On The Record

OBITUARIES

NELSON-Keith L. Nelson was born to Eleanor and Sidney Nelson on July 25, 1937, in DeSmet, S.D., and has passed away after a long and prosperous life.

He grew up in the "Little Town on the Prairie," where he and his brothers, Boyd and Dennis, had all sorts of fun and caused a little bit of mischief on the farm.

It is from his youth that



Keith Nelson

he became a true outdoorsman who loved to pheasant hunt and fish. Keith passed down his fishing skills to his

kids and grandkids. The love he had for the outdoors was his se-

graduating from high school, he entered the U.S. Navy, where he served our country for several years. After leaving the Navy, he Dakota attended South State University and earned a bachelor's degree in education. Later, he earned his master's degree from Oregon State University.

Keith's life always focused on his wife (Joanne, who recently passed), his three children - Pegeen, Nancy and Darek — his daughter-in-law Rita, and his five grandkids: Matthew, Becky, Cree, Mitchell and Ellie.

Keith began his career in Carlin, Nev., as a special education teacher. He then moved his family to Port Orford, where he taught shop and coached the high school boys' basketball team. After living in Port Orford a few years, he moved his family north to Florence where he was Siuslaw High School's counselor and head basketball coach.

Other than hunting and fishing, Keith's passion was coaching boys high school basketball, where he led Siuslaw to its best state tournament finish at third place.

Keith retired from coaching in the late 70s, turning his attention to his family and construction.

Along with his wife Joanne, they started Nelson and Nelson Construction. They built several customs homes in the Florence community and performed a countless number of remodels both in town and along all the surrounding lakes. His wood craftsmanship and eye for detail was exceptional.

In addition, Keith spent years of dedicated service on the Florence Planning Commission as well as being a chair for Lane Community College-Florence Campus.

After a long career with Siuslaw High School, he retired in 1994. Soon after that, he retired from construction all together. His passions after retirement were his grandkids, golfing, growing a beautiful vegetable garden, and the outdoors. His grandkids brought picnics, fishing,

fun and joy to his life. Keith will always be remembered as a devoted husband, a fabulous father to his kids and the best "Gramps" the grandkids could ask for. His wonderful ability to listen, his positive attitude and sense of humor will truly be

missed. We know you are with Mom now, and may you rest

in peace. There will be celebrating Keith's life on June 7, beginning at 1 p.m. at Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter at 3996 Hwy 101,

Florence, Ore., 97439. GOULDING — John Goulding, 67, formerly of Deadwood was born Sept. 28, 1950 and died June 24, 2017.

John grew up with his parents, two sisters and brother in Alturas Calif., where he knew his future wife Suzy as his youngest sister's friend and his future in-laws as his high school teachers.

John was an incredibly talented and hard-working man, capable of figuring out most things he set his mind to with a book and practice.

From managing shoe stores in California to becoming the Capitan of the Miss Maria

Alas-John ka, worked his ass off. He was an artist, ultimately finding his m e d i u m in wood.



Goulding

Throughout the Northwest, the beautiful and functional furniture, cabinets and homes that he's built will last generations. If you've ever visited Heceta Head Lighthouse or the Monterey Bay Aquarium, you've probably seen his work.

The love that John's wife and daughter felt from him was unparalleled. When Celeste was born John became a committed father and moved to Deadwood, Ore., with his small family. John and Suzy

homesteaded in Deadwood for 13 years, raising their daughter.

They moved to Terrebonne, Ore., when Suzy was hired as the Special Education teacher for Culver Elementary. John claimed to dislike people, yet he was a hilarious and reliable friend to many.

Somehow, he always was available to help a neighbor or friend, however begrudgingly. His laugh and his jokes will live on in all that ever saw him having a good time. He rarely told people goodbye, rather favoring the phrase "be good," so we'll do our best to be good and continue on.

John died after being hospitalized five days in Bend, Ore., following a fall from the roof at his home of 14 years in Terrebonne.

He is survived by his mother Betty Hough; his siblings Kathleen, Michael and Kristeen Goulding; his wife Suzy Tignor and daughter Celeste Goulding; along with his fourth female black lab with a three-letter name beginning with I: Isa.

They will be collecting stories and photos of John to go together in a memory book celebrating his life while coming up on the second anniversary of his passing this

If you would like to send something, or receive a copy

of the book, please reach out at celeste97116@gmail.com.

RANTA—Judith (Judy) Ranta was born Nov. 16, 1938, in Philadelphia, Penn. Her parents were Fredrick W. Brink and Doris Lippincott

Having been a U.S. Navy junior and the wife of a U.S.

had

on

East

and Gulf

Coast,



Judith Ranta

well as Mid-America, Japan and Hawaii before eventually in Oregon.

During her long life, she reared eight children (five of whom were adopted); was a den mother; traveled 48 of the United States for a year with six little children while her husband served in Okinawa, Japan, as an officer in the Marine Corps; was a volunteer director for the American Field Service student exchange program in Hawaii; placed more than 200 international children into adoptive homes, primarily in Hawaii; volunteered to prepare and serve soup at the Florence Free Lunch Program for many years; volunteered at Florence Habitat for Humanity on the family selection committee for about 10 years; and was the office manager for her husband's tax preparation business.

She died May 15, 2019, of Alzheimer's disease. She will be missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her parents and her son, Roger Jr.

She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Roger Ranta; her brother, Fredrick W. Brink, Jr.; her children: Heidi Fillo, Timothy Ranta, James Ranta, Peter Ranta, Margaret Ranta, Helena Fitzgerald, Kecia Classen and Cougar Lind; 15 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be

held at 1 p.m. on June 15, at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw in Florence. Any gifts given in her memory can be made to the Florence Habitat for Humanity or to the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw memorial fund.

COOPER—Anola Beth Cooper, 85, beloved wife and friend to so many, went to be with our Lord on March 2, She was born Dec. 30,

1933, in Selma, Calif., the only child of Clara and Ewald Rasmussen. A graduate of Selma High School, Anola went on to earn her license in cosmetology.

Anola and her husband,

Bob, moved to Florence in 1991 upon their retirements. They both



Anola Cooper

friends who bec a m e family to them in their early years of living in Florence.

made

The couple split their time between Florence and Anola's childhood home in Selma for many years. Anola enjoyed working during her early retirement years to help fulfill her love engaging with peo-

She knew everyone and was loved by everyone who knew her. Anola was preceded in

death by her parents; her husband Garry Clements; husband Robert Cooper; and her grandson. She is survived by two

grandchildren and many family and friends in both Selma and Florence. A cele bration of her life will be held at the Florence Senior Center, 1570 Kingwood, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 8.

In lieu of flowers, friends ask for contributions to be made to a favorite organization that helps support and better the community that Anola so loved.



