

On The Record

OBITUARIES

SOMMER—Barry Steven Sommer passed away at his home at Siltcoos Lake on Feb. 7, 2021.

He was born in Los Angeles April 20, 1954. He grew up near Hollywood working in their family beauty supply business until 1994.

He came to Oregon that year and got two radio on-air positions at KRVM 91.9 FM public radio 1995, KUGN's The Hawk 102.3 FM in 1997. His radio career began in Los Angeles as an FM rock music radio duo called "Jimbo and the Bear" during the 1970's.

Most recently, he was on air with Coast Radio 106.9FM in Florence, Ore. His entertainment and historical fact-filled "Saturdays with Barry" from 8 a.m. to noon was a show that was all his.

Barry had an unending curiosity about life and nature, giving him a great reason to live every day to the fullest.

He toured with Canned Heat in 1990-91, a highlight of his life to set up and announce their shows.

Barry had many talents, from motorcycle racing,

riding and repair to scissors and clippers for hair salons called Rising Sun Sharpening. He was a poet and writer, contributing to the monthly "Community Voices" section in the *Siu-slaw News*, as well as in two books, "Whatever Happened to the Hippies."

He had also acted in the "Red Velvet Cake Wars" in Florence recently.

His deep baritone, bright and upbeat voice made an impression on his listeners. Most will miss his erudite knowledge of history and oddities, which he loved to learn about and share — his song intros always made you smile. He amused himself and his listeners with his infectious laugh.

He had a gift for comedic timing.

Barry loved motorcycles with great passion for 40-plus years. He could take them apart and loved rebuilding them with original parts. He always said "he wouldn't let a machine get the better of him."

He received a BA in History and Religious studies at NWCC in Eugene 2014.

He sat on the Dunes City Planning commission, where he lived and liked contributing to any discussion or debate.

BOND—Carol Bond, 86 of Florence, Ore., passed away peacefully at her

home with her loving family by her side on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2021.



Carol Bond

She was the fourth of eight siblings.

Carol had many callings in life, as a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, as well as dear friend and neighbor. Though she had a large extended family, she always managed to keep in close contact and celebrated many family gatherings.

Carol enjoyed drawing and making handmade greeting cards of all kinds for all of her relatives over many years. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her huge heart, generosity, compassion for her family and her funny way with words.

Carol was preceded in death by her first husband, Joe Freel; second husband, Robert Mills; and third husband, Floyd Bond; her mother, Lyria Brado; brothers Raymond Ronk, Gary Read and David Read; sister Audrey Childs;

and her son, Lonnie Freel.

Carol is survived by her siblings: Barbara Prohaska, Beji Hudgkins, Harold Ronk; by her children: Ron Freel, Nancy Alwerth, Richard Mills, Carol Stobbe, Debbie Reyes, Mary Alwerth and Bob Mills; 17 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, cousins and one aunt.

Burns's Riveerside Chapel Florence Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

HABIAN—Nicholas Habian was born Sept. 27, 1936, in the town of Daia, Romania, to parents Simion Habian and Ana (Cata-

na).

Nick spent his first 13 years in Romania with his

mother and older brothers, Sam and George, while his father was in the U.S. building a foundation for his family.

After the end of World War II and the subsequent Soviet occupation of Romania, the boys traveled by ship to meet their father in the U.S., arriving in 1949 to start their American story in Cleveland, Ohio.

Ana was reunited with the family a year later.

Nick studied engineering at Kent State University before joining the U.S. Army. He met Verna Potts in the summer of 1955 and they married three years later. With the addition of children Cindy, Nick Jr., Bob and Beth, the couple became a family, having moved to the West Coast in 1969 to reside first in Redwood City, Calif., then San Jose, Calif.

Nick applied his professional knowledge and skills as a partner in a prolific Bay Area commercial refrigeration company and, upon retiring, Nick and Verna relocated to the beautiful coastal town of Florence, Ore.

Throughout his journey, he inspired others with his incredible work ethic, morals and strength of character. While his early years were shaped and hardened by the challenges of his immigrant experience, he later learned to open up and share his inner self with those he loved.

Hiking in the coastal

hills, mushroom hunting and spending time alongside Verna planting, pruning and harvesting their robust garden brought decades of enjoyment.

He developed a remarkable talent in the art of stained glass, and became an avid collector of things from the past.

In recent months, as it became increasingly clear that his time here was waning, his focus shifted to reconnecting with friends and loved ones, expressing his gratitude and sharing stories from the past.

Surrounded by family, he made clear that his was a life well-lived. Nick peacefully left this world in the early afternoon of Monday, Feb. 15, 2021, and returned home to prepare a place for his family.

Nick is survived by his loving wife, Verna; four children, seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and his brother, George.

His ashes will be inurned at the National Cemetery in Roseburg.

Repair work continues along Highway 101 near Yachats

YACHATS — Emergency work to build a retaining wall to shore up a shifting portion of U.S. 101 at milepost 170.5 is continuing on schedule. Closures remain in effect daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., traffic is flagged through the project area in the northbound lane. Work is not done at night because of safety concerns and the need for full visibility.

Crews will be able to recover a drill rig from below the construction without

a previously planned two-day closure.

Instead, they plan to complete the operation during one of the regularly scheduled 12-hour closures. Once done, no further 12-hour closures are expected.

Traffic will be flagged 24-hours a day for the duration of the project. This plan is subject to adjustment based on construction and weather conditions.

The closure barriers are now at milepost 171.5

and milepost 168, areas that have space for larger vehicles to turn around, between Yachats and Flor-

ence. No one is allowed through the construction site itself between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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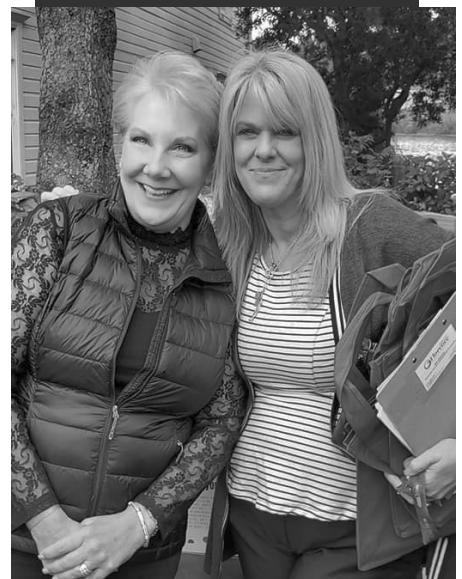
We want to take a moment to thank our partners and supporters. We know times are hard and we all are suffering COVID exhaustion. Your chamber is so grateful for all of our members who continue to support us as we work hard to support our community. To everyone that shares a smile, a helping hand, an encouraging word and the greatest gifts, patience and love, we thank you for making Florence strong.

Bettina Hannigan
President & CEO

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