

Gene Franklin Slye

June 20, 1942 — Nov. 14, 2021

Gates

Gene Franklin Slye was born on June 20, 1942, in Waterloo, Iowa, to Clarence and Dorothy (McBride) Slye. He also resided in Butte, Montana, and later Billings, Montana.



Slye

As a youngster, he loved to fish and hunt. He eventually found his love for flying and building model airplanes when he started at age 12. He lived there until he married his wife, Diana, who he met in sixth grade. Gene was Diana's cousin's best friend. Diana moved to Billings, Montana, after graduation and they would eventually start dating. They were married at the First Christian Church in Billings, Montana, on April 17, 1965.



Gene graduated from high school and attended community college and later took welding, electronics and refrigeration courses with the GI Bill. Gene and Diana moved to Kent, Washington, where he would receive his first draft notice for the Army. Instead, he decided to join the United States Marine Corps on July 6, 1966. He would begin boot camp in 1966 in Oceanside, California. He spent 13 months in Vietnam. He was trained as a motor vehicle operator. In Vietnam, he was a motor transport dispatcher. After Vietnam, he was a motor transport mechanic. After that, Gene would be stationed in Yuma, Arizona, until his discharge on July 7, 1970.

While serving, he earned the following achievements: National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal and Rifle Badge Sharpshooter. After his honorable discharge, he would move his family to Lynnwood, Washington, and lived there until 1976, and moving to Kent, Washington, followed by Lovell, Wyoming, in September of 1978. Gene and Diana would live there until he received a new job in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1988.

With Gene's new job, his family was transferred often and went from Cheyenne to Centralia, Washington, then in June of 1992 they were transferred to Pendleton, Oregon. After all the moves, Gene applied for a new job and finally settled in Gates, Oregon, where he and Diana resided the last 25 years.

Throughout his life, he learned many skills with his different jobs. Gene was trained to be a lather and was a member of the Lather's Union. That was his occupation up to joining the Marine Corp. While in Washington, he worked at Nord Doors in Everett, Washington, until he received an offer for ABC Distributing as a cabinet maker. That company-built display cases for commercial businesses that sold records and tapes. He also worked in the specialty cabinet department where he made display cases for stores like Nordstrom.

Gene was talented at his job and would design and implement a router which the company patented. While in Lovell, Wyoming, he went into business with his brother doing home remodels. They then formed a company called Gridco where they installed acoustical tile ceilings in

commercial businesses. He then decided that he wanted a steady paycheck and went to work for Bairoid, which processed bentonite for various applications. One was a lubricate gel for oil rigs and bentonite is also the absorption ingredient in disposable diapers.

He was then offered a job at North Big Horn Hospital as a maintenance man. The hospital contracted their maintenance management to a company called Service Master, and they were so impressed with Gene, they offered him a job. They sent him to management school. He became a manager of maintenance, laundry and housekeeping. He spent nine years with the company being transferred to different hospitals and earned many awards.

The next transfer would have been to Kansas so at that time he decided to quit Service Master and he then applied for a director of maintenance at Marian Estates in Sublimity. He worked there until he was offered a job at Torman LLC, which built timber frame houses. A new plant was established in Idanha and Gene was involved in the development of that plant and was the manager for nine years, then he retired.

Besides work, Gene had many activities and interests wherever he lived he would belong to model airplane clubs. He and Diana were active members of the churches they attended, and Gene was involved in the operation of the sound system. After retirement, they joined the River City Sams Camping Club and went on many camping adventures. They were also active with their two daughters in 4-H, Gene was also an active member of the American Legion Post 159 in Mill City, Oregon.

Gene and his family would enjoy camping and traveling. He loved electronics of many kinds and was an all-around handyman. He loved to help people with their projects. He also was a good mechanic and made things work that other people gave up on. He also was a teacher and mentor to many people. He loved any activity that involved his girls. He also played the guitar and the piano and many family get-togethers involved a family song fest. Gene passed away on Nov. 14, 2021, at age 79 in Gates, Oregon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Dorothy Slye; daughter, Traci Lynn Slye; and brother, Dick Slye; father-in-law, Kenneth Prentiss; in addition to his aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is survived by his wife, Diana Slye; children, Janel Jean Slye, Caroline Moore and daughter-in-law, Laurie Blan; grandchild, Brandon Street; 96-year-old mother-in-law, Bette Prentiss; sister-in-law, Laura Slye; niece, Becky Davis and family; nephew, Kevin Slye and family; brother and sister-in-law, Rod and Sheryl Brown; and nephew, Rick Brown.

A memorial service will be planned sometime in the spring. Any memorials can be made to Christian Aide c/o Gates Community Church of Christ, 40070 Gates School Road, Gates, OR 97346.

OBITUARIES

Doris F. O'Dell

Aug. 13, 1938 — Nov. 28, 2021

Umatilla

Doris F. O'Dell was born on Aug. 13, 1938, in Rexburg, Idaho, to parents, Lyle and Carrie Nelson Hovinghoff. She died on Nov. 28, 2021, at her home in Umatilla, Oregon, at the age of 83 years.



O'Dell

Doris was raised and grew up in Idaho and Oregon. She then lived in Missouri for a time before returning to Oregon in the early 1960s and settling in Umatilla, Oregon, in 1965 where she has lived since. Doris was united in marriage to Arthur "Art" O'Dell on Feb. 16, 1973, in Hermiston, Oregon.

She worked at Lamb Weston as the accounts receivable clerk for 28 years. Doris had been a past member of the Hermiston First Christian Church and was a current member of the Calvary Harvest Fellowship in Hermiston, Oregon. She loved the Lord, spending time with her family gardening, quilting, sewing, word search puzzles and her cat, Charlie.

She is survived by her children, Michael Albright (Veronica), Hermiston, Oregon; JoAnne Schiff-

ner, Salem, Oregon; Jim O'Dell (Gina), Wenatchee, Washington; Mike O'Dell (Debbie), Wenatchee, Washington; and Patti Schmidt (Roger), Nampa, Idaho; sisters, Ethel Ferger, West Richland, Washington; and Greta LeBlanc Lee, Aloha, Oregon; grandchildren, Tracy, Jacob, Lacey, Marcus, Nicholas, M. Paul, Victoria, Adam, Scott, Melissa, Kori and Toby; numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Art O'Dell; daughter, Janet Detwiler; grandson, Travis Adams; her parents and two brothers, Royal and Paul Hovinghoff.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. at Sunset Hills Cemetery, Umatilla, Oregon. Those who wish may make contributions in Doris' memory to the Agape House.

Please share memories of Doris with her family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

John Joseph Miltenberger

Nov. 24, 1960 — Nov. 9, 2021

Albany

John Joseph Miltenberger, 60, of Albany, passed away Nov. 9, 2021, at his home due to ongoing heart issues. John was born Nov. 24, 1960, in Pendleton, to Julius and Delores (Osborne) Miltenberger.



Miltenberger

He grew up in Pendleton and graduated from Pendleton High School in 1979. John worked as a millwright for many years, traveling out of Oregon and up and down Interstate 5 for miscellaneous companies. He worked hard and played harder. He was an avid outdoorsman and had a love for all things country

(not the new stuff).

John is survived by daughter, Katie (Parker) Leigh; siblings, Dolly, Don, Dan, Dennis, Mike, Ed, Theresa, Julie, Rebecca, Kathy and Bob; granddaughters, Reagan and Morgan Leigh; and many nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, David and Patrick Miltenberger.

A service will be held for John in Pendleton; details to follow.

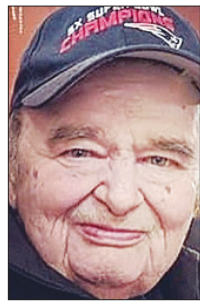
A A s u m - D u f o u r Funeral Home is handling the arrangements (www.aasum-dufour.com).

Donald 'Don' Francis Cabral

Aug. 4, 1940 — Nov. 28, 2021

Pendleton

Donald "Don" Francis Cabral, of Pendleton, was born Aug. 4, 1940, in Brockton, Massachusetts. He passed away at his home on Nov. 28, 2021, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 81 years old.



Cabral

Don lived in Massachusetts until 1974. He excelled in football and baseball. He moved with his young family across the country in a station wagon to start a new life in Hermiston, Oregon. He was a well known contractor in Hermiston and built many homes there. Because of his love of horses, he was actively involved in the Umatilla Sage Riders Club.

Don was a lifelong New England Patriots fan and could always be seen wearing his favorite team hat. Don was known for his infectious smile, his dry humor and quick wit. He loved helping his family and friends with any construc-

tion projects.

Don married Lois Follett (Bonney) in 1960, they later divorced. Don is survived by children, Elaine (Kevin) Anderson of Pendleton, Steven Cabral of Hermiston and Angela Cabral of Pendleton; brother, Alfred (Carol) Cabral of Massachusetts; grandchildren, Jed Cabral, Jennifer Leslie, Emily Wellington, Ryan Lyle, Maegan Bennett, Lindsey Blais; and numerous great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank St. Anthony Hospital and staff, Pendleton Fire and Ambulance, Hospice of Walla Walla and Cancer Center of Pendleton for all the care and compassion.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, Oregon. Online condolences may be sent to www.pioneerchapel.com.

Janis Louise Handley

Sept. 27, 1930 — Nov. 23, 2021

Pendleton

Janis Louise Handley was born on Sept. 27, 1930, on Lower Wildhorse Creek, Pendleton, Oregon, to James "Jim" and Rose (Warner) May. She received her angel wings on Nov. 23, 2021, with her loving husband by her side.



Handley

The youngest of seven, she grew up and attended schools in the Weston and Milton-Freewater areas. She married the love of her life, Harrison "Harry" Handley on Dec. 30, 1947, in Vancouver, Washington. The couple were devoted to one another and getting ready to celebrate 74 treasured years of marriage this December.

Early in their marriage, Janis and Harry raised their two children, William "Bill" and Linda in Pendleton. In 1960, the family moved to Weston, Oregon, where they resided until moving to Sun Ridge Retirement in Pendleton, Oregon, July of this year. Janis worked for Pacific Northwest Bell in Pendleton, later transferring to Walla Walla, Washington, where she retired after 35 years of service.

Harry and Janis were active and involved in their community. Over the years, Janis was involved with United Way, Weston Historical Society, Weston Senior Center, The Good Sams — Paradise Chapter and The Milton-Freewater Elks Lodge. She received the Weston Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award in 1985. Janis and Harry were Grand Marshal and Queen of Pioneer Days in 2008.

She adored her family and friends and was always up for a good prank or

a chance to gather and socialize. She enjoyed camping, hunting, fishing, traveling, volunteering, shopping, sharing her favorite recipes, canning, sewing, playing cards, genealogy, and hanging out with her "lunch bunch." She will be remembered for her kind smile, infectious laugh, fun sense of humor and the gift of 91 years strong!

She is survived by her loving husband, Harry; children, Bill Handley, Pendleton; and Linda Howe, Richland, Washington; grandchildren, Justin Evans, Brandie (Jon) Didion, Billie (Rob) Parker, Danielle (Jeremy) Sackett-Parker, Jeremy Moore, and Jeff (Sandi) Franklin-Sackett; great-grandchildren, Lizzy (Jose) Evans-Rodriguez, Evan Evans, Randall, Mary, and Iris Didion, Britany, Madison, and Rylee Parker, Caden (Haley) Sackett, Gage Strzelczyk, Sydney and Bailey Moore, and Bentley Sackett; great-great-grandchildren, Hope and Blane Sackett, and Brooks Rodriguez; sister-in-law, LaHoma Horn; and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Rose May; siblings, Alvin (Ruth) May, Verna (Bob) McLean, George (Martha) May, Bud (Lida) May, LaVelle (Wally) Scribner and Bob May; and grandson, Willie Handley.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, Dec. 6, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.

To leave an online condolence, visit www.munsellerhodes.com.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Friday Dec. 3

Buie, Doris — Memorial service, 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston.

Dilts, Beth Ann — Memorial service, 11 a.m. at Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. Celebration of life, 1-3 p.m. at the Walla Walla Country Club, 1390 Country Club Road.

Eppenbach, Jan and Norm — Celebration of life potluck gathering, 5 p.m. at New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston.

Giesler, Bertha — Graveside service, 2 p.m. at the Pilot Rock Cemetery.

O'Dell, Doris — Graveside service, 12:30 p.m. at Sunset Hills Cemetery, Umatilla.

Saturday, Dec. 4

Barton, George — Graveside celebration of life service, 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Dunlap, Jackie — Memorial service, 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston.

Myrick, Lois — Graveside service, 3 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Sunday, Dec. 5

Hoover, Patsy — Graveside service, 3 p.m. at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Fossil. A soup supper will follow in the gymnasium at Wheeler High School, 600 E. B St., Fossil.

Monday, Dec. 6

Choin, Geneva — Graveside service, 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Handley, Janis — Memorial service, 11 a.m. at Munselle-Rhodes Funeral home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.

Taylor, Luella — Graveside service, 11 a.m. at the Mayville Cemetery.

Tuesday, Dec. 7

Cabral, Don — Funeral services, 3 p.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton.

MEETINGS

Monday, Dec. 6
Heppler Planning Commission, 7 p.m., Heppler City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppler.

Tuesday, Dec. 7
Pendleton School District work session, 8 a.m., Pendleton School District 16, 107 N.W. 10th St. (541-276-6711)

Umatilla Morrow Radio & Data District, 1:30 p.m., Umatilla County Fire District, Station 23, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston, or by calling 351-999-4544. (Shawn Halsey 541-966-3774)

Ione School District, 4:30 p.m., district office, 445 Spring St., or via Zoom. For agenda and login, visit ione.k12.or.us. (Kim Thul 541-422-7131)

Stanfield City Council, 6 p.m., Council chambers

building, 160 W. Coe Ave. (541-449-3831)

Pendleton City Council, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave. (Donna Biggerstaff 541-966-0201)

Boardman City Council, 7 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle. A link to the Zoom meeting is posted at www.cityofboardman.com. (541-481-9252)

Morrow County Planning Commission, 7 p.m., Bartholomew Government Building, 110 N. Court St., Heppler, or via Zoom at bit.ly/3d8qcVb or call 253-215-8782; Passcode: 800415, Meeting ID: 923 3400 3258. (George Nairns 541-922-4624 ext. 5508)

Umatilla City Council, 7 p.m., Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St. (Nanci Sandoval 541-922-3226)

DEATH NOTICE

Vivian E. Smith

Sept. 24, 1926 — Nov. 29, 2021

Pendleton

Vivian E. Smith, 95, of Pendleton, died Nov. 29, 2021, at a local hospital. She was born Sept. 24, 1926, in Pendleton. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Pendleton. Sign the online guestbook at www.burnsmortuary.com.

OBITUARY POLICY

The East Oregonian publishes paid obituaries; death notices and information about services are published at no charge. Obituaries can include small photos and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. Obituaries can be submitted via the funeral home, by email to obits@eastoregonian.com or in person at the East Oregonian office. For more information, call 541-966-0818.