

## OBITUARIES

## John Urig Grove

May 13, 1933 — Nov. 25, 2021

Lake Oswego

John Urig Grove, 88, had five children, John (Eugenija Grove-Supraha), Karen Gienger (Jeff), Frank (Carolyn Kwock), Matt (Michele), and Paul; nine grandchildren, Trevor, Courtney, Ivan, Jelena, Camille, Natalie, Emily, Amy and Jackson; and two great-grandchildren, Collin and Abigail.



Grove



John lived a rich and colorful life, during which he positively touched the lives of innumerable people. John was born May 13, 1933, in Coos Bay, Oregon, to Frank and Mary Grove and had seven siblings: Frances, Lottie, Beck, Frank, Tom, Cecilia and Mary Ellen. He was raised in Powers and Ontario, Oregon. He graduated in 1951 from Ontario High School and joined the Navy, serving during the Korean War.

John married Loretta Ybarzabal Aug. 31, 1956. He graduated from the University of Oregon Law School in 1962. After law school, John and Loretta moved to Milton-Freewater, where he practiced law for many years. They

John enjoyed being with family, golf, reading, Oregon Duck sports and volunteering his time with Legal Aid Services of Oregon.

John was preceded in death by his parents and siblings. He is survived by his wife, Loretta; and his five children and their families. He will be missed beyond measure but will live on in loving memories and a multitude of stories.

Services delayed until a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Legal Aid Services of Oregon (lasoregon.org).

## Donald Rollin 'Don' Orton

Sept. 10, 1928 — Dec. 1, 2021

Pendleton

Donald Rollin "Don" Orton passed away Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021, at St. Anthony Hospital. A graveside service will be held Friday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. at Olney Cemetery, Pendleton.

Don was born Sept. 10, 1928, in Pendleton, Oregon, to Beecher Basil and Sophia (Fikan) Orton. He was raised in Pendleton and graduated from Pendleton High School with the class of 1946. He served in the U.S. Navy and returned home to marry Donna Mae Arkell on Sept. 11, 1949.

Don began an apprenticeship with the Sheetmetal Workers Local Union 66 on Dec. 19, 1950, and received recognition for his 60 years in the union. In 1975, he began training to become an apprentice instructor. During the years he attended four instructor training courses sponsored by Ohio State University, and taught apprentices the tricks of the trade.

In retirement, he spent many hours working with wood and making beautiful Intarsia pieces. One piece he made is located at Tum-A-Lum Lumber yard. He then began working with copper and other metals.



Orton



He loved his golden retrievers, Lucy and Katy. He was known for his storytelling and pranks, always in good fun.

Don is survived by his daughter, Chris Gilmore, and husband, Pat, of Anchorage, Alaska, and their children, Kelly of Tacoma, Washington, and Casey of Anchorage, Alaska; his daughter, Julie Byers, and husband, Joe Byers, of Pendleton, Oregon, their children, Traci (Brandon) of West Linn, Oregon, (grandsons Orion and Skylar); and his grandchildren, Tom Orton (Jodee) and their children, Kallee and Drew (Boone) and Kaleb of Westport, Washington; Brock (Seagra) and their children, Reef and Coral of Westport, Washington, and BreAnn Orton of Olympia, Washington.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Donna; his parents, his sister, Dolores; his brother, Ivan; his son, Brad, and Brad's wife, Brandi.

Memorial contributions may be made to PAWS, 517 S.W. Third St., Pendleton, OR 97801. Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the online guestbook at www.burnsmortuary.com.

## Joseph Merle 'Joe' Blackburn

Aug. 16, 1966 — Dec. 6, 2021

Pendleton

Joseph Merle "Joe" Blackburn, 55, of Pendleton, Oregon, passed away on Dec. 6 of 2021, unexpectedly. Joe was full of life and had an amazing capacity for fun and love that he shared with everyone that he called family or friend.

Joe was born on Aug. 16, 1966, in Seattle, Washington. After graduating from Pendleton High School in 1984, Joe went to work at Blue Mountain Lumber and continued to carry on his appreciation and passion of building and working on cars. Joe began his career at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute on Jan. 29, 2001, and was a valued part of that community until his passing.

In 1997, he met Jacqueline Maze and they wed in April 2002. Joe spent his most cherished times taking vacations with his wife and children, working on cars with his son as well as gathering and loving his family and many friends as



Blackburn

much as possible.

Joe is survived by his parents, Kenneth and Sharan; his loving wife, Jacqueline; his two children, Britney and Logan Joseph; his two brothers, John and Kenneth; and his four sisters, Theresa, Tammy, Sonja and Joey.

"Only a moment you stayed, but what an imprint your footprints have left in our hearts."

Come and celebrate Joe's life with his family at the Roy Raley Room at the Pendleton Round-Up Grounds on Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. There will be food and beverages provided.

In lieu of flowers, there will be an account set up at Banner Bank. All proceeds will go to a scholarship fund for his children's college education.

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the online guestbook at www.burnsmortuary.com.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

Thursday, Dec. 9

**Sam, Karen** — Dressing service, 2 p.m. at Burns Mortuary of Pendleton, 336 S.W. Dorion Ave. Open denomination service, 6 p.m. at Agency Longhouse, Mission; followed by Washat service at 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 10

**Chalmers, Davion** — Funeral service, 11 a.m. at New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Burial follows at the Hermiston Cemetery.

**Jensen, Bob** — Celebration of life service with military honors, 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston.

**Orton, Donald** — Graveside service, 2 p.m. at Olney Cemetery, Pendleton.

**Sam, Karen** — Final Seven at Seven, 7 a.m. at Agency Longhouse, Mission. Burial follows at Agency Cemetery.

Saturday, Dec. 11

**Banks, Elodie** — Celebration of life, 2-5 p.m. at Sundown Grill & Bar-B-Q, 233 S.E. Fourth St., Pendleton.

**Dyer, Loretta** — Graveside service, 3 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

**Hammersla, Marilyn** — Celebration of life, 11 a.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave.

**Palmer, Alice** — Graveside service, 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery.

**Piper, Phyllis** — Celebration of life, 1 p.m. at the Heppner First Christian Church, 293 Gale St.

**Platt, Larry** — Memorial service, 2 p.m. at the Hermiston First Christian Church, 775 W. Highland Ave.

## DEATH NOTICES

## Ted James Baker

Sept. 1, 1994 — Dec. 7, 2021

Stanfield

Ted James Baker, 27, of Stanfield, died Dec. 7, 2021, in Stanfield. He was born Sept. 1, 1994, in Pendleton, the son of Richard Baker and Jamie (Harvey). Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

## Eric Scott Carlos

Dec. 19, 1966 — Dec. 3, 2021

Athena

Eric Scott Carlos, 54, of Athena, died Dec. 3, 2021, at his home. He was born Dec. 19, 1966. Arrangements are with Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home of Milton-Freewater.

## Loretta M. Dyer

March 30, 1939 — Dec. 6, 2021

Hermiston

Loretta M. Dyer, 82, of Hermiston, died Dec. 6, 2021, in Hermiston. She was born March 30, 1939, in Emmett, Idaho. A graveside service will be Saturday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

## Phyllis M. Piper

April 8, 1940 — Nov. 26, 2021

Lexington

Phyllis M. Piper, 81, of Lexington, died Nov. 26, 2021, in Hermiston. She was born April 8, 1940, in Heppner. A celebration of life will be Saturday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m. at the Heppner First Christian Church. Arrangements are with Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner. Sign the online condolence book at www.sweeneymortuary.com.

## Karen M. Sam

Aug. 13, 1968 — Dec. 6, 2021

Pendleton

Karen M. Sam, 53, of Pendleton, died Dec. 6, 2021, at her home. She was born Aug. 13, 1968, in Pendleton. A dressing service will be Thursday, Dec. 9, 2 p.m. at Burns Mortuary of Pendleton, 336 S.W. Dorion Ave. An open denomination service will be Thursday, Dec. 9, 6 p.m. at Agency Longhouse, Mission; followed by a Washat service at 7 p.m. The Final Seven at Seven will be Friday, Dec. 10, 7 a.m. at Agency Longhouse, followed by burial at Agency Cemetery. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Pendleton. Sign the online guestbook at www.burnsmortuary.com.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Monday, Dec. 6

6:48 a.m. — A resident on the 300 block of Southwest Second Avenue, Milton-Freewater, reported the theft of a leaf blower from his front porch.

10:31 a.m. — A resident on Wagon Wheel Loop, Irrigon, reported a nearby residence is working on 10-15 cars at a time and revving engines "super loud and even have things going on at 3 a.m." The caller said this seems to be an illegal business.

2:07 p.m. — Hermiston police received a report of a burglary on the 400 block of East Main Street.

4:32 p.m. — Callers in Irrigon in the areas of Southeast Fourth Street and Utah Avenue reported someone in a white car was firing a gun five to seven times.

5:12 p.m. — Hermiston police responded to the 1000 block of Southwest 11th Street on a complaint about a burglary. Police took a report.

6:52 p.m. — The Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a report from Columbia Rover Processing, 79588 Rippee Road, Boardman, of the company having an employee leave the premises. That employee on Dec. 3 threatened another employee with a gun. The company called back to report the person left without incident.

Tuesday, Dec. 7

8:32 a.m. — A Hermiston resident reported someone scratched her vehicle and slashed its tires on Southwest Seventh Street. She said it could be her soon-to-be ex-husband.

8:42 a.m. — A caller reported a resident at Green Acres RV Park, 80542 Paterson Ferry Road, Irrigon, was intoxicated and having schizophrenic hallucinations and driving.

9:34 a.m. — A resident on Magic Garden Lane, Irrigon, reported, a neighbor's dogs on Dec. 6 got on her property and killed three of her chickens. The caller also said someone has reported this dog before for neglect. A Morrow County sheriff's deputy took a report.

12:38 p.m. — Pendleton police and medics responded to Southwest 20th Street and Emigrant Avenue for a two-vehicle crash. Police took a report.

1:13 p.m. — An Irrigon resident reported someone used his Social Security number for a vehicle loan. The Morrow County Sheriff's Office took a report.

2:20 p.m. — Pendleton police responded to a residence at Shadeview Mobile Home Park, 1437 S.W. 37th St., on a report of a domestic disturbance. Police took a report.

8:14 p.m. — A caller reported the theft of a vehicle from Northwest 11th Street, Hermiston. Police took a report.

9 p.m. — The Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a request for extra patrols around Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, 81677 15th St. S.E., Irrigon, due to thefts in the area.

11:10 p.m. — Pendleton police stopped a driver on Southeast Isaac Avenue and gave a citation for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Arrests, citations

Dec. 5

• Milton-Freewater police arrested Cristian Castro Gomez, 26, of Milton-Freewater, for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Dec. 6

• Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Kaylee Lynn Mack, 24, and Darwin David Smith, 34, for vehicle theft.

• Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Jose Manuel Longoria Jr., 31, for vehicle theft, giving false information and on a warrant for failing to appear.

## 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](mailto:obits@eastoregonian.com) or in person at the East Oregonian office. For more information, call 541-966-0818.

## Marilyn Kaye (Parker) Hammersla

Feb. 22, 1968 — Dec. 6, 2021

Pendleton

Marilyn Kaye (Parker) Hammersla, 53, left this world on Dec. 6, 2021. She fought for 13 years against a disease that generally claims its victims in a much shorter time.

Marilyn was born on Feb. 22, 1968, and was the 12th child out of 14 siblings. She graduated from Pendleton High School in 1986. On Sept. 6, 1991, she married the love of her life, Mark Hammersla. The two of them raised two boys, Randy and Taylor. This year they celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary.

Marilyn had her own house cleaning business for 15 years. She enjoyed camping, yard selling and

watching her boys play baseball.

She is survived by her mother, Marie Parker; husband, Mark Hammersla; sons, Randy Wilson and Taylor Hammersla; stepson, Chris Hammersla; stepdaughter, Heather Taylor; six grandchildren, seven brothers, three sisters, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Please join her family in celebrating the life and fond memories of this wonderful lady at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop.

Share online condolences with the family at [www.pioneerchapel.com](http://www.pioneerchapel.com).



Hammersla

## William Alvis 'Bill' Gorger

Dec. 10, 1928 — Nov. 7, 2021

Vancouver, Washington

William Alvis "Bill" Gorger, beloved husband and father, age 92, passed away in his sleep at home in Vancouver, Washington, on Nov. 7, 2021. He was born on Dec. 10, 1928, in Hardman, Oregon, to Henry and Sylva Gorger.

Bill grew up on a ranch near Ione until 1942 when his family moved to Pendleton. He joined the Marines after high school and reported to San Diego for boot camp. He trained as a radio operator. When the Korean conflict flared up, he was sent to Oceanside for combat training. Though Bill was assigned to a rifle team, he reminded them that he was a high-speed radio operator and was reassigned to the position for which he had been trained. He was the only PFC in the Marines with a high-speed radio M.O.S.

In 1949, Bill married Pauline Lindahl. They had one son, Steven. In 1959, Bill married his second wife, Doris Hale. They had two girls, Pamela and Patricia. In 1972, Bill married Joan Helfman. They lived in Woodland Hills, California, then moved to the Westlake Village area where they lived for many years.

Bill was in the travel business for many years.

He designed an accounting system after he joined a travel agency in the early '70s. At the time, there were no accounting systems for travel agents. In 1977, he started an accounting business when he found out that many travel agents hated the bookkeeping side of the business. Bill ran his business with his wife, Joan, until he retired in the late '90s.

During retirement, Bill enjoyed golf, travel, the symphony, reading, the family dogs and was involved with his wife in planning fundraising trips for the New West Symphony located in Thousand Oaks, California. In 2017, they moved to Vancouver, Washington, to be with family. One of Bill's greatest joys was spending time with his family. He loved great food and family gathering time!

Bill is survived by his wife of 49 years, Joan; sister, Elizabeth Anne; daughters, Pamela Marie and Patricia Ann; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by both his parents, his sister, Rose Marie; and his son, Steven.

There will be an interment ceremony for Bill at Willamette National Cemetery, Happy Valley, Oregon, on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, at 11:30 a.m.



Gorger

