

MOVING UP HIGHER

with *Joyce Meyer*



You can say No to strife

We've all experienced the effects of strife in one way or another. Strife can manifest itself through arguing, screaming and yelling. Other times, it can be more subtle, like when someone gives you "the silent treatment" and refuses to talk at all.

The dictionary defines strife as "bickering, arguing, a heated disagreement, or an angry undercurrent."

I think maybe the most dangerous form of strife is an angry undercurrent, because it's not as easy to recognize. It's something you can feel in the atmosphere. You know something's not quite right, but no one wants to address it. Maybe nothing is specifically said, but it's quite clear that everything is not okay.

In the early years of my marriage, I perfected the art of arguing with my husband, Dave, without having to say a word. I spent entire Saturdays stomping around the house and cleaning every room, ignoring him for hours at a time. Thankfully, Dave was a peacemaker and mature enough to not give in to my tantrums!

You see, Satan works endlessly to try and fill our lives with strife—our marriages, businesses, churches, schools and relationships. Why? Because he knows how powerful it is when God's children walk in peace and unity.

Psalms 133:1 (NIV) says, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" It then goes on, in verses 2-3, to give an illustration of what unity is like.

This psalm tells us that unity brings with it the anointing and God's blessing. The anointing is the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to help us in every area. We need the anointing to raise our children, perform well at our jobs, have a successful marriage and simply enjoy our lives.

Conversely, if there is not unity—if your home or business is full of strife—you will not have the anointing and God's blessing.

First Peter 3:11 (AMPC) says, "...[Do not merely desire peaceful relations with God, with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them!]"

"Pursue" is a strong word. It implies making a true effort and taking action. If we're really going to pursue peace, we can't wait around for everyone to come apologize to us. Chasing after peace means resolving issues quickly and even apologizing to others when we don't feel like it.

Romans 12:16 (AMPC) says, "Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty (snobbish, high-minded, exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to [people, things] and give yourselves to humble tasks. Never overestimate yourself or be wise in your own conceits."

Living in peace requires us to take responsibility for our own thoughts and actions. We're going to have to humble ourselves

and do some adapting and adjusting.

I learned a tough lesson in this area. A few years ago, Dave and I were in an art store at the shopping mall. Dave found a picture he really liked for our house, but I didn't like it at all.

He really desired to purchase it, but I wouldn't give in. I persisted and argued until he finally said, "All right, just do what you want."

For a few minutes, I felt smug and congratulated myself on the victory. Then, right there in the mall, the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and said, "You think you won, but you lost."

It pierced my heart. I knew right then that I didn't walk in love at all. If Dave really liked that picture, there were plenty of places we could have hung it. At the very least, I could have been more loving in how I handled the entire conversation.

You see, pursuing peace requires compromise. We should never compromise our beliefs or what God tells us to do, but we will be required to compromise our own wants and desires in order to truly love others and keep strife out of our relationships.

Living in peace will also require us to sacrifice our need to be right. We all like to be right and win every argument, but being right is highly overrated! We may win the battle, but when we insist on having our own way at the expense of a relationship, we can do tremendous damage.

Always remember, real love gives up its right to be right. If you truly want to have a healthy marriage or strong relationships with others, I recommend that you learn to say (and sincerely mean) this statement: "I think I'm right but I may be wrong."

Can I let you in on a secret? Even if you know you're right, you don't always have to argue about it and prove your point! What's more important—being right, or keeping the peace in your home?

Yes, some things are very important and you need to stand your ground, but there are so many things in life that just don't make a difference.

IN MEMORIAM

Harold Arthur Roady, Jr. 1953-2016

Harold Arthur Roady, Jr., 63, of Cottage Grove passed away Aug. 11, 2016.

He was born June 28, 1953 in Canyonville, Ore. to Grace Lawrence.

Harold served in



the U.S. Army for nine years. He received a master's degree in teaching and worked as a postmaster.

He loved golfing, spending time with his dog, collecting guns and knives and bike riding.

Survivors include his mother, four children, Brittany Roady, Leise Rolfe, Keri Aldous and Scooby Roady, and three grandchildren, Tanner, Tristan and Quinn.

No services are planned. Arrangements under the care of Andreason's, Springfield.

BIRTHS

Aug. 27, 2016

To Seth and Megan Howe of Cottage Grove, a son.



CORRECTION: A reader captured this back-porch photo of a helicopter taking water from Hidden Valley Golf Course to fight a fire on Mt. David on Wednesday, Aug. 24. The Sentinel had incorrectly reported that the water was taken from the Coast Fork of the Willamette River.

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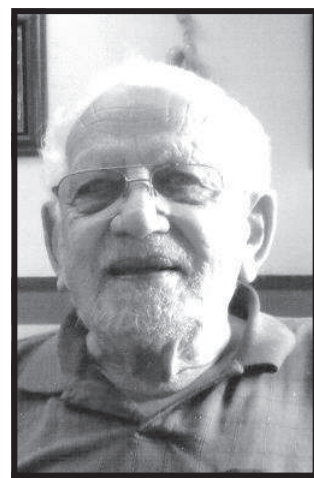
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Arthur Donald Dahl 1927-2016



Arthur Donald Dahl, 89, aka "Al" or "Fuzzy" of Drain, Oregon passed away Aug. 25, 2016 of age related causes.

He was born as Arthur Leroy Harrington on Aug. 11, 1927 in St. Paul, Minn. to Katherine Harrington and adopted by Ferdinand and Frieda (Garbisch) Dahl in Granton, Wisc. at the age of three.

He entered the U.S. Navy in 1944 and was discharged in 1948. He served aboard the USS Baham and the USS Kershaw as a boatswain mate.

After the service he lived in Alaska, Washington and California. He was a "jack of all trades". In 1964, he learned the wrecking and salvage business and as a result moved to Culp Creek, Oregon with his family in 1965. In 1972, he moved the business, A and H Automotive, to Walker. In 1979, the name was changed to "Fuzzies". They sold in 2005 and moved to Drain.

He was preceded in death by a son, Robert, and a brother, Erlin.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Perry, son, Gordon, brother, Byrl and wife Sonja, sister-in-law, Irene, four grandchildren, Haley, Sheila, Thomas and Michael, and five great-grandchildren, Isabella, Andrew, Robert, Amii and Xander. He was "Uncle Fuzzy" to many and is loved and missed by all who knew him.

His cremation was handled by Andreason's and there will be no service. A gathering is planned for a later date.

Jean Coop 1932-2016



Jean Coop of Lorane, Oregon passed away peacefully in her home on August 29, 2016 at the age of 84. She was born in Erick, Oklahoma to John and Eva Odom on May 28th, 1932. They moved to Oregon in 1946 where she graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 1950. She married her high school sweetheart,

Duane Coop in Reedsport, Oregon December 31, 1952 and later moved to Creswell where they had two children, Mike and Cindy. They lived in Creswell for many years, raised their family, built several businesses in the community and were very active in the Oregon FFA Association. She and her husband bought a Ranch in the Lorane Valley and raised cattle and grew timber. She enjoyed interior decorating and design, entertaining and event planning with family and friends, and sewing. She supported many local and nonprofit charities including the Children's Miracle Network. She also sponsored many children in need of school clothes every year throughout the States. She traveled many places across the United States with her husband and children and loved seeing new things. She is survived by her Husband, Duane Coop, her son, Mike Coop and wife Candy, her grandson, Daniel Coop and wife Sabrina, her Granddaughter, Ashley Rogers and Husband Jesse, her great grandchildren, Travis and Tonya Rogers, loving Nieces and Nephews. She also leaves behind numerous close relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her daughter Cindy Coop in 2012. Her service will be held at Smith Lund Funeral Chapel on Saturday, September 3rd, 2016 at 2pm. Followed by a Reception and potluck at Community of Christ Church in Cottage Grove.

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