

THE RECORD

OBITUARIES

LAGLER—John C. Lagler, 90, formerly of Mapleton, died on July 11, 2017, at his home in Veneta while surrounded by his family.



John Lagler
John was born in 1927 in Wray, Colo., to Fred and Julia Lagler. He was one of eight children.

He was married to Joyce Shell, his love of 70 years, and they were blessed with six children.

John was a hard-working, self-made man of many talents; an entrepreneur, inventor and pilot. He was a forward-thinking businessman who pushed the industries he worked in and fiercely supported the educative processes that keep these industries alive and viable today.

John was a larger-than-life presence in the communities that he lived in. He invested in his community and served on the Mapleton School Board, Mapleton Fire Board and contributed to the development of the Mapleton Track and Field and community swimming pool.

He raised his family and built two businesses while living in Mapleton: Lagler Logging and Lagler and Son Construction.

John was one of the founding members of Associated Oregon Loggers. He was a pioneer in the logging industry safety program, with his company the first to offer Green Stamps as incentive for his crew.

He started a scholarship program at Associated Oregon Loggers, called Log A Load For Kids. He was extremely passionate about education.

He received many awards for his logger's safety program and

coined the motto "Safety Doesn't Happen, Accidents Do."

He was also recognized by the agricultural department for his development of the Lost Springs Ranch and the Rock Creek Upper Reservoir Dam.

John was committed to his employees. He led by example to motivate his crew to perform their best. He was passionate about fairness, honesty and respect. In the words of Buzz Martin, "Where there walks a logger, there walks a man."

In 1980, John and Joyce moved to Burns, Ore. They owned and operated the Lost Springs Ranch, developing into respected ranchers. Later they moved to Bend, Ore., and developed properties there before retiring to Veneta.

In retirement, John took up his passion for metalworking, woodworking and gardening. He loved hunting and camping.

John was preceded in death by his son, Michael Wayne Lagler.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Joyce; five daughters, 15 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The community is invited to take a moment to remember the life and legacy of John Lagler on Friday, July 21, at St. Mary, Our Lady of The Dunes Catholic Church in Florence, at noon.

In lieu of gifts, his family requests that you graciously make a donation in John's name to the Associated Oregon Loggers Scholarship Fund at Oregon State University (www.oregonloggers.org/scholarship.aspx), or Log a Load For Kids at Associated Oregon Loggers (www.oregonloggers.org/Logaload.aspx).

Burns's Riverside Chapel Florence Funeral Home was in

charge of arrangements.

GILMORE—Theola Mae Gilmore, formerly of Florence, died July 2, 2017, at home with family in Eugene.



Theola Gilmore

She was followed by Lurena Eschliman Workman, infant Teddy Eschliman, Larre Eschliman and Lonnie Eschliman.

In late 1946, Theola met, then married the man that would share her life for the next 70 years, William J. (Bill) Gilmore. Their life together brought them three children: Michael T. and Reva Gilmore, Marijo and Elden Nordahl, Susan and Tom Owings; along with grandchildren: Amy and James Thompson, Daniel and Adela Carnaghi, Brian and Rachel Nordahl, Damon and Dana

Nordahl, Erin and Tony Mason, Caley and James Joy, Jessica and Mike Harms, Shelly Circle, and Michele Nordahl; as well as 28 great-grandchildren and counting.

Their life together took them westward from Nebraska to Idaho, Oregon and Washington, then back to their home in Medford, Ore., in 1964 — where they stayed for more than 40 years raising their children and greeting new grandchildren.

They found employment as teachers at McLoughlin Junior High; Bill as the eighth-grade boys PE teacher while Theola found her perfect job as the Developmental Reading teacher.

After their retirement from McLoughlin, Theola and Bill were able to travel the world and become active in their Sacred Heart Community until health problems made it necessary to move closer to family in Florence and Eugene.

Theola loved Bill, her family and her church. She also loved holding her newborns and hugging her big children — grands and greats — and singing to them with her beautiful voice. She also loved reading.

As members of her family, we

have been blessed by our time with her on this earth and are thankful she is with Bill and the other members of her family that have preceded her.

In lieu of flowers, Theola's family would like her memory honored by spreading the love of reading to children in need in Medford.

Donations can be made to the

Theola Gilmore Memorial Book Drive at GoFundMe .Com

Her Funeral Mass will be held Friday, July 14, at 8:30 a.m., at Sacred Heart Church in Medford, with interment at Hillcrest Memorial Park next to her beloved Bill.

Burns's Riverside Chapel Florence Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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We invite you to join us.

- Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections
- Sunday Worship 9:00am and 10:45am

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