

OBITUARIES



**Craig Gene Childress**

**Pendleton**  
**March 4, 1951 - September 14, 2017**

Craig Gene Childress, 66, of Pendleton, Oregon died peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Thursday, September 14, 2017. Born in Roseburg, Oregon, on March 4, 1951, one of three children of the late Arthur L. (Roy) Childress and Joyce Edna Childress.

Craig has always been passionate about sports and a gifted athlete himself. Growing up he was first team all state in football and also played basketball and baseball. He attended Portland State University on a football scholarship and later transferred to the University of Oregon where he received a degree in Political Science. Craig received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from University of Puget Sound School of Law. He had a lifelong career committed to public service working for the state covering juvenile to adult cases both in the District Attorney's office early in his career and as a public defender at the end.

After law school, he met and fell in love with Tracy Heiskari in Madras, Oregon. They eloped April 1, 1983, in Reno, Nevada, celebrating their 34th anniversary this past April.

After a few years, they moved to Roseburg and grew their family to four with two precious daughters before settling in Pendleton for the next 20 years.

Craig was fiercely loyal, committed to his family and work. His most treasured time of year was summer, which he spent growing tomatoes with his wife and vacationing at the Long Beach Peninsula. At the coast Craig most enjoyed flying

kites, hiking to lighthouses, and walking the beach with his dogs.

Craig was diagnosed with brain cancer one year ago and faced his health problems with uncommon grace and courage. Often singing in the house as he tirelessly continued his duties as a husband, father, and son, "Every night and day is beautiful" reminding each of us to cherish every moment.

Craig was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Tracy; daughters, Lindsey Presley, (T.J.) of Pendleton, Oregon; Cristin Childress of Pendleton, Oregon; grandson, Benson Presley of Pendleton, Oregon; mother, Joyce Childress of Pendleton, Oregon; and uncle, Leslie Davie of Isle of Wight, England.

He was preceded in death by his father, Arthur L. (Roy) Childress; sister, Tammy Childress; and brother, David Childress.

Thank you to all who enriched Craig's life with the gift of friendship, love, and laughter.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017, at 3:00 pm at the Roy Raley Room at the Pendleton Round-Up Grounds, 1205 SW Court Ave, Pendleton, Oregon 97801.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that persons wanting to show condolences consider a gift to Cason's Place: Grief Support for Children and Families of Eastern Oregon, in memory of Craig Childress, 1416 SE Court Ave, Pendleton, Oregon 97801. Online condolences may be sent to [www.pioneer-chapel.com](http://www.pioneer-chapel.com).

**Dan (George Daniel) McLaren**

**Pendleton**  
**November 27, 1929 - September 16, 2017**

Dan (George Daniel) McLaren passed away on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Oregon; sisters Sandi Boren of La Grande, Oregon and Ann Bezona of Asotin, Washington.

Dan was born in Eugene, Oregon on November 27, 1929.

He is survived by his wife Lois; daughter Nancy Clark; daughter Sheryl Little and husband Brian Little; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother Dennis McLaren of Pilot Rock,



McLaren

At Dan's request no service will be held. Donations may be made in Dan's memory to Pioneer Humane Society at [pawspendleton@gmail.com](mailto:pawspendleton@gmail.com)

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the on-line condolence at [www.burnsmortuary.com](http://www.burnsmortuary.com)

DEATH NOTICES

**Benjamin Lee "Ben" Otteson**

**Pendleton**  
**September 14, 1975 - September 17, 2017**

Benjamin Lee "Ben" Otteson, 42, of Pendleton died Sunday, September 17, 2017 in Walla Walla. Ben was born on September 14, 1975 in Salem, Oregon. Arrangements are being handled by Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom Bishop. Online condolences may be sent to [www.pioneerchapel.com](http://www.pioneerchapel.com).

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

**CAVAGNARO, PAM** — Funeral mass at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 800 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton.

**DE LA CRUZ, NARCISA** — Graveside service at 11 a.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

**MCRAE, LINDA** — Funeral service at 11 a.m. in the chapel at Burns Mortuary, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Burial will follow at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery in Irrigon.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

**GOMEZ, BERTHA** — Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Burial will follow from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

**TRACY, JIM** — Celebration of life service with military honors at 1 p.m. at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

**SMITH, MARY** — Graveside services at 11 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery, College Place, Wash.

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](http://www.eastoregonian.com/obituaryform), by email to [obits@eastoregonian.com](mailto: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

For a complete listing of regional events, visit [easternoregonevents.com](http://easternoregonevents.com)

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 21**  
**ECHO CITY COUNCIL**, 4 p.m., Echo City Hall, 20 S. Bonanza St., Echo. (541-376-8411)

**HERMISTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**, 4 p.m., Hermiston Irrigation District office conference room, 366 E. Hurlburt Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-3024)

**UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT**, 5:15 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts boardroom, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. (Erin McCusker 541-276-6449)

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 22**  
**EASTERN OREGON TRADE & EVENT CENTER AUTHORITY**, 7 a.m., EOTEC main building, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. (541-289-9800)

**MONDAY, SEPT. 25**  
**ASPEN SPRING HOSPITAL PUBLIC MEETING**, 1:30 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center Rotary Altrusa Room, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Oregon Health Authority Certificate of

**WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO**

**9/21**

**Cineplex Show Times**

**\$5 Classic Movie**  
9/27 12:00 p.m.

**To Have and Have Not**

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**American Assassin (R)**  
4:40, 7:10, 9:40

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**IT (R)**  
4:00, 7:00, 10:00

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**Home Again (PG13)**  
4:20, 6:40, 9:20

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**Wind River (R)**  
4:50, 7:20, 9:50

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**The Hitman's Bodyguard (R)**  
4:10, 6:50, 9:30

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**Credit & Debit Cards accepted**  
Cineplex gift cards available  
\*Matinee Pricing  
**wildhorseresort.com**  
**541-966-1850**  
Pendleton, OR I-84 - Exit 216



AP Photo/File

This June 16, 1949, file photo, shows Jake LaMotta, right, fighting Marcel Cerdan in Briggs Stadium in Detroit, Mich. LaMotta knocked out Cerdan in the tenth round to become the new world middleweight champion.

**Jake LaMotta, boxer who inspired 'Raging Bull,' dies at age 95**

By **TIM DAHLBERG**  
*AP Boxing Writer*

Jake LaMotta, an iron-fisted battler who brawled his way to a middleweight title and was later memorialized by Robert De Niro in the film "Raging Bull," has died. He was 95.

The former middleweight champion died Tuesday at a Miami-area hospital from complications of pneumonia, according to his longtime fiancée, Denise Baker.

LaMotta handed Sugar Ray Robinson his first defeat and reigned for nearly two years as middleweight champion during a time boxing was one of America's biggest sports. He was a fan favorite who fought with fury, though he admitted to once intentionally losing a fight to get in line for a title bout.

LaMotta gained fame with a new generation because of the 1980 film based loosely on his autobiography from a decade earlier. De Niro won an Academy Award playing the troubled boxer — violent both inside and outside the ring — in a Martin Scorsese film that several critics have ranked as among the top 100 movies ever made.

"Rest in Peace, Champ," De Niro said in a statement.

The Bronx Bull, as he was known in his fighting days, compiled an 83-19-4 record with 30 knockouts, in a career that began in 1941 and ended in 1954. But it was the movie that unflinchingly portrayed him as a violent and abusive husband — he was married six times — that is remembered even more.

"I'm no angel," he said in a 2005 interview with The Associated Press.

LaMotta fought the great Sugar Ray Robinson six times, handing Robinson the first defeat of his career in 1943 and losing the middleweight title to him in a storied match on Feb. 14,

1951, at Chicago Stadium.

Robinson stopped a bloodied LaMotta in the 13th round of their scheduled 15-round bout in a fight that became known as the second St. Valentine's Day Massacre. It was a reference to the infamous 1929 mob killings of the same name.

LaMotta took a beating in the later rounds of the fight, but he refused to go down until the referee stepped in to save him from further punishment. LaMotta finished 1-5 in six fights against Robinson, who many in boxing think was the greatest fighter ever.

"I fought Sugar Ray Robinson so many times it's a wonder I don't have diabetes," LaMotta was fond of saying.

In the fight before he lost the title, LaMotta saved the championship in movie-script fashion against Laurent Dauthuille. Trailing badly on all three scorecards, LaMotta knocked out the challenger with 13 seconds left in the fight.

LaMotta threw a fight against Billy Fox, which he admitted in testimony before the Kefauver Committee, a U.S. Senate committee investigating organized crime in 1960.

"I purposely lost a fight to Billy Fox because they promised me that I would get a shot to fight for the title if I did," LaMotta said in 1970 interview printed in Peter Heller's 1973 book "In This Corner: 40 World Champions Tell Their Stories."

LaMotta was "stopped" by Fox in the fourth round on Nov. 14, 1947, in Madison Square Garden. He didn't get a title shot until 10 fights later.

On June 16, 1949, in Detroit, he became middleweight champion when the Frenchman Marcel Cerdan couldn't continue after the 10th round.



LaMotta

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

TUESDAY

5:13 a.m. - Staff at Regency Hermiston Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 970 W. Juniper Ave., Hermiston, reported a male about 20 minutes ago with a goatee and wearing blue jeans and a jacket came to the nurses station and asked about their couch, and now he is back and asleep on the couch.

7:15 a.m. - Emergency services in Morrow County responded to Bombing Range Road, Boardman, for a potato truck that rolled.

11:47 a.m. - The Morrow County Sheriff's Office took a report of a fight at Irrigon Junior-Senior High School, 315 S.E. Wyoming Ave., Irrigon.

1:43 p.m. - The Irrigon branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon, 230 S. First St., called the Morrow County Sheriff's Office after receiving a counterfeit \$100 bill.

4:33 p.m. - The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office received a complaint from B & M Mobile Home Court, 2903 N.E. Riverside Ave., about one neighbor harassing another online.

6:20 p.m. - A caller on West Moore Avenue, Hermiston, reported yelling at a driver who raced through the neighborhood, then snapped photos of the license plate when the driver came back.

6:50 p.m. - Hermiston police responded to a report of a fight at Northeast 13th street and East Gladys Avenue, but officers found no one fighting.

7:12 p.m. - The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office took a report for the theft of a four-wheeler from a site on Tutuilla Creek Road, Pendleton.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

Umatilla tribal police arrested Gregory George Espinoza, 54, no address provided, for credit card fraud, second-degree theft and first-degree forgery.

Pendleton police arrested Karen Lee Malcolm, 52, of Pendleton, for driving under the influence of intoxicants (alcohol).

LOTTERY

<b>Tuesday, Sept. 19</b>	
Mega Millions	Pick 4
9-28-31-50-61	1 p.m.: 8-3-4-7
Mega Ball: 10	4 p.m.: 1-3-2-1
Megaplier: 2	7 p.m.: 1-7-1-4
Estimated jackpot: \$94 M	10 p.m.: 8-8-2-4
<b>Lucky Lines</b>	<b>Wednesday, Sept. 20</b>
2-8-10-14-17-23-25-29	Pick 4
Estimated jackpot: \$12,000	1 p.m.: 9-9-9-5

**41st ANNIVERSARY SALE**

**THURSDAY-FRIDAY-SATURDAY**

**No Credit Check FINANCING Available**

**HUGE SAVINGS HERMISTON**

**20% TO 40% OFF**

**Storewide Savings**

**Mattress Sets Sofas Recliners Bedroom Sets And More...**

*Greg's*  
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Weekdays 9:30-6  
Saturdays 9:30-6  
Open Sun. 12-4

**541-567-1099**  
**North Hwy 395 Cottage Plaza**

Excludes any other promotions or offers.