Glenn Bowers, Jack Bowers and Gerald "Swede" Bowers (Floy); a sister, Dorothy Jones; and best friend, Mary Ann Lugo.

She is survived by one brother, Robert Bowers, of California; nephews, Mike Jones (Jan Mogenson-Jones), of Astoria, Bruce, Barry and Brad Bowers, of Abilene, and Patrick Bowers, of Oklahoma; and nieces, Carrie Payne and Susan Larson, of Abilene, Tracy Kilgore, of New Mexico, and Pam Hawkins, of California. Also surviving are many great-nieces, great-nephews and close friend Mary Ann (Simpson) Hunter.

The family plans to scatter her ashes later this spring.



Marilyn Bowers

Michael Ray Stevenson

Gearhart

July 27, 1967 — Jan. 30, 2022

"Character comes out in adversity, and he was a beacon to everyone as he bravely dealt with what would have defeated a lesser soul." — John Stevenson

Michael Ray Stevenson entered the world on July 27, 1967, in Escondido, California. He was the first child born to his parents, and the first grandson for both sides of the family. He was joined by a brother, Daniel Robert, in 1970, and sister, Sharon Rose, in 1974.

In 1976, the family packed up and moved to La Grande. Except for an occasional adventure, Mike would spend most of his next 29 years there. The family lived in a big, old farmhouse on 10 acres of land. There would be a huge variety of animals around, and Mike was always an animal lover.

He attended Greenwood Elementary School, graduated from La Grande High School in 1985, and attended Eastern Oregon State College part time.

He enjoyed fishing, bowling and softball, and excelled in racquetball. Football and baseball were also a passion, with favorite teams including the Oregon Ducks and NFL team the Rams.

There were many Cubs games attended with Grandpa Kendall, his brother and Uncle Joe at Wrigley Field during visits to his mother's hometown of Chicago.

He loved music, with his favorite band being U2. He finally got to attend one of their concerts with his brother and son in 2011. Mike braved an Alaskan cruise in 2015, and delighted in seeing the glaciers and whales.

His two sons, Alex in 1992, and Garrett in 1998, were both born in La Grande. In November 2005, a life changing, work-related accident occurred. Mike was left completely and permanently disabled. After one and a half years in hospitals and rehab facilities, he would settle into a new home in

Gearhart to be nearer to family.

There would be many challenges over the next 16 years, which Mike faced with extraordinary strength and courage. He never lost his quick wit and sense of humor.

In 2017, he welcomed grandson Chevy Michael James Stevenson, in whom he took great delight. He was loved deeply by his family and cherished by many friends throughout the years.

On Jan. 30, 2022, Mike's body gave out, related to his ongoing medical challenges; his spirit will live on forever.

Mike is survived by his parents, Stanley and Rosemary Stevenson, of Gearhart; brother, Dan, of Boise, Idaho; sister, Sharon (Boty), of Gearhart; his son, Alex, of Seaside; and his grandson, Chevy, of Post Falls, Idaho.

He was a loving uncle to Noah, of Springfield, Gavin, of Gearhart, and Vann, of La Grande. His stepchildren, Kayla and Kyle, remember him fondly. He is also survived by other family members, and many loyal friends, and his loving yellow Lab, "Kirby," and felines, "Dexter" and "Marley."

His family appreciated the dedicated caregivers who provided help for Mike throughout the years.

He was preceded in death by his son, Garrett Michael Stevenson, on Jan. 9, 2022; infant sister, Mary, in 1968; and his grandparents, Robert and Helen Kendall and John and Lois Stevenson.

Donations can be made to the Providence Seaside Hospital Foundation, or Lower Columbia Hospice, in Mike's memory.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date, to be announced.

Please visit hughesransom.com to sign our online guest book and for direct links to make donations in Michael's honor.



Michael Stevenson

Viola 'Vi' Leonhardt

Ocean Park, Washington

Dec. 23, 1928 — Feb. 2, 2022

Viola was born in Arthyde, Minnesota, on Dec. 23, 1928. Her parents, Fred Hendrickson and Vieno (Warpula) Hendrickson, spoke only Finnish, and Viola learned to speak English at Lepisto School, a one-room schoolhouse in rural north central Minnesota.

Viola shared memories of trudging through very deep snow with her older brother, Edwin, getting her tongue stuck on an icy chinning bar just like the scene in the classic holiday movie, "A Christmas Story." Her favorite time at school was recess, when the children were allowed to chatter with one another in Finnish, as it was English only in the classroom.

In 1938, her family auctioned their dairy farm in Minnesota, loaded up the Model A Ford, and headed for Taft (Lincoln City). The seemingly endless drive featured many bologna sandwiches on homemade bread, and scary times on the narrow passes over the Rocky Mountains. In her adult years, Viola never, ever was fond of bologna or high places.

Her teen years in Taft were spent relishing school and activities, working at the soda fountain at the Taft Drug Store and helping with milk house chores at the small family dairy farm.

Her parents moved to Portland at the start of World War II, where they bought a boarding house and worked in the shipyards. Upon her graduation from Taft High School in 1946, Viola joined them and went to work at Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Portland.

It was in Portland, in 1947, through mutual friends, that she met Harold Leonhardt, who had asked "who is the girl in the red coat?" After dating for a few months, they married on Oct. 18, 1947.

In 1953, they moved to their home on Youngs River Road in Astoria. Viola was a stay-at-home mom until 1965, when she went to work as a teacher's assistant at Lewis and Clark Consolidated School.

For several years prior to her retirement in 1988, she worked in the library in the K-8 school. She had a wonderful knack for steering each child toward a book she felt would encourage them to share her love of reading.

One of her favorite accomplishments was learning to tap dance at age 50. She and two of her contemporaries in the class savored the applause they received

while dancing to "Puttin' on the Ritz" during the annual Astoria dance recital.

After her husband passed away in 2005, she remained in Astoria until 2008, when she moved to South Bend, Washington. She made many friends there, and especially enjoyed their regular Friday morning restaurant date known as "old people's breakfast" at a local restaurant with attendees from ages 5 to 80-plus.

She enjoyed extraordinarily good health throughout her life (which she attributed to Minnesota well water) until 2016, when she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

A Finnish woman with much "sisu," she continued to live on her own until 2019, when she decided assisted living might be a good idea. As her disease progressed, she spent her last year at Coastal Care in Ocean Park, Washington, where she received never-ending love and assistance from her caregivers.

She passed peacefully on Feb. 2, 2022.

Viola was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Harold Leonhardt; parents, Fred and Vieno Hendrickson; brother, Edwin Hendrickson; and son-in-law, Andy Overby.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, David Leonhardt and Connie Haas, of Sherwood; grandsons, Joe Leonhardt (Jess Campbell), of Cottage Grove, and Tim Leonhardt, of Sherwood; daughter, Julie Overby and "dear one" Mike Wagenblast, of South Bend; granddaughter, Erika Overby and grandson Joseph Overby, both of South Bend; nephews, Bob Walsh, of Seaside, and Mike Walsh, of Mulino; and nieces, Susan Mickelberry, of Portland, Carol Feltz, of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and Connie Herring and Mary LeFebvre, both of Lincoln City.

The family will host a celebration of life in Viola's memory at Suomi Hall (United Finnish Kaleva Brothers & Sisters) in Astoria this spring. The date and time will be announced.

In remembrance of Viola's life, the family suggests any charitable donations be made to: Friends of Suomi Hall, P.O. Box 146, Astoria, OR., 97103; or to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD., 21741-5014.



Viola Leonhardt



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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
51 41 Partly sunny	56 40 Partly sunny	55 37 Partly sunny	57 39 Plenty of sun	58 40 Partly sunny	52 42 Mostly sunny	52 40 Cloudy

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday
Temperatures
 High/low 61/34
 Normal high/low 50/38
 Record high 65 in 1954
 Record low 20 in 2014
Precipitation
 Sunday 0.00"
 Month to date 0.35"
 Normal month to date 1.64"
 Year to date 13.83"
 Normal year to date 12.23"

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Hydra, the water snake, takes more than seven hours for the whole snake to rise.

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:29 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 5:31 p.m.
 Moonrise today 11:03 a.m.
 Moonset today 1:13 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Feb 8	Feb 16	Feb 23	Mar 2

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
6:05 a.m.	7.9	1:14 p.m.	1.8
7:19 p.m.	5.6	none	
Cape Disappointment	5:45 a.m.	7.8	12:32 p.m.
7:00 p.m.	5.3	11:51 p.m.	3.8
Hammond	5:53 a.m.	8.0	12:50 p.m.
7:08 p.m.	5.6	none	
Warrenton	6:00 a.m.	8.3	12:58 p.m.
7:14 p.m.	6.0	none	
Knappa	6:42 a.m.	8.2	12:43 a.m.
7:56 p.m.	5.9	2:15 p.m.	1.5
Depoe Bay	5:01 a.m.	8.1	12:06 p.m.
6:20 p.m.	5.6	11:13 p.m.	4.0

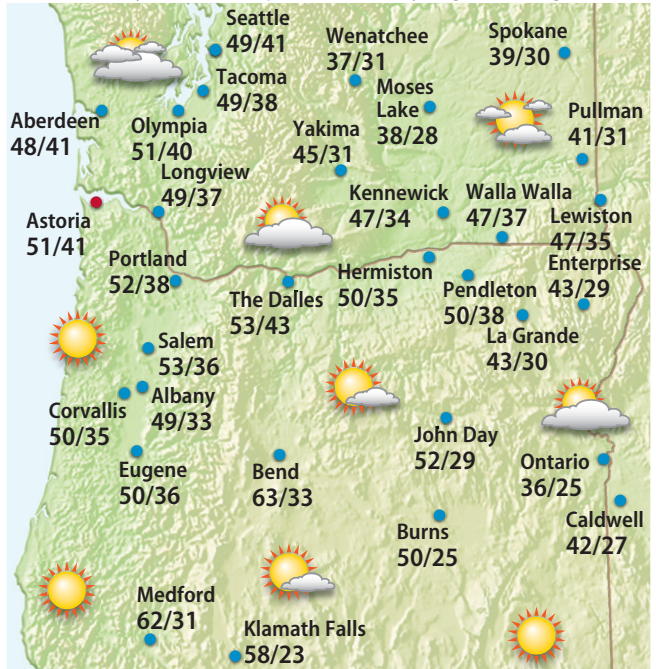
NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	56/35/s	59/39/s
Boston	41/27/r	41/33/pc
Chicago	36/31/pc	38/24/sf
Dallas	68/37/s	67/37/s
Denver	48/28/pc	46/28/pc
Honolulu	81/67/s	81/67/s
Houston	63/40/s	66/41/s
Los Angeles	80/58/s	87/58/s
Miami	77/63/sh	73/58/c
New York City	46/31/pc	46/33/s
Phoenix	74/50/s	78/50/s
San Francisco	66/48/s	68/50/s
Wash., DC	46/31/pc	55/39/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	35/21/pc	40/24/s	North Bend	58/41/s	60/44/s
Brookings	67/50/s	68/50/s	Roseburg	55/37/pc	59/40/pc
Ilwaco	48/42/pc	53/41/pc	Seaside	51/40/pc	57/38/pc
Newberg	50/34/pc	57/36/s	Springfield	50/35/s	58/36/s
Newport	54/41/s	57/42/pc	Vancouver	50/35/pc	56/38/s