

**Robert "Wayne" Lathrop**  
July 7, 1930 – December 30, 2018

Robert Wayne Lathrop was the 12th of 13 children born to Louis and Hazel Lathrop. He grew up on the Lathrop family homestead in the Leap Country north of Enterprise. He attended school in the Leap one-room school house and would be the last class to graduate from the school as an eighth grader in 1944. He attended Enterprise High School and graduated in 1948. Even as a young man, in the Leap country he was legendary for his mechanical abilities and how he could keep all the worn-out equipment running for the Lathrops and the neighbors.

Upon graduation from high school he would help his brothers Shorty and Duke with their cattle ranches on the remote Snake River. He would be drafted into the

Army in 1951 and serve in Korea as a forward observer for most of 1952. He would recall how the enemy could attack in swarms and the awful devastation he could bring down on them, especially when calling fire for the ships off the coast.

Upon discharge from the Army, he farmed and ranched with his brothers and shear sheep on the Marvin Lovell crew — a man Wayne held in great regard because his work ethic equaled that of his own. In 1954, he married Jo-Ann Markham and they farmed and ranched. They moved to Enterprise and bought acreage in 1962 and Wayne went to work for the Wallowa County Grain Growers. Wayne would find his gift as a mechanic for the Grain Growers and no such thing existed—a Johnny that

wouldn't pop or a baler that wouldn't tie — in Wallowa County. Wayne had a very loyal customer base among farmers and ranchers in Wallowa County for many years.

After retiring from the Grain Growers, he expanded his cattle herd significantly and pursued his real passion of raising cattle. He would continue to raise cattle into his 80s and especially enjoyed the time he spent on his Crow Creek property.

Wayne was a member of the Grange, Stockgrowers and Elks club. He was also a long time Little League coach and Cub Scout leader.

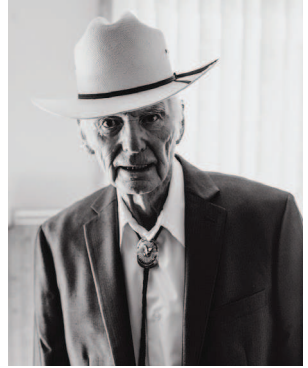
Wayne was preceded in death by his wife Jo-Ann, six brothers Quentin, Ollis (Jiggs), Leo (Tuff), Harold (Shorty), Emra (Duke) and Melvin five sisters Muriel, Gladys Yost, Mar-

ian Bowen, Marcel Walker and Sally Akin. He is survived by one sister Mary Lou Huffman, three sons Jeff (Nancy), Scott (Ruby), Mick (Kelli); one daughter Betsy, four grand children, numerous great grandchildren and a very special niece and nephew in John and Darlene Pithoud.

Memorial contributions can be made to Wallowa County Senior Meals in care of Community Connection, 702 NW First Street, Enterprise.

Celebration of his life will be held Saturday Jan 12 at 1 p.m. at the Bollman Funeral Home with private interment at the Enterprise Cemetery. Reception to follow at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. Bollman Funeral Home entrusted with arrangements.

**John Godel Ward**  
February 11, 1928 – December 22, 2018



John Godel Ward

John Godel Ward, 90, long-time resident of Joseph, Oregon, died Saturday night Dec. 22, 2018, in Spokane, Washington. John had been living in Walla Walla Veterans Home and was airlifted to Sacred Heart Hospital for internal bleeding, from which he would not recover. His Walla Walla family, Mari and Mark Hanson were there to hold him as he left this life which he lived with grace and love.

John was born Feb. 11, 1928, in North Warren, Pennsylvania to Robert Edmund and Corabel (Godel) Ward. He and his sister Jane grew up surrounded by aunts, uncles, cousins and hundreds of miles of wooded forests, rivers and lakes. At the end of World War II, John left high school to join the Army and was assigned to General Douglas MacArthur's Allied Occupation Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. When he returned home in 1948 he met a young nurse from Pittsburgh who stole his heart.

John Ward and Catherine Ann (Tess) Bellan were married Sept. 4, 1948, at the North Warren Presbyterian Church and left soon after to start a new life in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They utilized his GI Bill to buy a home as John started school at the University of New Mexico and they began their family of six children.

John worked for the machinist union but he lived to go fishing and camping. He built lifelong friendships with buddies who showed him the backroads of New Mexico. As a young father, he taught his family the merits of wilderness conservation, endlessly exploring the mountains, rivers and lakes of the Land of Enchantment. Ultimately, they bought a cabin in northern New Mexico.

In 1967 John moved his family to Richland, Washington, where he began working with Battelle N.W. and later Westinghouse Hanford as the manager of union relations. John and Tess lived in Richland for more than 25 years and the center of their activism was Central United Protestant Church.

John was an avid fan of Bomber basketball as well as college basketball. He rarely missed a trip each year to the NCAA tournament with his sons and grandchildren.

In 1994 John and Tess retired and moved to their land on the banks of the Wallowa River, a retreat they owned since 1968. Their home was the heart of the family, the site of countless celebrations where John also cultivated his love for tree farming. This is where Tess died in 2008, months short of their 60th wedding anniversary. The United Methodist Church in Joseph was their spiritual home where they continued to serve their community.

John's enduring legacy will be his pride and love for his family; his respect and passion for the great outdoors and his keen intellect. He will be remembered for being steady, faithful and fair. He was determined to live life on his own terms. And he will be deeply and truly missed.

John was preceded in death by his wife Tess Ward, daughter Gina Lea, sister Jane, brother Robbie and his parents Robico and Corabel Ward. He is survived by children Lisa Sprecker (Jerry Whiting), Robert E. Ward II (Becky Ward), Jana M. Ward, Mari Hanson (Mark Hanson) and John B. Ward (Joneen Ward); ten grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and niece Linda Rogers Spurlock (Mike Spurlock). A memorial service will be held 1 p.m., April 27 at United Methodist Church in Joseph, Oregon with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Joseph United Methodist Church.

**Oma Ydele Miller**  
April 8, 1929 – November 26, 2018

Oma Ydele Miller, 89, died Monday, Nov. 26 at a local care home.

At her request there will be no services. She will be interred in the Enterprise Cemetery next to her parents.

Oma was born on April 8, 1929, in Bend to Thorval Graydon and Marilla (Hodge) Gray. After graduating from high school she attended what is now Eastern Oregon University for a year. She then returned to Bend where she worked as a bookkeeper and secretary before moving to Eastern Oregon. She lived in Wal-

lowa and Enterprise before moving to La Grande in the 1990s.

When she was able, Oma attended the Oregon Trail Christian Fellowship.

She is survived by a daughter, Suellen Roley of Bend.

Contributions in memory of Oma Miller may be made to the Oregon Trail Christian Fellowship at 59074 Foothill Road, La Grande, OR 97850.

Arrangements were entrusted to Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center in La Grande.

**HONOR ROLL**  
**Local students on Lewis-Clark State College honor roll**

LEWISTON, Idaho—Fifteen students from the state of Oregon were named to the 2018 fall semester honor roll at Lewis-Clark State College by earning either President's List or Dean's List status.

To qualify for the President's List students must have a 3.75 grade point average or higher for the semester and take at least 12 graded credits in level 100 classes or above. The Dean's List uses the same requirements but students must have a GPA between

3.25 and 3.749. Overall, the college had 468 students on the President's List and 482 students on the Dean's List.

Area are listed below with their hometowns and honor:

**President's List**

Elgin – Aria E. Higgins  
Enterprise – Stefany R. Christman, Rylie J. Hayward

**Dean's List**

La Grande – Bailey M. Pointer

New novel by Rick Steber  
**Fall Down Angel**  
THE BOOKLOFT  
Across from the courthouse in Enterprise  
107 E. Main • 541.426.3351  
always open at [www.bookloftoregon.com](http://www.bookloftoregon.com) • [bookloft@conl.com](mailto:bookloft@conl.com)

**Wallowa BUSINESS**  
Serving 1090 entrepreneurs creating new jobs since 2001  
Supports Free and Confidential Business Counseling and Services through Blue Mountain Community College  
Wallowa County Small Business Development Center  
Small Business Advisors  
**Kristy Athens Dennis Sands**  
To begin your free and confidential business consultation call  
**541-278-5864**  
Wallowa Business is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public benefit corp.

WALLOWA COUNTY  
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Wallowa Valley Eye Care  
519 W. North Street, Enterprise  
541.426.3413  
Mon-Thurs 9 to Noon/1-5pm; Fri. 9-1

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541-426-9411  
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Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN  
WALLOWA COUNTY CASA

Wallowa County Chess Club  
Welcome Tourists and Players of all levels!  
Thursdays 4 to 8 PM  
FREE!  
"Play golf for your body. Play chess for your mind."  
JOSEPHY CENTER FOR ARTS AND CULTURE  
403 Main Street Joseph, Oregon  
Puzzle 265 Happy New Year—Black to play and draw

**STUDENT of the WEEK**  
In his second year in the Alternative Education program, Cash has thrived as a student and leader in the classroom. A phenomenal artist, musician and writer, Cash brings creativity to every assignment. Cash also exemplifies kindness and character, always willing to help fellow students and staff. We are thrilled to have him as part of our Alt Ed Family.  
CASH McQUOWN  
Alternative Ed  
Proudly sponsored by  
**Community BANK**  
Local Money Working For Local People  
The Student of the Week is chosen for academic achievement and community involvement. Students are selected by the administrators of their respective schools.

**PET OF THE WEEK**  
Brought to you by, Enterprise Animal Hospital, Inc.  
**Meet Snug**  
Snug - A female gray, black & white, BOB TAIL Tabby! Born approximately Oct. 28, 2018. She is very cuddly and purrs up a storm! A timid, quiet kitty who would rather cuddle in your lap and just loves to be loved. Up-to-date on vaccinations and worming, litter box trained.  
Available for Adoption  
Contact Elaine at 541-263-1148  
\$40 adoption fee  
Includes a spay at any of our Wallowa County Vets  
<http://www.wallowacountyhumansociety.org/>

**ABOUT OBITUARIES**  
News obituaries are a free service of the Wallowa County Chieftain. Obituaries are accepted from family members or a funeral home. No handwritten obituaries will be accepted. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries that exceed 400 words will be referred to the advertising department for paid memorials. Send obituaries by email to [editor@wallowa.com](mailto:editor@wallowa.com); fax to 541-426-3921 or mail to P.O. Box 338, Enterprise, OR 97828. Deadline to submit an obituary is 10 a.m. Monday for publication the same week. Obituaries submitted after deadline will be queued for publication in the next edition. Info: 541-426-4567.

**Weather Forecast**  
Courtesy of Weather Underground • [wunderground.com](http://wunderground.com)

	High	Low	Conditions
Jan 10	41	29	Partly Cloudy
Jan 11	41	27	Partly Cloudy
Jan 12	39	30	Mostly Sunny
Jan 13	38	30	Partly Cloudy
Jan 14	37	29	Rain/Snow Showers
Jan 15	37	32	Partly Cloudy
Jan 16	39	32	Rain/Snow Showers

**Phases of the moon**

Jan 13	Jan 21	Jan 26	Feb 4
1st Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon

WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE & SUNSET JAN. 10-16  
(from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
7:27	7:27	7:27	7:26	7:26	7:26	7:25
4:27	4:28	4:29	4:30	4:31	4:33	4:34