

OBITUARIES

**Martha Lourine (Munck) Munkers**

**Lexington**  
**March 18, 1953 — September 22, 2020**

Martha Lourine (Munck) Munkers, 67, of Lexington, Oregon, passed away on September 22 at her home, surrounded by her family. Martha was born in Lewiston, Idaho, to Thomas and Doreen Bates Munck on March 18, 1953, the second of four children. The family lived in Culdasc, Idaho, for a few years before moving to Athena, Oregon, in 1956, where Martha and her siblings attended school.

Martha was active in volleyball, tennis, Girls League, pep band and was a member of the Highland Six at McEwen High School. She was selected to go to Girls State by the local American Legion Auxiliary. Her senior year of high school she was voted Ms. Courtesy and Girl of the Year.

On June 19, 1971, Martha married the love of her life, Gary, in Athena. For the next 49 years, Martha and Gary made their home in Lexington, raising three sons: Dean, Shane and Ryan.

Martha worked at Heppner Furniture, becoming a full-time homemaker in 1974. She then worked for over 30 years at Heppner elementary and high schools, impacting the lives of so many students and building lifelong friendships with her coworkers.

Her faith was very important to her, attending St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner. She served on the Altar Society and assisted with the St. Patrick's Day Ham Dinner for over 20 years. Additionally, she made costumes for the annual St. Patrick's Day plays at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

For many years Martha could be found alongside her mother-in-law, Bebe Munkers, as superintendents of the canning division at the Morrow County Fair. She also volunteered as a ticket-taker for Mustang football, volleyball and basketball. As a lifelong sup-

porter of Heppner Football, Martha spent many seasons assuring the football uniforms were ready for practice or competition by mending them.

Martha enjoyed playing cards, camping, fishing, baking, reading, and spending time with her family. Her devotion to family kept her busy attending sporting events, music and theatre productions, not only for her boys and her grandchildren, but for so many more Mustangs she loved.

Martha is survived by her husband, Gary; sons Dean (Angela) Munkers of Dallas, Oregon, Shane (Andrea) Munkers of Pilot Rock, Oregon, and Ryan (Joli) Munkers of Mikkalo, Oregon; grandsons Cade Munkers, Garrett Munkers and Trevor Riedmann; granddaughters Ashton Munkers, Lucy Munkers and Cora Munkers; mother Doreen Munck; brothers Gordon (Miriam) Munck and Gary (Debi) Munck; sister Gayle (Cliff) Hoef; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and -nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Tom Munck; in-laws Riley and Bebe Munkers; and nephew Christopher Munck.

Martha's wish was to have a private family service, and a celebration of life to be held at a later date when friends and family can celebrate her life together.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Morrow County Health District Home Health & Hospice, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, OR 978836; The ALS Association of Oregon and SW Washington, 700 N.E. Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232; or a non-profit of your choice.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements. You may sign the online condolence book at [www.sweeneymortuary.com](http://www.sweeneymortuary.com).

**James Leland Barnett**

**Stanfield**  
**November 7, 1979 — March 13, 2020**

James Leland Barnett was born November 7, 1979, to parents Tamarra Eileen and Jon Rene Barnett in Tacoma, Washington. They lived there for a short period and then moved back to the Hermiston area when James was still a baby. In 1981 while in Hermiston, his little sister Elisa Autumn was born. They were very close in age and in friendship growing up. Later in 1992 his littlest sister Hayle was born.

He attended school in Hermiston and had many interests growing up. One of them as a child and on was a strong interest in electronics, later taking the ASVAB test that would allow him a career in the Air Force. While in school he played percussion instruments in band and was becoming more artistic, spending time drawing and painting. He was also frequently noted for his singing talents and creative writing in school, home and among friends. Athletically he enjoyed lifting weights and played as a fullback in the Hermiston High School Bulldogs football team. James played football from fourth grade through senior year. He loved it and really enjoyed his time playing, over the years making many close friends in school, some lifelong.

Near the end of high school he started his first job at Pizza Hut. He graduated Hermiston High School in 1998. Soon after graduating high school James became ill. He

pushed through and worked at Lamb Weston for eight years. His disabilities becoming progressively worse, he left lamb Weston to live with his mother Tammy and littlest sister Hayle for the remainder of his life. He still took pleasure in being with family and old friends. He liked to spend his time listening to his favorite music, watching movies and submersing himself in literature. Near the end he was writing his own book titled "The Woodsman" and had been reading the Bible. James passed away March 13 of 2020 at 40 years old of heart failure.



Barnett

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Delbert and Irlene Powell; a great aunt very close to him and us all, Alberta (Berty) Bowling, Irlene's sister; his father Jon Barnett; aunt Linda Parish; uncle Ben Barnett; and his paternal grandparents Kenneth Barnett and Anita Barnett-Coen (Howard). He is survived by his mother Tammy Barnett; sisters Elisa Sayles and Hayle Barnett; his nephews and niece Hayden Sayles, Svetlana Barnett and Magnus Long; and several aunts, uncles and many cousins. He is sorely missed by family and friends alike.

His upcoming celebration of life will take place on Saturday, November 7, at the Stanfield Community Center from 1-4 p.m. Please join us in remembering his life on the day of his birth and recounting the time that we had with him.

**Callie Niven Mikesell**

**Pendleton**  
**January 12, 1979 — September 29, 2020**

Callie was born on January 12, 1979, in Pendleton, Oregon. Callie passed away on September 29, 2020, at her home.

Callie spent her life in Pendleton, graduating from Pendleton High in 1997.

She loved to crochet, play on her tablet, do crosswords, Sudoku, reading, spelling, bowling, and watch a little TV with family and friends. She also was a volunteer at the Pendleton Library for over 10 years and enjoyed walking in the park every morning.

Callie's best friend for 17 years was her dog Arnie, but she lost him a few years ago. She enjoyed the dogs she met in the park and always carried a doggy treat with her. Her face just lit up when the dogs would come running to her for their treat. They helped make up for her loss of Arnie. Our thanks go to those folks who allowed their dogs to have the treats.

To some, Callie was a disabled girl but she was one of the strongest persons we have ever known. She ran in a 50-yard dash in the Special Olympics with braces on her legs and, even though she was left far behind, she finished the race with a smile and won a trophy for most inspirational athlete, which she was really proud of.

Although she had many surgeries for different things, she never complained about what she had to go through. Callie was an inspiration to all who knew her. There must be a lesson in there for the rest of us. She just couldn't beat the cancer that took over her body.

Callie was preceded in death by her grandfather Art Robinson, grandfather Bob Mikesell and grandmother Donna Pattison.

Callie attended church at the Calvery Chapel in Pendleton for many years with her father and step-mother. Callie's easy smile and delightful sense of humor were always on display. Her laughter was infectious and her smile reflected the inner beauty that was evident to all who knew her.

Callie is survived by her mother and step-



Mikesell

dad Tom and Caren Reed; father and step-mother Robert (Chris) Mikesell; brother Dustin, who she adored and looked up to; nephews Shyler and Trevyn, who she thought were the greatest ever; niece Olivia; grandmother Evelyn Robinson; uncles Curt and Craig (Karla) Robinson; her aunt Linda Morgan; and close cousins Ryan (Tanya) and Shad Robinson, and Shelly (Jon) Peterson.

Also a great big thank you to Dr. Harrison — Hospice — and Richard and Angela for making her last days a little better.

There will be no funeral per Oregon guidelines and small gathering at a later date.

Please do not send flowers, but if you would like to donate to the Umatilla County Relay for Life that would be great! Send to: Relay for Life, 1410 N.W. Despain Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801 in care of Carol Preston (541-379-6294).

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the online guestbook at [www.burnsmortuary.com](http://www.burnsmortuary.com).

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.

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