

OBITUARIES

### Jeffrey Len Harrod

Portland

Sept. 5, 1954 — Aug. 21, 2021

Jeffrey Len Harrod passed away peacefully on Aug. 21, 2021, in Portland. He was born on Sept. 5, 1954, in Pasadena, California, to Charles "Chuck" and Janice Thomas.

Chuck passed away from cancer when Jeff was 4 years old. Jan relocated to Warrenton, where she had family, along with Jim, Jeff and Gregg.

Jan later met and married William "Marv" Harrod. Marv adopted Jeff and Gregg in 1962. Jeff spent the rest of his childhood in Warrenton. He felt very fortunate to have grown up in a small town, and make lifelong friends.

He particularly liked spending time at the Dyer house, raiding the refrigerator and playing hoops and cards. He excelled in both sports and academics. He was coached on the basketball team by Bob Cole, who later in life became a good friend.

Jeff graduated from Warrenton High School as class valedictorian in 1972. During summer breaks, Jeff worked as a deckhand on charter boats for Warrenton Deep Sea. He caught the eye of Leonard Prince, president of Electrical Construction Co., and was hired to skipper their company fishing boat. He operated the Ol' Jane out of Hammond until it was sold, due to the economic slowdown.

After graduating from Warrenton High School, Jeff attended Lewis & Clark College. He played baseball for the Pioneers, and enjoyed being among a group of students from all over the U.S.

He later returned to the coast and attended Clatsop Community College, where he played on the basketball team. He had some great stories about the road trips, including a memorable tournament in Hawaii.

He left college when Leonard offered him a full time position at Electrical Construction. He remained there for 47 years in several positions, his last day being one week before his passing.

Jeff and Lori were married in Gearhart at The Lodge at Little Beach on Sept. 20, 1980. They were nearly inseparable for over four decades until his passing. They enjoyed traveling to their favorite destination, Poipu Beach, Kauai. Other favorite vacation spots were Maui, Las Vegas (cabanas with overhead spritzers!), Palm Springs, California, Sunriver and Lincoln City.

Jeff enjoyed watching sports, and was a fan of the Portland Trail Blazers and the San Diego Padres. In his younger days, he drove "The White Knight" solo from Portland

to San Diego to attend a Padre home stand. He loved his dogs. They adopted four dogs over the years including "Cisco," "Makani" and two retired racing greyhounds, first "Brennecke," and later "Kapuna." He was known by some in the neighborhood as "The Greyhound Guy." Many folks believe that they were all waiting for him at the Rainbow Bridge.

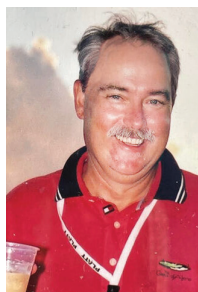
He was proud to participate in the Aloha Angel Escort Program, facilitating transportation for dogs from the overcrowded Kauai Humane Society to the Oregon Humane Society on several of their return trips from Kauai.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Lori; brother, Gregg (Teri); sister-in-law, Michele Thomas; numerous nieces and nephews; and godson, Nick Bjork.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Jim Thomas and Marv Harrod; and goddaughters, Darci and Alea Bjork.

Jeff expressed that he wanted a celebration of life to be held in Gearhart, with Hawaiian attire preferred. Yes, that means shorts are OK! The event will be held at the Sons of Norway Lodge in Gearhart, 2910 U.S. Highway 101, on May 14, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Remembrances may be made to the Oregon Humane Society, Best Friends Animal Society, the Northeast Emergency Food Program in Portland or the charity of your choice.



Jeffrey Harrod

### Joel Eric Mendenhall

New York City

April 22, 1973 — March 26, 2022

Joel Eric Mendenhall passed away at home in New York City on March 26, 2022.

He was born in Astoria on April 22, 1973, and was a graduate of Warrenton High School via Clatsop Community College. He later went on to graduate from Empire Beauty School in Manhattan.

Early in his career, Joel worked in sales and later event production and promotion in San Francisco, Miami and New York City. He had a special talent for artistry in cosmetics. He was an Emmy-nominated New York City based makeup artist and hair and wig stylist for editorial, catalog, advertising, television, film and theater.

His talent was seen through his work on

well known shows, such as the "Today" show, "Access Hollywood," CNN, "Ugly Betty," "As the World Turns," "The Celebrity Apprentice," "American Idol" and many more.

He was preceded in death by his father, Neil Mendenhall Sr.

He is survived by his mother, Virginia Whealdon (Jeff); brother, Andy Mendenhall (Tami); sisters, Rhonda Wills (Jim) and Karen Allen (Steve); aunt, Kay Vollmer; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements for a graveside burial service on July 16 at 1 p.m. at Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton are being handled through Brian Dutton of Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Services of Astoria.



Joel Mendenhall

## Utilities to spend millions on upgrades to reduce wildfire ignition risks

By TOM BANSE  
Northwest News Network

Private electric utilities in the Pacific Northwest are planning tens of millions of dollars in upgrades to reduce the risk that their power lines could spark wildfires during extreme weather. Utilities such as Pacific Power, Avista Utilities, Idaho Power, Portland General Electric and Puget Sound Energy are either required to or voluntarily submitting wildfire mitigation plans. The 2022 editions are now public.

These reports show major spending increases to harden infrastructure, remove trees near power lines and install systems to instantaneously deenergize circuits if a fault is detected during a windstorm. Pacific Power, for example, said it forecasts \$473 million in wildfire protection spending over the next five years. PGE, with a much smaller service territory, budgeted \$32 million in wildfire program operations and capital costs just for this year.

Utilities will eventually seek to recover those costs through customers' monthly bills. Proposed electric rate increases pending before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission already include some wildfire mitigation costs.

"We define a risk tree as anything dead,

dying or diseased that can strike a power line," David James, wildfire resiliency manager for Spokane-based Avista Utilities, told an oversight hearing of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission on Wednesday. "Year-to-date, we've removed over 4,000 trees — 4,416 trees. That is just incredible."

At the same virtual meeting, executives of Pacific Power and Puget Sound Energy described investments pretty much all major Western utilities are making to both prevent the grid from sparking wildfires and prevent passing fires from taking down electric service. The infrastructure hardening measures include installing covered conductors, relocating power lines and replacing some wooden transmission poles with steel. In rare instances, overhead power lines are being replaced with underground wires, but that is expensive.

In Oregon, the Legislature last year required electric utilities to submit a wildfire mitigation plan annually. In the past week, the Oregon Public Utility Commission approved the 2022 wildfire plans produced by the private utilities it regulates, Pacific Power, PGE and Idaho Power. The latter's approval came with a caveat that Idaho Power must submit additional info to separate costs between its Idaho and Eastern Oregon customer bases.

### Randall W. Hunt

Astoria

April 26, 1951 — Oct. 11, 2021

Randall W. Hunt (aka "Bert") was born April 26, 1951, at St. Mary's Hospital in Astoria, and died on Oct. 11, 2021, at 7:45 a.m. at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria.

Born with four major heart defects (Tetralogy of Fallot), Randy had a hard time keeping up with other kids in his hometown of Svensen. But at 16, he underwent open-heart surgery at Oregon Health & Science University Hospital, and suddenly became relatively mobile for the first time in his life.

He had a pretty wild time with friends in Knappa High School, later attending the University of Oregon, Gonzaga University and Clatsop Community College, with a focus on being a journalist and writer. He loved putting together a newspaper. He kept in touch with friends and family with letters that always brought a good laugh.

Randy was determined to have a good life in spite of his heart condition. A voracious reader, he had a nonstop yen for learning, a lifelong love of movies, and a mania for basketball. He was a masterful house painter for 40 years.

His wanderlust took him to San Francisco and Portland, where he met his fellow "Erd," Caroline Taylor, in 1991. In 1997, they visited her family in the U.K. Their quirky and hilarious dynamic was a joy to behold. Behind the scenes, they were a world unto themselves. They moved back to Svensen in 2015.

Over the years, Randy's heart began to weaken, and there were many visits to the cardiac unit at OHSU. He underwent various procedures and the implantation of three defibrillator-pacemakers.

Randy made people feel better by simply walking into a room. He was uniformly described as "authentic," "easy to be with," "a lovely person," "an excellent man." He could make you laugh till you cried, and was so easy to talk to.

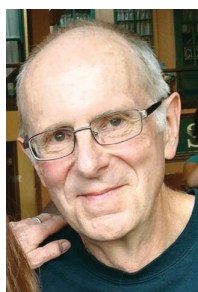
Randy wanted more than anything to publish at least one interesting and meaningful book, and he left behind a manuscript that Caroline will finish. "Bert's Box" recounts his experiences growing up in the lower Columbia River valley, his family's history in the area, as well as a history of the area itself.

Randy lived much longer than most people with Tetralogy of Fallot. Throughout his life, he benefited from, and actually influenced, new cardiac technology and procedures. That continues to this day.

He is survived by Caroline; his sisters, Linda, Teresa, and Debbie; his brother, Jon; 10 adoring nieces and nephews; many cousins, aunts and uncles; and excellent friends.

His mother, Bonnie, outlived him by 18 hours. His father, William "Bill" Hunt Jr., died in 1992.

A celebration of Randy's life will be held on May 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Wickiup Senior Citizen Center in Svensen, 92650 Svensen Market Road.



Randall Hunt

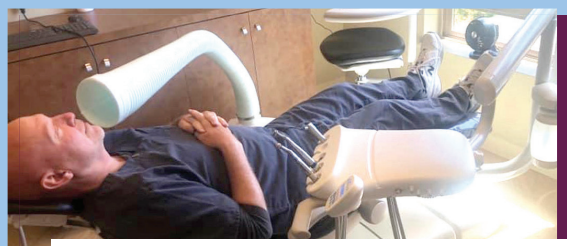


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Diane G.

I saw the highest standard of health safety practices in effect during my hygienist appointment today—much higher precautions than I'd seen in a local hospital when having tests last month. The new sanitation equipment and attention to patient safety at Klemp Family Dentistry is in keeping with a dental practice I consider cutting edge with respect to all my dental needs. It's wonderful having a world class dental practice here at the coast, one where I can have procedures performed for which I used to have to travel to a specialist in Portland. I have been a patient of several local dentists in the past, but none had the skill and, more importantly, the attention to patient comfort that Dr. Klemp provides.

### KLEMP FAMILY DENTISTRY

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### SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
55 43 A little morning rain	56 46 Low clouds	54 44 Showers around	56 43 A morning shower	59 45 Cloudy with a shower	55 44 Rather cloudy, showers	54 42 A bit of rain

### ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

**Temperatures**

High/low ..... 53/39  
Normal high/low ..... 58/43  
Record high ..... 81 in 1925  
Record low ..... 32 in 1985

**Precipitation**

Thursday ..... 0.06"  
Month to date ..... 5.90"  
Normal month to date ..... 5.51"  
Year to date ..... 31.46"  
Normal year to date ..... 31.18"

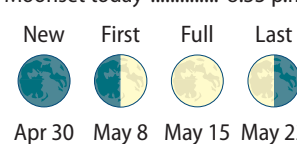
### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight's Sky:** Sunrise now before 6:00 a.m. through Aug. 5.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

### SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today ..... 6:04 a.m.  
Sunset tonight ..... 8:22 p.m.  
Moonrise today ..... 6:09 a.m.  
Moonset today ..... 8:33 p.m.



### TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:26 a.m.	8.5	8:10 a.m.	-0.4	
2:12 p.m.	7.2	8:01 p.m.	1.7	
<b>Cape Disappointment</b>				
1:03 a.m.	8.4	7:20 a.m.	-0.4	
1:55 p.m.	7.1	7:14 p.m.	2.0	
<b>Hammond</b>				
1:13 a.m.	8.8	7:40 a.m.	-0.5	
2:04 p.m.	7.4	7:33 p.m.	1.8	
<b>Warrenton</b>				
1:21 a.m.	8.9	7:54 a.m.	-0.3	
2:07 p.m.	7.6	7:45 p.m.	1.8	
<b>Knappa</b>				
2:03 a.m.	8.7	9:11 a.m.	-0.4	
2:49 p.m.	7.4	9:02 p.m.	1.4	
<b>Depoe Bay</b>				
12:15 a.m.	8.5	6:51 a.m.	-0.5	
1:09 p.m.	7.1	6:42 p.m.	2.0	

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	79/63/t	78/64/t
Boston	62/42/pc	63/46/s
Chicago	65/51/t	57/50/pc
Dallas	87/64/pc	84/67/c
Denver	64/34/s	68/40/pc
Honolulu	84/72/sh	84/71/sh
Houston	86/73/pc	88/73/pc
Los Angeles	78/56/s	75/56/pc
Miami	82/73/t	83/74/t
New York City	66/48/s	68/53/s
Phoenix	95/66/s	94/65/s
San Francisco	65/49/s	65/51/pc
Wash., DC	69/49/s	66/58/c

### REGIONAL FORECAST

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

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Seattle	58/46		Wenatchee	51/39	
Tacoma	56/40		Moses Lake	57/39	
Olympia	55/39		Yakima	59/35	
Longview	59/42		Kennewick	62/47	
Astoria	55/43		The Dalles	63/44	
Portland	60/47		Salem	60/42	
Corvallis	59/39		Albany	58/41	
Eugene	58/41		Bend	58/33	
Medford	65/41		Klamath Falls	59/26	
Spokane	49/40		Pullman	49/41	
Walla Walla	54/43		Lewiston	56/44	
Enterprise	53/38		La Grande	53/42	
Pendleton	59/44		John Day	54/38	
Burns	54/33		Ontario	57/44	
Caldwell	58/43				