

OBITUARIES

LaVerne L. Koorenný

Milton-Freewater
September 28, 1928–February 8, 2015

LaVerne Louis Koorenný, 86, passed away Sunday, February 8, 2015, at The Royal Plaza Rehabilitation Center in Lewiston, Idaho.

He was born September 28, 1928, in Harvey, North Dakota, to two Russian immigrants, Abraham and Mary Koorenný. He was their fifth child, and fifth son out of eight children. Vern's childhood was spent on a small, rural acreage in North Dakota during The Great Depression. While his older brothers helped his father with jobs and chores outside, at the age of five, Vern started helping his mother in the kitchen with cooking, a skill he learned to love and enjoy his whole life.

Vern attended elementary school in Harvey in a one-room school until fourth grade, when the family moved out west to College Place, Washington in 1938. Even with eight children, his parents saw the value of education and were adamant that all of them receive a good one. He graduated high school from the Walla Walla College Academy in 1947. During his high school years, Vern always had a job working in various restaurants, picking fruit and driving wheat trucks in the summers.

After high school, Vern attended Washington State College in Pullman, Washington, and then transferred to Walla Walla College where he studied premed courses until he enlisted in the Army in 1950.

He met his wife of 64 years, Glenna Bohlman, as a teenager. After a three-year courtship, they married December 19th, 1950, before he was sent to basic training.

Vern served in the U.S. Army from 1951-1953 as a military cook on bases in California and Texas. He was promoted to sergeant just two days into his military career because of his cooking experience.

They returned to the College Place/Walla Walla area in 1953 when Vern applied and was accepted to Pacific University's School of Optometry in Forest Grove, Oregon. He attended school full-time while working two jobs with two small children at home. But Vern still excelled in school; he aced his courses and even helped tutor fellow students. After passing the state boards in 1957, he moved to Pendleton, Oregon, to open up his practice.

Vern spent the next 40

years dedicated to optometry. He was devoted to helping his patients, especially children, and had an excellent reputation as a physician. Some patients would even move away but continue to come to Pendleton just to see Dr. Koorenný. His family still enjoys hearing stories from people whose vision he improved through the years. He truly enjoyed his work, and it showed to everyone he helped. He retired at the age of 66 in 1994.

Vern and Glenna retired in Sandpoint, Idaho, on 40 acres of land where he loved working outside on the property by building two houses, creating and maintaining a beautiful garden, fencing, mowing and shoveling snow. But after ten years, their hometown called them home again and in 2004, they packed up and moved to a ten-acre orchard near Milton-Freewater. He took a real interest in fruit farming through his sister and brother-in-law, who were also close neighbors. He still kept an impressive garden, took care of their property, and loved their beautiful view of the Blue Mountains.

Vern had many hobbies in his life including hunting, fishing, golfing, flying airplanes, gardening, working with stained glass and, of course, cooking. Vern loved cooking for his friends and family, especially large holiday meals. And even in his busiest years, Vern kept in touch with his family and friends through the lost art of letter writing. He'd sit at night and write long letters, even after long days of school or work.

He is preceded in death by his parents; five siblings, Robert, Ralph, Raymond, Erwin and Louella (Dawes); and his youngest son Jeffrey Alan Koorenný.

Vern is survived by his wife; his children, a daughter Colleen (and Doug) Berry of Pendleton and a son Brian (and Joan) Koorenný of Clarkston, Washington; two siblings, Floyd Koorenný of Redlands, California, and Donna LaFore of Milton-Freewater; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A memorial service will be at 1:00 p.m. on March 6, 2015, at Mountain View-Colonial DeWitt, 1551 The Dalles Military Road, Walla Walla, Washington, with a reception to follow.

Sarah Raye Asbell

Hermiston
December 30, 2014

Sarah Raye Asbell, "Raye", 91, of Hermiston, Ore., died December 30, 2014. She was a native of Kansas, and attended Galena High School, marrying shortly thereafter and moving to Oregon with her first husband. She spent the remainder of her life in Oregon, in Portland, The Dalles, and then settling in Hermiston in 1957, where she remained until her death. She went to beauty school in Pendleton, became a licensed beautician and opened "Raye's Beauty Salon" on Hermiston Avenue, which she owned and operated until she retired in 1984.

Raye enjoyed volunteerism, specifically Reach to Recovery, as well as involvement with Hospice and the Women's Hospital Auxiliary. She was a member of The Order of the Eastern Star and served as the Worthy Matron for the local Hermiston Queen Esther Chapter in 1972. She was one of the founding members of the Hermiston Relay for Life and served as the first annual Grand Marshall in 1997, which she considered a great honor. She loved dogs and until her later years, always had one by her side. Later in life she was also a member of the United First

Methodist Church.

Raye was twice widowed, first by James "Pete" Brittle, UPRR engineer, in 1962 and then by Clarence "Bill" Asbell, of "Bill's Locksmith," in 1988. She was born to Grace and Joe Martin of Galena, Kansas, and is survived by one of her five siblings, her younger brother, Jeff Martin, of Merced, Calif., whom she adored, as well as by many beloved nieces and nephews. Included among her local nieces are: niece by marriage Lily Brooks of Hermiston, Ore.; great-nieces Becky Brooks Davis of Hermiston, Ore., and Barbara Brooks Otte of Benton City, Wash.; and great-grandnieces Jessie Davis Klindworth of Kennewick, Wash., and Courtney Otte and Molly Otte of Benton City, Wash.

Raye was a happy, friendly person who never met a stranger. She will be laid to rest at Hermiston Cemetery next to her late husbands. Memorial contributions may be made to any of her above causes.

Please sign the condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.



AP Photo/Ric Francis, File

Actor Leonard Nimoy poses for a photograph in 2006 in Los Angeles. Nimoy, famous for playing officer Mr. Spock in "Star Trek" died Friday in Los Angeles of end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Leonard Nimoy, famous as Spock, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In 1975, Leonard Nimoy published an autobiography with the defiant title, "I Am Not Spock." Two decades later, he bowed to fate with "I Am Spock," a revisionist sequel.

But for Trekkies and even casual "Star Trek" viewers, Nimoy was always the coolly composed science officer with the pointed ears and an unwavering belief in logic.

He played a variety of other stage and screen roles, wrote poetry and pursued photography, but Nimoy's portrayal of Mr. Spock remained indelible and incapable.

It wasn't just the trademark ears or the steeply arched eyebrows — which rose higher when Spock was confronted with disconcerting emotion — or the impressive divided-finger salute or the "Live long and prosper" catchphrase.

It was how Nimoy staunchly turned what could have been a caricature into a dignified, inspiringly intellectual and even touching figure, a half-human, half-Vulcan who was a multicultural and multiethnic touchstone, well before it was hip.

For Americans and others who witnessed 1969 U.S. moon landing, and for generations of geeks to come, Spock and "Star Trek" reinforced the power of science and space exploration.

Nimoy died Friday of end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease at his Los Angeles home, with family at his side, said his son, Adam Nimoy. He was 83.

"I loved him like a brother. We will all miss his humor, his talent, and his capacity to love," said Shatner, whose often-emotional Captain Kirk was balanced by the composed Nimoy.

George Takei, Mr. Sulu of "Star Trek," called Nimoy a great man and friend.

"We return you now to the stars, Leonard. You taught us to 'Live Long and Prosper,' and you indeed did, friend," Takei said.

In a 2009 interview with The Associated Press, Leonard Nimoy recalled how an early stage role left him "obsessed" with pursuing work that had a social impact.

"I've fulfilled that dream, including 'Star Trek,' for that matter," he said. "If that's part of the legacy, then I'm very pleased with that. I would hope the work I chose to do had some reason for

being done other than just simply being a job."

He said he hoped his work helped people understand their lives and the world.

He directed several films, including the hit comedy "Three Men and a Baby" and appeared in such plays as "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "Fiddler on the Roof," "The King and I," "My Fair Lady" and "Equus." He also published books of poems, children's stories and his own photographs.

But he could never really escape the role that took him overnight from bit-part actor to TV star. And in a 1995 interview, he sought to analyze the popularity of Spock, the green-blooded space traveler who aspired to live a life based on pure logic.

People identified with Spock because they "recognize in themselves this wish that they could be logical and avoid the pain of anger and confrontation," Nimoy concluded.

"How many times have we come away from an argument wishing we had said and done something different?" he asked.

In the years immediately after "Star Trek" left television, Nimoy tried to shun the role. But he eventually came to embrace it, lampooning himself on such TV shows as "Futurama," "Duckman" and "The Simpsons," and in commercials.

Born in Boston to Jewish immigrants from Russia, Nimoy was raised in an Italian section of the city where he said he felt the sting of anti-Semitism growing up.

He won a drama scholarship to Boston College but eventually dropped out, moved to California and took acting lessons at the Pasadena Playhouse.

In 1954, he married Sandra Zober, a fellow Pasadena Playhouse student, and they had two children, Julie and Adam. They divorced, and in 1988 he married Susan Bay, a film production executive.

Last year, Nimoy used Twitter to announce he had pulmonary disease. He linked it to smoking, a habit he said he quit 30 years before. In January, he tweeted: "Don't smoke. I did. Wish I never had."

Besides his wife, son and daughter, Nimoy is survived by his stepson, Aaron Bay Schuck. Services will be private, Adam Nimoy said.

UPCOMING SERVICES

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

BAKER, FORREST — Memorial services at 3 p.m. at the Pendleton Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1401 S.W. Goodwin Place.

LYON, TRACY — Memorial services at 2 p.m. at Bethel Baptist Church, 209 S.W. First Ave., Milton-Freewater.

MORGAN, KEVIN — Funeral service at 1 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 15 Grant St., Umatilla. Burial will follow at Sunset Hills Cemetery, Umatilla.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

No services scheduled

MONDAY, MARCH 2

No services scheduled

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

PRATT, JIM — Funeral services at 2 p.m. at the Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. Concluding services and interment will follow at the Milton-Freewater Cemetery.

OBITUARY POLICY

The East Oregonian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include small photos and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style.

Expanded death notices will be published at no charge. These include information about services.

Obituaries and notices can be submitted online at www.eastoregonian.com/obituaryform, by email to obits@eastoregonian.com, by fax to 541-276-8314, placed via the funeral home or in person at the East Oregonian office.

For more information, call 541-966-0818 or 1-800-522-0255, ext. 221.

MEETINGS

SATURDAY, FEB. 28
PENDLETON MASTER PLANNING WORK SESSION, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pendleton City Hall annex (next to council chambers), 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave.

UMATILLA BASIN WATER-SHED COUNCIL, 10 a.m. to noon, Pilot Rock City Hall council chambers, 143 W. Main St. Public input on future management and restoration on Birch Creek is requested. (Jon Staldine 541-276-2190).

MONDAY, MARCH 2
HEPPNER PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St.

MILTON-FREEWATER PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave.

WESTON PLANNING COM-

MISSION, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall, 210 E. Main St.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3
UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT, 1:30 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle. (Shawn Halsey 541-966-3774).

WESTON LIBRARY BOARD, 5:30 p.m., Weston Public Library, 108 E. Main St.

IRRIGON PLANNING COMMISSION, 6 p.m., Irrigon City Hall, 500 N.E. Main St.

MEACHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, 7 p.m., Meacham Fire Department, Meacham. (541-786-2069).

BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle.

PENDLETON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall council chambers, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave.

PILOT ROCK CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., council chambers, 143 W. Main St.

STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., council chambers, 150 W. Coe St.

UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
MORROW COUNTY COURT, 9 a.m., Morrow County Courthouse, 100 S. Court St.,

Heppner.

HERMISTON AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 4 p.m., Hermiston Airport lounge, 1600 Airport Way.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BOARD OF EDUCATION, 4:30 p.m. executive session, 5:30 p.m. regular meeting, Blue Mountain Community College Pioneer Hall boardroom, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

PENDLETON FACADE COMMITTEE, 3:30 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community development conference room, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave.

OREGON TRAIL LIBRARY DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING, 6 p.m., OTLD Boardman Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman.

CONDON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Condon City Hall, 128 S. Main St.

UMATILLA FIRE DISTRICT, 7 p.m., 305 Willamette Ave., Umatilla (McNary).

HELIX SCHOOL BOARD, 7:30, Helix School library, 120 Main St.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5
LOWER UMATILLA BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA RESIDENTIAL, OPEN & GREEN SPACE SUBCOMMITTEE, 9 a.m., Stafford Hansell Government Center room 113, 915

S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston. A full LUBGWMA meeting will follow at 10 a.m. (Janet Greenup 541-676-5452).

ADAMS PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Adams City Hall, 190 N. Main St.

PENDLETON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall council chambers, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave.

WESTON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7:30 p.m., Weston City Hall, 114 E. Main St.

LOTTERY

Thursday, Feb. 26

Lucky Lines

03-07-11-13-FREE-17-24-

27-32

Estimated jackpot:

\$14,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 3-4-8-6

4 p.m.: 5-1-6-9

7 p.m.: 3-9-6-1

10 p.m.: 2-2-9-9

Friday, Feb. 27

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 6-5-6-6

AIR QUALITY

Air quality and burn day information: www.pendleton.or.us/public-works/environmental. Air Quality Index: www.deq.state.or.us/aqi. Burn Line: 541-966-0327.

LEO GARY LAVOIE

May 6, 1950 - February 12, 2015

Leo Gary Lavoie was born May 6, 1950 in Tyngsborough, MA & passed away on February 12, 2015 in Milton Freewater, OR. Any interested parties or next of kin for Leo Lavoie, please call the Herring Groseclose Funeral Home at 509-525-1150.

INSULATE FOR SAVINGS & COMFORT



FREE ESTIMATES

TAKE YOUR HOME FROM CHILLY TO COZY BY MAKING INSULATION & WINDOW UPGRADES



Cash incentives available for insulation and windows from Energy Trust of Oregon or your local utility. ASK US!

As an approved Trade Ally contractor of Energy Trust of Oregon, we are qualified to improve the energy efficiency and comfort of your home.

CALL TODAY FOR DETAILS & FREE ESTIMATE!
(541) 567-2348 • (541) 276-0097 • 1-800-265-2348

MR. INSULATION CO. INC.



Stop by our showroom! 30599 Lauback • Hermiston

www.mrinsulation.info

mrinsulation@eotnet.net • CCB#97049 • Member N.E.O.H.B.A.

