

## Walking On...

### Michael Leonard Rife

Nov. 16, 1951 – Feb. 21, 2024

Tribal Elder Michael Leonard Rife of Pleasant Hill, Oregon, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at the age of 72.

He was born in Mapleton, Oregon, to William and Betty (Carpenter) Rife. He joined the United States Marine Corps in 1969 and served a total of six years in the military.

In 1970, he met Katherine June Rose. They were married on Dec. 18, 1970, and spent 52 wonderful years together in which they had two sons, William and Joshua Rife.

Michael was a devoted family man who put his wife and children first. He was also a loving grandfather. Michael enjoyed hunting, fishing and loved the outdoors. His other passion was woodworking. He was a natural handyman who fixed everything.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine; sons, William and Joshua; daughter-in-law, Amy Rife; and grandchildren, Isaac, Allison, Kaleb and Madeline.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at the Tribal Cemetery.

West Valley Funeral Home in Sheridan is assisting the family.



# TERO board



Photo contributed by Grand Ronde TERO

The Tribal Employment Rights Office has installed a 12-by-48 foot billboard on southwest Highway 99 near McMinnville to help in its recruiting efforts. Staff, from left, are TERO Director Harris Reibach, Training and Development Coordinator Jacob Boekhoff, Compliance Officer Duke Kimsey and Administrative Assistant Kristy Summers. Not pictured is TERO Senior Administrative Assistant Caden Leno. The billboard was installed in February in addition to a 10-by-30 foot billboard on Interstate 5 in Salem. “The billboards will be up for approximately eight weeks,” Reibach said. “At this point, with the positive feedback and interest we have gotten, I will likely extend that time.”

## Community Fund seeking Hatfield Fellow applicants

Applications for the 2024-25 Hatfield Fellowship program funded by Spirit Mountain Community Fund are being accepted through Tuesday, April 30.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund annually sponsors a Native American to serve as the Hatfield Fellow and intern in an Oregon congressional office. Placement of the fellow rotates through the Oregon delegation to enhance mutual understanding between leadership in Washington, D.C., and Indian Country.

Fellows are provided an opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of how to navigate the political process in Washington, D.C., while working on issues that affect Native Americans.

Fellows begin their Capitol Hill experience in November with a month-long orientation at the American Political Science Association, which is followed by an eight-month term working in a congressional office. The fellowship includes a monthly stipend and relocation and travel expenses.

The fellowship is for Tribal members from the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon, as well as members of Pacific Northwest Tribes. Preference will be given to members of Oregon Tribes. Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree or be graduating in June 2024, and be 21 or older.

For more information, visit [thecommunityfund.com/grants-programs/hatfield-fellowship](http://thecommunityfund.com/grants-programs/hatfield-fellowship) or go to [youtu.be/7TONoFgUYs](https://youtu.be/7TONoFgUYs) to watch an informational video about the Hatfield Fellowship.

The fellowship was created in 1998 to honor the late Sen. Mark Hatfield’s public service to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. ■



## West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Deadline is March 15, 2024

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male/Female (Circle)

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Honorable: Yes/No (Circle)

DOE: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

DOS: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of seperation: \_\_\_\_\_

Deceased: Yes/No (Circle) \_\_\_\_\_ Place of burial: \_\_\_\_\_

CTGR Tribal: Yes/No (Circle) \_\_\_\_\_ If Tribal, Roll# \_\_\_\_\_

\*All applicants must submit a copy of their DD214. If applicant is deceased, a family member or spouse can submit a copy of their DD214. If you are a CTGR Tribal member please attach a copy of your Tribal ID. If you are non-Tribal please attach a copy of a bill/record with your name and address showing you had lived or now reside in Grand Ronde, Willamina or Sheridan. Please send application and all documents to Grand Ronde Veterans SEB, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347. If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Clark at 503-879-1418 or e-mail: [publicaffairs@grandronde.org](mailto:publicaffairs@grandronde.org)

Any applications received after March 15, 2024, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2025.