

On The Record

OHA: Now is time to test for radon gas in homes

“Every homeowner should test their home for radon every two to five years.”

— Curtis Cude, Oregon Health Authority

Many parts of Oregon remain at risk of high radon — an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas. It is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes up from the ground and is drawn into buildings, where it can build up to dangerous levels.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon is responsible for more than 20,000 lung cancer deaths per year in the United States. Radon is the second leading cause

of lung cancer in the U.S. after cigarette smoking, and the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

“Every homeowner should test their home for radon every two to

five years,” says Curtis Cude, Radon Awareness Program manager at the Oregon Health Authority. “The best time to test is during the heating season, when the windows and doors are closed up tight.”

Many test kits are priced between \$15 and \$25 and can be found in most hardware stores. Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that of common home

repairs, such as painting or having a new water heater installed.

The Radon Awareness Program collects radon test data from test kit manufacturers in an effort to understand which areas of the state have the potential for high radon levels and to identify areas where educational outreach efforts need to be focused.

The program is offering a free radon test kit to residents whose homes are in ZIP codes with fewer than 20 radon test results.

Residents can send an email to radon.program@dhsosha.state.or.us to receive instructions on how to get a free test kit, which will be provided while supplies last.

Bob Fletcher (Triebeneck)

1952-2019



ic, Nurse, Firefighter and later a Musician.

Bob married Tonya on March 29, 1990 in Kingston, PA.

Bob worked with Pete Seeger with Sloop Clearwater, the 25th Woodstock Reunion, Renaissance Faire and various Cable series and TV & Radio series. Bob enjoyed music and played at the Habitat for Humanity open mic nights at the Axe & Fiddle. Bob was a member of BMI.

Bob is survived by his wife Tonya; daughters Sarah of Pennsylvania and Tanja of Colorado; son Noah of Pennsylvania; seven grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

A memorial Service will be held at a later date.

Bob Fletcher (Triebeneck) of Cottage Grove, OR, passed away December 29, 2019.

Bob was born May 7, 1952 in Oklahoma and adopted by Ethel Morris.

After earning his high school diploma Bob studied to become a Registered Paramed-

Laverne “Vern” Willis Shrock

1942-2019



He married Evelyn Gates in Reno, NV on May 25, 1983.

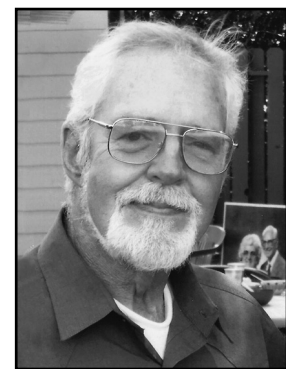
He enjoyed playing baseball from middle school through high school and was a pitcher for Sweet Home. Vern liked to camp, hunt, fish and went crabbing every chance he got.

Vern is survived by his wife Evelyn Shrock; daughters Tammy Lawson (James) of Bothell, WA, Debbie Borland (Wayne) of Cheshire, OR, and Maria Shrock, Washington; step-daughters Nicki Kilday of Cottage Grove, Sherri Kronberger (Todd) of Cottage Grove, and Julie Lake (Mike) of Bend, OR; sister Sharon Kester (Del) of Cottage Grove; 11 grandchildren, 16 step-grandchildren and several great grandchildren. Vern was preceded in death by his parents, a sister Carolyn Levens and a step-son Steve Leonhardy. There will be a private family inurnment at Fir Grove Cemetery. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.

Laverne “Vern” Willis Shrock, 77, passed away December 22, 2019, River Bend Hospital from congestive heart failure and myelodysplastic syndrome. Vern was born June 4, 1942 to parents Willis and Esther (Kister) Shrock in Sweet Home, Oregon, where he lived until 1960. He graduated from CGHS in 1961 and served in the Navy from 1964 to 1968 in the Philippines, Alaska, and Washington. Vern worked in the woods for GP and Murphy Logging, then began a 30-year career driving log, dump, chip, and flatbed trucks, where he earned safe driving awards for every company he drove for.

Warren McGuire

January 7, 2020



In the morning hours of Tuesday, January 7th, Warren McGuire passed from the bonds of this life. He was 77. To the end, the pleasant light of his spirit burned bright and generous, undimmed by the course of long and arduous health issues. He will be remembered always as a husband, a brother, a father, and a friend who was gentle in his nature, exceptionally gifted in his conversation, and ever charitable in his humor. His wit, his friendship and his smile will be greatly missed.

Born the son of Dale and Fran McGuire of Cottage Grove, Warren spent much of

his time discovering the area's fields, forests and rivers—generally whipping the latter into a froth with a variety of fishing gear. He graduated from CGHS in 1960 having excelled in math and science, as well as football and track. He later attended OSU and, at the age of 19 was hired by the Weyerhaeuser Lam-Beam facility at Cottage Grove. Over the 39 years of his employment, he ascended from floor laborer to shift manager.

He was married to Anne Nelson for 17 years and later to Patricia Hughart. The last six years of his life he was married to Betty Webb. He is survived by his wife, his children: Leroy, Patricia Dawson, Patrick, Sunny, Adam, and Logan, as well as eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. He also leaves behind his mother Fran and three siblings: Dean, Diana and Judy.

Services will be held at 1 pm, Saturday, Jan. 18 at Calvary Baptist Church, 77873 S. Sixth, Cottage Grove.

Merlyn Jean Pruitt

1932-2019

Merlyn Jean Pruitt, 87, of Cottage Grove, OR passed away on December 28, 2019. She was born on January 5, 1932 in Marshall, OK, Garfield County, to parents Ralph R.A. and Dessie V. (Triplett) Brown. Jean married Jack Edward Pruitt Sr. on October 31, 1952 in Oakridge, OR. They divorced after approximately 18 years of marriage. Jean retired from the University of Oregon working as a bookkeeper and accountant for many years. She enjoyed gardening, genealogy and quilting. Jean was

a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Jean is survived by her sons, Ralph Pruitt, Camas, WA and Walter Pruitt, St. Louis, MO; brother, Delmer Brown, Portland, OR; 7 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Deena Cook and son, Jack Pruitt Jr. A private family inurnment will be held at Lane Memorial Gardens, Eugene, OR. Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

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