

**Richard (Dick) Gasser**  
July 13, 1938 to Dec. 28, 2015

Richard (Dick) Gasser passed away peacefully at his home in Huntington, Ore., on Dec. 28, 2015. He was born July 13, 1938 in Oregon City, Ore., to Sylvester (Sid) Gasser and Dorothy (Shepherd) Gasser.



Dick spent his childhood in the Molalla area, where he worked for his father, Sid Gasser, in his various businesses until the family moved to the Bend area when he was in his teens. A few years later, Dick enlisted in the Air Force and served as a dog handler in the military police until 1959. At this time, he was discharged from active duty and moved to the Enterprise area, where he met Claudia Fisher. Dick married Claudia on April 27, 1961, in Asotin, Wash. They were married for 54 colorful years.

Dick and Claudia had three children: Ricky, Brenda and Sandra. Dick's work took them to various parts of Oregon over the years. Most of their children's childhood was spent in the Molalla area, where he was very active in the community.

Dick was a longtime member of the Molalla Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance service, where he was an EMT and Fire Training Officer. Dick also was a member of the Mulino Lions Club, served as Scout Master for Troop 161, and was a Little League coach.

In 1980, Dick and Claudia decided they needed a change and this took them to Baker County to operate the Eagle Cap Lodge. After a few years, Dick decided to try his hand at gold mining exploration, taking them on many adventures, eventually landing them in Huntington.

While in Huntington, Dick served as mayor for two terms. He also had a contracting business and in his spare time he enjoyed hunting and fishing with his family and many friends. Dick was the Baker County Hunters Education Coordinator, a life member of the IHEA and life member of the NRA.

Dick is survived by his wife Claudia, their three children, Rick Gasser, Eugene, Brenda Coggin of Molalla, Sandra Stafford of Molalla; 14 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and his sister Sharon of Gambrel, Mont.

He was loved by all and will be dearly missed. The services will be held at 1 p.m. Jan. 16 at the Enterprise Cemetery, Bollman Funeral Home officiating.

**Edmund (Ed) Harrington**  
Sept. 20, 1927 to Dec. 31, 2015

Ed Harrington of Richland, Wash., suddenly and silently joined the Lord on Dec. 31, 2015. He was born in Deadwood, S.D., on Sept. 20, 1927 to Edmund Harrington, Sr. and Beatrice Harrington. He grew up in Kadoka, S.D., where the Badlands and Black Hills served as the first playground to a lifetime of exploring and adventures. With his brother Dick and more than 50 cousins from their mother's eight sisters in the area, the holidays and get-togethers in Kadoka in his youth were among Ed's favorite memories.



Drafted at the end of World War II, he entered the service at the age of 18 and served in the Army Air Corps as a weatherman stationed at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. Serving in the Air Force led Ed to obtain his private pilot's license and he flew throughout the Northwest (until a close call had both his wife and his mother put their feet down — so he transitioned to being a passenger on future flights!)

After the service, he attended the South Dakota School of Mines before transferring to Oregon State University, where he earned his degree in civil engineering. While at OSU, he attended a barbecue and dance at the Catholic Newman Center and he met the love of his life, Joy Linn. They married on April 11, 1953, raised five children together and were looking forward to their 63rd anniversary.

Ed's career in construction kept the family moving, with time spent in West Virginia, Montreal, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Idaho, Oregon and ultimately, Washington. While in Oregon, he oversaw the construction of the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant and after that, took the Washington Square Mall from the time it was an orchard until the first occupants moved in.

His job as project manager for the construction of WPPSS 2 brought him to the Tri-Cities in 1978. Instead of moving away from the area for another project, he and Joy started Shamrock Constructors in 1984. Over the next 25 years as a Butler Builder, Shamrock Constructors constructed numerous metal buildings on the Hanford Site and throughout the area.

Never one to ever stop working, he supposedly retired around 1998, but found a way to stay busy by overseeing projects for Shamrock Constructors, including a large project in Seattle. He took a stab at transitioning to the computer age and began using a computer to estimate construction projects. However, he was not a natural at using technology. The joke around the office at that time was that he was still not allowed to turn the computer on or off.

Ed always enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing and skiing. After a long search for just the right property in just the right location, he and Joy bought "the Ranch" in Enterprise and began spending their retirement at the Ranch. They loved to sit on the deck with their morning coffee, surrounded by the Wallowa Mountains, watching the wildlife, and admiring the beautiful scenery.

Ed had a wide grin, a contagious laugh and stories that kept his family and friends laughing. His children couldn't imagine having a more loving and dedicated father. And he was completely devoted to his wife, who was with him when he collapsed and died while raking leaves together in the front yard of their Richland home. He and Joy shared numerous adventures and enjoyed all kinds of experiences from moose hunting by horseback to sailing from Alaska to Seattle. They traveled to Africa, England, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mexico — and he even went skydiving at the age of 77. He was planning to take another dive for his 90th birthday.

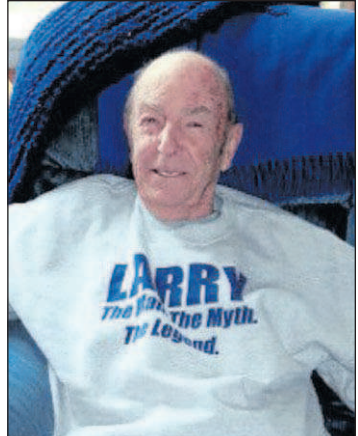
Ed is preceded in death by his mother and father and his daughter, Shannon Harrington. He is survived by his wife, Joy Harrington of Richland; his brother Dick (Jeanne) Harrington of Raleigh, NC; his children Dan (Pamela) Harrington of Pasco; Mike (Heidi) Harrington of Newcastle, Wash.; Erin (Kim) Harrington of Newberg, Ore., and Kevin (Pamela) of Kennewick. He so enjoyed his many grandchildren and great-granddaughter and will always be watching over them.

Visitation is scheduled from 3-6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8 at Hillcrest Funeral Home in Kennewick, with a rosary to follow at 6 p.m. The funeral will be Saturday, Jan. 9 at 11 a.m. at Parish of the Holy Spirit in Kennewick.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Catholic Family and Child Services, cfcyakima.org. For online condolences please visit www.AskHillcrest.com

**Laurence (Larry) A. Loftus**  
April 10, 1931 to Dec. 30, 2015

Larry Loftus made his final journey peacefully with his wife Kate by his side Wednesday, Dec. 30. Larry was born to Victor Loftus and Lulu Althiser Loftus in Washington, D.C., on April 10, 1931. When he was 8 months old, the family moved to Mexico City, where Victor served in the American Embassy. Larry attended the American School until 1943 when his parents divorced. He and his mother returned to Saugerties, N.Y., where he finished his schooling. He received a scholarship to Drew University in Madison, N.J., and they moved there in 1949. Larry graduated with a bachelor's degree from Brothers College in 1953 and started Theological School at Drew, located on the same campus.



Larry married Ruth Bollman in 1954. During his middle year they volunteered for the Christian Ministry in the National Parks and were assigned to the Olympic National Park in Washington state. Larry lost his heart to the Northwest, wrote the Bishop of the Northwest Conference and was appointed to Tualatin United Methodist Church upon graduation in 1956. Larry and Ruth had three children: Jim (1957), Dan (1960) and Laurianne (1964). He served United Methodist churches in Tualatin, Sweet Home, First Church Portland, Fremont, Metzger and Oak Grove, from 1956 to 1991. He took a sabbatical from 1977 to 1981 to open The Bike Route, a bicycle shop in southwest Portland, with Ruth and his family.

Larry returned to active ministry in 1982 at Metzger after he and Ruth divorced. He met Katherine "Kate" (Oien) and after a brief courtship they married on Aug. 29, 1987.

Larry loved the Northwest and reveled in the beauty and opportunity of hiking, camping and bicycling the roads, trails and highways of Oregon, Washington, Alaska and The Yukon. He helped establish the family camping program in the Oregon-Idaho Conference, motorcycle camps, trail camping and mountain climbing expeditions. He climbed most of the peaks in Oregon and Washington, including Mount Hood (three times, including performing a wedding on the summit) and Mount St. Helens (before and after eruption). He was a member of Mazamas for many years, leading many climbs.

Larry was an avid bicyclist, riding 500 miles per week including century rides (100 miles in one day) and charity rides for the MS Society (raising over \$30,000 in seven rides). He loved riding Wallowa County roads on his mountain bike. In his 60s, he rode the Oregon, Washington and Idaho Bike Rides, averaging 24,000 feet of elevation gain in six days per each event.

In 1994, Larry was given a special appointment to the Lostine Presbyterian Church in Lostine, where he served for 11 1/2 wonderful years as Pastor. During that time, he and Kate found 5 acres on the Lostine River where they built their dream log home. Although Larry wanted a one-room log cabin, they compromised and designed it together. Both felt they had died and gone to heaven with the river on the west, the wildlife refuge on the east, and the breaks of the Wallowa Mountains bordering the property. Larry so enjoyed hiking with their two Border Collies, Mira and Shep.

Larry retired from the United Methodist Church in 1996 after 41 years of service and later retired from the Lostine Presbyterian Church in 2005. In 2008, he began a two-year Interim Ministry at the La Grande First Presbyterian Church, commuting three days a week. It was a wonderful capstone to a ministry he gave his life to. Even after 55 years of service, Larry never left the pulpit, says friend Ellen Barton. Larry was a consummate pastor and preacher who was a "wholly human messenger of God".

Larry loved flying (he wanted to be a pilot before choosing the ministry), fast cars, hiking, travel, mountaineering, motorcycles, camping and reading (especially after retiring for the third time). Larry was extremely proud of Kate, who is a director, actor and founder of the MidValley Theatre Company in Lostine (since 1995). He was her biggest supporter and House Manager for many of the productions.

Larry is survived by Kate, his wife of over 29 years; son Jim and his wife Star, son Dan and his wife Susan, daughter Laurianne and Keith, daughter Sharon Henifin (husband Vern), daughter Kate Conrad (husband Nick), son Robert Oien; grandchildren Jason Loftus (wife Sheridan), Tyler Loftus, Chelsea Pickthorn, Steven Loftus, Cody Oien, Polina Conrad, Aleksander Conrad; and great-granddaughter Miette Loftus. Larry also is survived by his former wife Ruth TenEyck and his cousins Harry Loftus (of California) and Russell Teetsell (of Virginia). He was preceded in death by his parents Victor and Lulu.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10 at the First Presbyterian Church in La Grande (1308 Washington Ave.). A fellowship gathering will follow at the Presbyterian Friendship Center (across from the church). Arrangements are in care of Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

DEATH NOTICE

Leona Warnock

Leona Warnock, 87, of Enterprise passed away peacefully Dec. 7, 2015 at Wallowa Valley Senior Living in Enterprise. No services are planned at this time. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. A full obituary will be published later.

MORE OBITUARIES ON A3

About Obituaries

News obituaries are a free service of the Wallowa County Chieftain. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Send obituaries by e-mail, obits@wallowa.com; fax, 541-426-3921; or mail, PO Box 338, Enterprise, OR 97828. The deadline to submit an obituary is 2 p.m. Monday for the Wednesday paper. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-426-4567.

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**Weather Forecast**  
Courtesy of Weather Underground. www.wunderground.com

	High	Low	Conditions
Jan. 7	30	19	Mostly cloudy
Jan. 8	30	16	Partly cloudy
Jan. 9	27	13	Partly cloudy
Jan. 10	25	11	Clear
Jan. 11	25	17	Clear
Jan. 12	30	21	Snow showers

**Phases of the moon**

Jan. 9	Jan. 16	Jan. 23	Jan. 31
New Moon	1st Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter

**Student of the Week**  
Annie Duncan is a junior at Joseph Charter School. She is involved in cross country and track and is an active member of FFA and FCCLA. Annie wants to be a physical therapist so she has taken advantage of some of our advanced science classes such as chemistry and sports medicine and also takes pre-calculus and childhood development for college credit. Annie has been a wonderful addition to Joseph's student body and we are thrilled to have her at our school. Congratulation Annie!

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The Student of the Week is chosen for academic achievement and community involvement. Students are selected by the administrators of their respective schools.

**See Philip Ruud at Wallowa Valley Eye Care (Dr. Baileys Office) January 13th**  
519 W. North St.  
Enterprise, OR 97828  
Call 800-678-3155 for appointment

**Ruud's HEARING AID SERVICE**

**WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE, SUNSET JAN. 6-12**  
(from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
Jan. 6	Jan. 7	Jan. 8	Jan. 9	Jan. 10	Jan. 11	Jan. 12
Rise: 7:29	Rise: 7:28	Rise: 7:28	Rise: 7:28	Rise: 7:28	Rise: 7:27	Rise: 7:27
Set: 4:21	Set: 4:22	Set: 4:24	Set: 4:25	Set: 4:26	Set: 4:27	Set: 4:28