

Walking On...

Nancy Eloise Maygra

Feb. 12, 1933 – Feb. 4, 2008

Tribal member Nancy Eloise Maygra (Stephens), 74, of Yakima, Wash., passed away on Feb. 4, 2008.

She was born Feb. 12, 1933, in White Center, Wash., to Herbert W. and Delia Pearl Winnifred (Goudie) Stephens.

She lived most of her life in Washington state.

In 1955, she married Rayome Maygra. They celebrated 44 years of marriage until his death in 1999.

She loved cats, horses and Ann Rule novels.

She will be loved and missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by two brothers, Herbert Stephens (Gladys) of Moses Lake, Wash., and Gerald Stephens (Darlene) of Livingston, Mont.; sister, Cora Shelley of Xenia, Ohio; two nephews, Anthony Stephens (Tammy) and Fabian Stephens (Leah) of Moses Lake; friend and companion, Roy Brown (Cherokee); and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and sister, Camille Taro.

She was a descendant of Mary Ann Marshelle (Maranda) Louise/Shaegoskata, daughter of Louis Shaegoskata, also known as Le Frise, and Louise, Kalapuya or Churatheia.

Nancy had a five-year battle with cancer, never giving in until the last two months of her life.

She was tended in her last few weeks by a very caring Anthony and Tammy Stephens in their home in Moses Lake.

A funeral service was held at Kayser's Chapel of Memories in Moses Lake and she was then taken to Yakima and laid to rest next to her husband.

**Jimmie Gale Pichette**

Aug. 24, 1942 – Feb. 6, 2008

Tribal member Jimmie Gale Pichette, 65, of Coos Bay, Ore., passed away at Bay Area Hospital on Feb. 6, 2008, after battling esophageal cancer.

Jim was born Aug. 24, 1942, in Roseburg, Ore., to the late David and Ruth Pichette.

He attended Sutherlin School in Sutherlin, Ore.

He served in the U.S. Army in a tank battalion and later worked in many jobs, such as policeman, fireman and mill worker.

He married Mary (Micki) A. Roberts on May 19, 1989, in Sutherlin.

A friend to everyone, Jimmie never met a stranger. When he and Micki would stop for a rest or a meal when they traveled, it was regular to meet someone who Jimmie knew from somewhere. Jimmie was just that kind of friend.

Jimmie loved his heritage in the Native American culture and was a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

He enjoyed the crafts and skills he learned that celebrated his rich heritage.

Jimmie, as a younger man, lived in several small communities in Washington and Oregon, and was an active outdoorsman. He loved the hunting and fishing of the area.

He is survived by his wife, of Coos Bay; children, Matthew of Coos Bay, Merrie of Lebanon, Ore., and Leonard of Portland; twin sister, Judy, and her husband, George Livingston, of Athens, Ala.; sister, Barbara, and her husband, Chuck Cantwell, of Roseburg; brother, David, and his wife, Nancy Pichette, of Oakland, Ore. His surviving stepchildren include Mark and his wife, Mindy, of Coos Bay; Michael and his wife, Julie, of Florence; Matthew and his wife, Sheila, of Roseburg; and Mitchel and his wife, Amy, of Yakima, Wash.

He is also survived by 18 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and his special extended family, Joyce Richardson and Kurt Smith.

Jimmie was preceded in death by his parents and grandson, Dain Grigsby.

Memorial services were held Feb. 16 at the South Coast Hospice and Palliative Care Center's Bereavement Center, 1610 Thompson Road, Coos Bay.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the South Coast Hospice and Palliative Care Center or the American Cancer Society in memorial of Jim's recent battle with cancer.

**Norma Ruth Lewis**

Nov. 22, 1922 – Feb. 8, 2008

Tribal member Norma Ruth (Mercier) Lewis, 85, a resident of Keizer since 1961 and lifelong resident of Oregon, passed away on Feb. 8, 2008.

Norma was born in Grand Ronde to Gertrude (Hudson) and Julius Mercier on Nov. 22, 1922, and lived in Grand Ronde until her marriage to Delbert Ray Lewis in 1941.

Norma's Tribal heritage can be traced to Alquema, or Joseph Hutchins (Hudson), who signed the Willamette Valley Treaty in 1855. Norma's mother and grandmother Martha Jane (Hattie) (Sands) also are featured in the statue at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Norma and Delbert later moved to Sheridan and had five children. During their 52 years together, Norma and Delbert lived in Sheridan, Hillsboro and Sunriver before settling in Keizer. An extremely hard worker, Norma had many jobs, including school bus driver, newspaper delivery routes, a cook at Fairview Training Center, assisting her husband in his painting business, helping build their three cabins at Crooked River Ranch, as well as raising all their five children with a loving hand.

No one in the Lewis family will ever forget the wonderful holiday meals she prepared and the many get-togethers shared in her home. During the 1970s and 1980s, the Lewis family would regularly have summer gatherings at Crooked River Ranch at one of the two A-frame cabins they built. The family would travel to nearby lakes and reservoirs to water ski, fish or swim in the crisp waters.

Norma was always a happy organizer of these gatherings, making sure that all preparations were made for their children and grandchildren to stay over in the cabins. Norma enjoyed attending powwows, rodeos and other activities at the Tribe.

She was proud to be a Native American, of Takelma, Chinook and Santiam Kalapuya descent.

Norma is survived by her children, Gary (Kathi) Lewis of Salem, Karen McCutcheon of Springfield, Ore., Deborah (Ron) Cuthbert of Vancouver, Wash., Larry (Sherri) Lewis of Salem and Tom (Sharon) Lewis of Ridgefield, Wash.; sister, Nadine McNutt of Grand Ronde; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and many cousins and other relatives throughout the Tribe. She was preceded in death by her husband; sisters, Barbara, Marion and Dorothy; and her parents. Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 13 at St. Michael's Church in Grand Ronde. A reception followed at the Tribal Community Center. Vault interment occurred at Green Crest Memorial Park in Sheridan.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Willamette Humane Society, 4246 Turner Road S.E., Salem, Ore. 97301.

Adamson's Sheridan Funeral Home handled arrangements.

The family wishes to thank the Grand Ronde drummers for their participation and wonderful songs during the service and the Burial Committee for the meal, and to thank all who came to say goodbye.

The family also wanted to thank Tribal Council members Kathy Tom, Chris Mercier and Cheryle Kennedy for attending.

**Linda Louise McKnight**

Jan. 3, 1954 – Feb. 16, 2008

Tribal member Linda Louise McKnight was born Jan. 3, 1954, in Tillamook, Ore., to Raymond and June (Drake) McKnight.

She grew up in Salem, where she had numerous jobs throughout her life.

She had a spot in her heart for the elderly, caring for several Elders in town. Linda helped her friend care for her sister with disabilities up to her last days. She was quick to make friends, and quicker to be one. To her everyone was a potential friend. Her smile and laughter will be deeply missed.

Linda was preceded in death by her father; brother, Stephen McKnight; sister, Cheryl McKnight; and her two daughters, Michelle and Kevyn McKnight. She is survived by her mother, of Salem; brother, Kevin McKnight, of Salem; sister, RaeAnn Mussell of Vancouver, B.C.; her best friend, Connie Starr of Salem; several nieces and nephews, and many friends. Memorial services were held Feb. 22 at the Grand Ronde Tribal gymnasium under the direction of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

