OBITUARIES

Ralph Wayne Scranton

July 26, 1939 – Feb. 20, 2015

Ralph Wayne Scranton, 75, of Bakersfield, Calif., died Feb. 20.

He was born in Salem to Ralph and Blanche (Lewis) Scranton.

He was raised in Independence and graduated from Central High School in 1957.

Wayne married Cora Swanstrom on Jan. 17, 1959, in Dallas. They were married for 56 years.

Wayne attended several colleges and universities before being drafted into the Army. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, Calif., and was stationed at Fort Gordon, Augusta, Ga.

Following completion of his service, he worked for Bank of America for five years and then attended Fresno State University and earned his degree and teaching credentials.

Wayne began his teaching career on Sept. 1, 1970, at Standard School District in Oildale, Calif. After 32 years of teaching, he retired on June 7, 2002.

After retirement he enjoyed playing cribbage with his friends and was a lifetime member of the American Cribbage Congress, where he participated and won several tournaments. Wayne loved to take his grandkids fishing. He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed watching track and field, professional sports and NASCAR racing. He also enjoyed spending time in Morro Bay, Calif. Wayne was a frequent blood donor and had donated a total of 14 gallons in his lifetime.

He was preceded in death by his sister, LaVelle Foster.

Survivors include his wife, Cora Scranton of Bakersfield; children, Toni (John) Dougherty of Henderson, Nev., and Terry (Lisa) Scranton of Roseville, Calif.; sister, Yvonne Pettit of Monmouth; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and extended family.

No service will be held at his request.

Mabel A. Melcher

April 15, 1915 – March 3, 2015

Mabel A. Melcher, 99, of Dallas died March 3.

She was born in Peterson, Iowa, to Charles and Elizabeth Clark (Morgan). She was raised by her stepmother, Metta Williams.

At 9 years of age, Mabel moved to Minnesota and attended school there. After school she worked as a housekeeper and nanny for several families.

Mabel married Clarence Melcher on March 3, 1935. They moved to Dallas in 1940. Clarence died in 1990.

Mabel was mostly a homemaker, but she did work outside of the house. Some of the work she did included field work and cannery jobs at Tracy's in Dallas and Blue Lake in West Salem.

When she wasn't working, Mabel enjoyed traveling with Clarence and even went to Alaska every year to visit her daughter and grandchildren.

She enjoyed gardening, counted cross-stitch embroidery, crocheting and traveling. Most importantly, the joy of her life was spending time with family and always having chocolate chip cookies at the ready for her grandkids.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Floyd, Robert and Jim.

Survivors include her children, Kathryn Slyh (Mike), Joan Pond (Jerry) and Robert Melcher; brother, Wilbur Morgan; eight granddaughters; 14 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Graveside service was March 10 at Twin Oaks Memorial Gardens in Albany.

Contributions are suggested to the American Kidney Foundation.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online condolence: www.dallastribute.com.

Katherine Irene Jackson

Sept. 19, 1925 – March 8, 2015

Katherine Irene Jackson, 89, of Dallas, formerly of Falls City, died Sunday in Dallas.

Viewing is Wednesday (today) from 2 to 6 p.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Memorial service is Thursday at 10 a.m. at Dallas Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

To send an online condolence: www.dallastribute.com.

Gunner Jay Pedersen

Oct. 29, 2014 – March 4, 2015

Gunner Jay Pedersen died March 4 in Portland.

He was born in Salem to Randy and Felicia (McCarl) Pedersen of Dallas.

Memorial service is Saturday at 2 p.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

Contributions are suggested to SIDS Foundation.

To send an online condolence: www.dallastribute.com.

Curt McBeth

Jan. 3, 1940 – March 3, 2015

Curt McBeth, 75, of Monmouth died March 3 in Dallas.

He was born in Falls City to Ira and Rocelia (Burbank) McBeth.

Curt attended Fir Grove and Pedee elementary schools and graduated from Dallas High School. He had served in the Army National Guard.

He married Norma Jean Peters on Dec. 23, 1961; with this marriage came Curt Jr., Jeannie, Clayton, Ann and Chuck. He married Marcia Foster in Dallas on Sept. 2, 1988; with this marriage came Scott and Shawn.

Curt worked for 18 years as the animal control officer for the Polk County Sheriff's Office. He retired in 1998.

He enjoyed horseback riding, camping, fishing and all sports. He enjoyed visiting with family and friends and never knew a stranger.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Calvin McBeth in 1989 and Clifford McBeth in 1993.

Survivors include his wife, Marcia; children, Curt Jr., Jeannie, Clayton, Ann, Chuck, Scott and Shawn; sister, Marguerite Nice; 13 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and extended family.

Service is Saturday at 11 a.m. at Dallas Church, 450 SE Washington St.

Peggy Sue Freeman

May 19, 1933 – March 7, 2015

Peggy Sue Freeman, 81, of Monmouth died Saturday.

Memorial service is Saturday at 10 a.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

To send an online condolence: www.dallastribute.com.

Ann Najar

Jan. 24, 1948 – March 2, 2015

Ann Najar, 67, of Independence died March 2 in Albany.

She was born in Lebanon, where she grew up.

Ann retired from the Oregon Department of Revenue.

Ann loved spending time with her grandchildren and attending garage sales.

Survivors include her two sons, mother, four siblings, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Graveside service is Thursday at 1 p.m. at Hilltop Cemetery.

Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence handled arrangements. To send an online condolence: www.FarnstromMortuary.com.

William George Baumgartner

April 26, 1949 – March 3, 2015

William George Baumgartner, 65, of Phoenix, Ariz., died March 3 in Phoenix.

He was born in Tillamook.

Survivors include his wife, Diane Baumgartner, former longtime and recently retired administrator in the Dallas School District, and family.

Service is Monday at 1 p.m. at Morning Star Community Church in Salem.

Obituary Information

Obituary information must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the Monday before publication to be included in the newspaper.

Most funeral homes handle obituary information and provide it to the newspaper. However, information can also be submitted directly from family members.

Color and black-and-white photos can be submitted, but photos will only be published in black and white. The *Itemizer-Observer* uses a flag logo in the obituaries of people who served in the armed forces.

Obituaries — like all information submitted to the news department — are subject to editing for style, content and length.

Information can be brought or mailed to the *Itemizer-Observer*, 147 SE Court St., Dallas, OR 97338, or emailed to nadams@polkio.com.

For more information: Nancy Adams, 503-623-2373.

JACK DAWSON ANDERSON

November 28, 1947 - February 8, 2015

Jack Dawson Anderson was born on November 28, 1947 in Salem, Oregon, one of 9 children born to John and Dorothy Anderson of Rickreall, Oregon. He died on February 8, 2015 from complications of diabetes that he had for several years. Jack died at his sister's home in Keizer at the age of 67 where he had great care the last week of his life from Hospice and his nieces Lori and Tammy.

He attended Rickreall Grade School; Academy Junior High School, and graduated from Dallas High School in 1966.

He worked for Westwood Products cabinet shop in Salem for many years then transferred to California working for Schuler Cabinet Company.

California is where he met his current wife Virginia. They married while living in California then moved back to the Salem are where he retired for health reasons.

He loved his family, often spending time at the family farm outside of Rickreall helping his mother with projects after his father died. He also loved family get-togethers at the farm. He loved 4-wheeling, spending time with his 3 dogs, Floyd, BJ, and Blondie, and he loved his red '67 CamaroFast, Fast, Fast! His most favorite time was spent watching NASCAR Racing. The family is sure that he saw every race there ever was.

Those that survive Jack are his wife, Virginia; son Michael and daughter-in-law Deborah, and daughter, Sherry. Jack adopted Mike and Sherry when married to his first wife Jeanne. He also has a son David who lived in California. He is also survived by his sisters, Kay Marsland of Keizer; Arlene Olheiser of Salem; Marilyn Craig of Tennessee; and Margie Warkentin of Bend; several grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents John and Dorothy Anderson; brother David; sisters Janet Fleming, Janice Raby, and Kathy Clark; a nice Cindy Sarff, nephew Rock Marsland; and brother-in-law John Clark.

According to his wishes, Jack was cremated and at his request there will be no service.

VERNON (VERN) OTIS POPE

Feb. 4, 1920 - Feb. 13, 2015

Vernon (Vern) Pope left his temporary life behind and began eternal life with his Savior on February 13, 2015 at the age of 95.

Born on February 4, 1920 outside of Artesian, South Dakota, Vernon was the first of Rollin Otis and Florence Etta (Cundy) Pope's six children. He graduated from Fedora High School in 1938 The family moved to Oregon in December of 1940, eventually settling in Dallas, where they started the Pope Dairy.

In 1941, Vernon met Elaine Meyer whom he married in Dallas on December 30, 1942. Their marriage lasted just over 72 years — an incredible legacy!

Vern was an accomplished self-taught mechanic who specialized in farm equipment. He was the "go-to guy" for farm equipment repairs in the greater Stayton area for over 20 years until he retired in 2008.

Vern was a longtime member of Aumsville's Bethel Baptist Church. When he wasn't busy tending his own farm or working on machinery, Vernon enjoyed working on puzzles, visiting with friends and family, and watching sports on television.

Vernon is survived by his wife, Elaine Pope of Aumsville; brother Burton (Bonny) Pope of Dallas; sister Beryl Garton of Boise, ID; son Dennis (Gloria) Pope of Roseburg; daughters Marilyn Pope of Aumsville and Shirley (Michael) White of Lebanon; 3 granddaughters and one great-granddaughter. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Chester Pope; and sisters, Carol Krause and Jean Gay.

A celebration of Vernon's life was held Saturday at Bethel Baptist Church in Aumsville. At Vernon's request, he was interred at the Aumsville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Vernon's memory to Bethel Baptist Church of Aumsville, or to the American Heart Association. Arrangements by Weddle Funeral Services.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

NEWS IN BRIEF

Foundation slated to present grants

DALLAS — The Dallas Community Foundation will celebrate its 20th anniversary by awarding grants to 26 local nonprofit organizations at a presentation scheduled Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Dallas Retirement Village Chapel, 377 NW Jasper St. in Dallas.

This year the foundation's $37,500 in grants will support a variety of projects benefitting youths, seniors and those in need. The public is welcome at the event, which will also recognize the work of local nonprofit organizations and the difference they are making in the Dallas community.

For more information: Mia Mohr, 503-798-7847.

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4	7	6	9	8	2	1	3	5
9	5	1	7	3	4	8	2	6
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5	3	2	6	4	7	9	8	1
7	1	9	8	2	5	3	6	4

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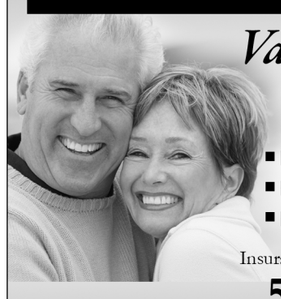
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