

Stockgrowers recognize Walking Cane Ranch

Max and Jeannie Mallory honored for perseverance and knowledge

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Outsiders to the county sometimes have the impression that it's not possible anymore to build a ranch in eastern Oregon, that cattle ranches in Wallowa County are all inherited.

But this year at the annual Stockgrower's Banquet, rancher Scot McLaren presented the "Grassman of the Year" award to a ranch that was established in one generation.

The award went to Max and Jeannie Mallory of Walking Cane Ranch in Wallowa.

"One thing about the Mallory's Walking Cane Ranch



Max and Jeannie Mallory of Walking Cane Ranch pose with their Grassman of the Year award in a field on their Wallowa ranch.

is that ever anybody had perseverance and stick-to-it this outfit has," McLaren said. "Unlike some of the cattle

ranches in the county, it's not been a long tenure ranch. They've accomplished a lot and put together an outstand-

ing program in one generation."

Max and Jeannie Mallory did it just the same way the old-timers who ended up with ranches to pass down through the generations did it — they worked two jobs for decades to finance their ranch.

They sold down in bad times and started all over to build back up in good times, and they not only worked dawn to dusk, they worked 24/7 from time to time.

That's a feature of cattlemen and women who really know what they want in life.

"This was our goal in life, to be doing this," Max said. "I think we've both been interested in livestock all our lives — I've wanted to raise cows since I was a kid. I got interested in grasses working with old range techs 51 years ago."

Max first bought his 15 head of dairy bucket calves from Jeannie's father in Asotin, Wash., in 1962.

While he was in the service (until 1967) he sent money home so his dad could take care of those calves and had one dairy cross calf left when he came home and that was his start in the business.

He married Jeannie in 1968 and got a CPA loan and bought 20 head and they were off and running, feeding their cattle on grass in the Bartlett area and wintering them in Asotin.

It wasn't easy. The market went south and they had to sell down to make it all work and Max ended up working feedlots and Jeannie went to work, too.

But they worked their way back into Wallowa County in the lower valley by 1980 and once again built their herd up to 100.

That didn't mean they were done working two jobs, however. Over the following years both Max and Jeannie had to work off the ranch in a variety of jobs to keep the

ranch going.

In 1983 Max went to work for the Forest Service as a trails supervisor in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and Jeannie went to work for what is now Farm Services Association.

The market was so bad in those years that they were back down to 35 cows after a few years.

"You've got to be dedicated," Jeannie said. "It's all in where your priorities are."

Those priorities included supporting their community by serving on boards and volunteering their time in good works.

Jeannie was the first female president of the Stockgrowers from 2006 to 2008, served as vice president of the Stockgrowers, was a member of the Grande Ronde Model Watershed board of directors and spent nine years on the Wallowa School Board.

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OBITUARIES

Leona Warnock
Aug. 21, 1928 to Dec. 7 2015

Leona Ruth Warnock of 300 Leone Ave. in Enterprise died on Dec. 7, 2015. She passed in peace at Wallowa Valley Senior Living, where she had resided since 2013. The family wishes to thank the facility staff, particularly Amy Radcliff, Leona's friend and nurse, and Leona's niece Nancy Lozier Haworth. They provided her with wonderful care and support.

Leona was born Aug. 21, 1928 to Viola E. Lingenfelter and Henry W. Lyman in Enterprise. Her family consisted of four sisters — Hazel Harrett, Effie Lozier, Ruby Prince and Anita Maish — and one brother, Chancy Lyman. She was proceeded in death by all except sister Anita.

She graduated from Enterprise High School in 1944. In 1946, she married William (Bill) Justin Warnock. They had four children — Bill, Lyman, Vern and Amy. She also had 16 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial service for will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Enterprise Community Church with reception to follow. Everyone is welcome to share stories of Leona's life and to renew friendships.

Joseph Wesley Patton
July 15, 1930 to Sept. 6, 2016

Joseph Wesley "Wes" Patton passed away at Wallowa Valley Senior Living on Sept. 6, 2016.

Wesley was born at home July 15, 1930 on the family's cotton farm in the small community of Circle Back, Texas. The family later moved to a larger farm 3 miles from Seminole, Texas, where Wesley attended to school. A key member of his high school football team, he played the guard position (with a blind right eye) and contributed to four winning seasons. He also excelled in track, running the mile relay and the 880 meters.

After graduation, Wesley worked first in the oil fields and later moved to Ruidoso, N.M., where he met Rowena Coe. Three weeks later they eloped and were married on Dec. 25, 1950.

Wesley and Rowena came to Wallowa County in the spring of 1972 with hopes of fulfilling his lifelong dream of running his own cattle ranch. They built a home and wintered their herd at Horse Creek on the Imnaha, then summer pastured the cows first on the Divide and later on Kuhn Ridge. In 1978, Wes and Rowena again moved, building a final home on their place 7 miles out of Enterprise on the Lewiston Highway.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Rowena; daughter Blenda Drummond (Jack) and their children Janeane, Brandie and Russell; daughter Annette Lathrop (Mike) and their children Wayne, Melinda, Will and LeAnn; son Coe Patton (Glenda) and their children Damion, Dan and Justin; and son Karl Patton (Karen) and their children Tristan, Devin and Colby; 21 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson, sister Jean Pulliams of Hobbs, N.M.; and brother Gail Patton of Vancouver, Wash.

He was preceded in death by his parents Lester and Reba Patton; brothers Donald and Keith; and sister Ann Caffey.

A memorial service was held at First Baptist Church on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Gary Lozier
July 6, 1937 to Sept. 6, 2016

Gary Lozier, 79, of Eagle Point, Ore., passed away Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016 at his home.

Gary was born July 6, 1937 in Joseph to C.M. and Sevilla (Maxwell) Lozier. He graduated from Enterprise High School in 1955 and from Oregon State University in 1959. On Dec. 28, 1960, he married Solveig (Wiik) Lozier in Grants Pass, Ore.

Gary was an officer in the U.S. Army for 21 years. He served as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam from 1965-1966 and 1969-1970. He later served as the airfield commander at Mainz-Finthen Army Airfield, Germany, from 1975-1976. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel at Fort Meade, Md., in 1978. Thereafter, he served at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., for the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1979-1981. During his time in the Army, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal, thirty Air Medals (with Valor), and two Army Commendation Medals (with Valor).

Gary retired from the military in 1981 and moved to Grants Pass, where he was part-owner of the Riverside Motel and Restaurant. He later served as a branch manager and vice president for Jackson County Federal Credit Union and as a stockbroker for Smith Barney in Grants Pass before retiring in 2001.



He was actively involved in the Grants Pass Rotary for many years, and he was a long-time member of Bethany Presbyterian Church, where he served as a treasurer and session member. He enjoyed reading, working in the yard and spending time with his wife and family.

Gary is survived by his wife, Solveig; son Michael Lozier and wife Cecilia of La Habra, Calif.; daughter Selina Farrell Brandt and husband Theodore Brandt of Moorpark, Calif.; son Mark Lozier and wife Michelle of Port Republic, Md.; grandchildren Kyle Lozier of San Luis Obispo, Calif., Joseph Farrell and Ryan Farrell of Moorpark, Calif., and David Lozier and Karin Lozier of Port Republic; sisters Suzanne (and Larry) Coppock of Adams, Ore., and Sonya (and Jim) Horsley of Sisters, Ore.; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, C.M. and Sevilla.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13 at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 741 N.W. 4th Street, Grants Pass, Ore., 97526. Reverends Steve Parker and Brian Heron will officiate. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Bethany Presbyterian Church. Those wishing to sign Gary's memorial page may do so at memorialwebsites.legacy.com. He will be laid to rest at Eagle Point National Cemetery in Eagle Point.

Weather Forecast

Courtesy of Weather Underground. www.wunderground.com

	High	Low	Conditions
Sept. 15		75 / 43	Clear
Sept. 16		78 / 45	Clear
Sept. 17		82 / 49	Clear
Sept. 18		79 / 48	Partly Cloudy
Sept. 19		75 / 44	Clear
Sept. 20		69 / 39	Mostly Cloudy

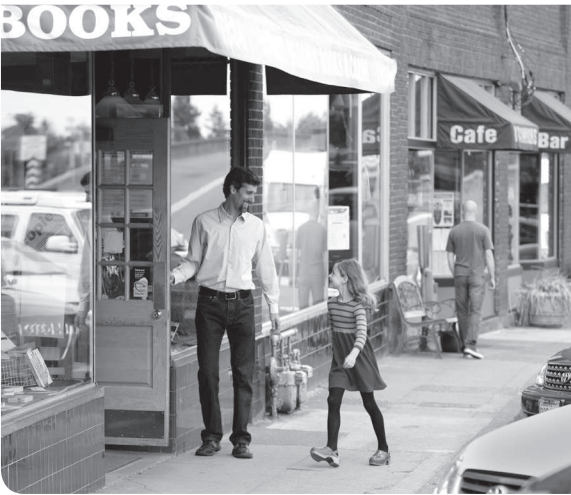
Phases of the moon

Sept. 16	Sept. 23	Sept. 30	Oct. 8
Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	1st Quarter

WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE AND SUNSET SEPT. 15-20

(from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
Sept. 14 Rise: 6:27 Set: 7:01	Sept. 15 Rise: 6:28 Set: 6:59	Sept. 16 Rise: 6:29 Set: 6:57	Sept. 17 Rise: 6:31 Set: 6:55	Sept. 18 Rise: 6:32 Set: 6:53	Sept. 19 Rise: 6:33 Set: 6:51	Sept. 20 Rise: 6:34 Set: 6:49



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