

OBITUARIES

Gary Lee Wilson

Aug. 30, 1950 – Dec. 15, 2015
Gary Lee Wilson, 65, of Monmouth, died Dec. 15 in Monmouth.



He was born in Eugene to Robert and Eunice Wilson.

Gary loved coffee and the Discovery Channel, as well as anything outdoors. A gentle soul, he had a kind presence and a contagious smile that made everyone he knew smile.

Survivors include his sisters, Judy Orsinger, and Barbara Jean Michelson.

Celebration of life is Jan. 8 at 2 p.m. at Partnerships in Community Living in Monmouth. Interment was Tuesday at Hilltop Cemetery in Independence.

Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence handled arrangements.

To send an online tribute: www.farnstrommortuary.com.

Florence Elizabeth 'Betty' Foster

Dec. 12, 1920 – Dec. 20, 2015
Florence Elizabeth "Betty" Foster, 95, of Dallas, died Dec. 20 in Salem.

She was born in Dallas to William and Henriette Dron Boydston.

Betty attended Dallas Elementary School, except for her second-grade year. She went with her mother and brothers for an extended visit to Contes, France. Her love of French culture and the French language began while living there.

She was a member of the Dallas High School Class of 1938, and was part of the committee that chose the Dragon as the school mascot.

Betty continued her education by earning a bachelor's degree in English from Willamette University Class of 1942.

Her first year after earning her degree was spent at the Dallas High School library, and then she moved into the classroom, teaching senior English, civics and French.

She married James Otis Foster II in Dallas on Dec. 27, 1947.

Betty would take a break from the classroom each time one of her sons was born. She taught French at LaCreole Junior High during the mid-1960s. She retired from the library after many years with the school district.

She was a class advisor at Dallas High School for a number of years and was involved with student activities, as well.

Betty was a member of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Dallas for many years and taught Sunday school as well as being active with the women's organization.

For the past several years, she has attended the Evangelical Bible Church in Dallas. During the 1950s, she learned to play the piano and enjoyed it the rest of her life. She especially enjoyed classical music and was an avid reader.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Herschel and Jacques Boydston.

Survivors include her husband, Jim, of Dallas; sons, James Otis Foster III, of Dallas, and Phillip John Foster, of Medford; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Service is Monday at 1 p.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Vault interment will follow at Dallas Cemetery.

Contributions are suggested to the charity of the donor's choice.

To send an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Shirley Marie Kokotan

March 9, 1941 – Dec. 22, 2015
Shirley Marie Kokotan, 74, of Dallas, died Dec. 22 in Salem.

She was born in Waterloo, Iowa, to Karl Clyde Kokotan and Audrey Ann Aagaard.

For many years, she worked in the coin room of the Los Angeles Times as an

accounting clerk in Los Angeles. Shirley retired 13 years ago. She moved between Oregon and California until nine years ago, when Dallas became home.

She loved her dog, Josh, and taking walks with him. She was very involved with all the kids. She enjoyed watching CNN and an occasional visit to the casino.

Survivors include her longtime companion, Mary Lou Chrisman, of Dallas; children, Michael McJunkin, Howard "Mac" McJunkin, Julie Rigg, Denise Chrisman, David Chrisman and Sheri Chrisman; brothers, Russell Kokotan, of Denver, and Jim Kokotan, of Waterloo; 12 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Service was Monday at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Interment was at Dallas Cemetery.

To send an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

LaVonne Delores Walker

May 13, 1932 – Dec. 19, 2015
LaVonne Delores Walker, 83, of Monmouth, died Dec. 19 in Monmouth.

She was born to Cecil and Alma Barber, in Aberdeen, S.D., a twin to LaVerne L. Barber.

She grew up in Aberdeen, and graduated from Central High School in 1950. LaVonne sang at KABR radio station for the Assemblies of God Children's Program and taught in Sunday school for three years. She also sang in a mixed quartet.

LaVonne left Aberdeen to attend North Central University in Minneapolis, where she attended for 3 1/2 years, where she sang in a girl's trio. While there, she met Paul A. Clark, from Ainsworth, Neb., who she married in 1952.

Paul and LaVonne were ordained in the Assemblies of God. They pastored in Freeport, Ill., and Mott, N.D. They traveled extensively for 19 years and were known as the Musical Clark Singers. They teamed up with Evangelist Vic Coburn for three years.

LaVonne later moved to Monmouth, where she met and married Walter (Bud) Walker.

She worked in her local church, the Assemblies of God in Independence, where she sang and also volunteered for chapel at the Greenwood Nursing Center. LaVonne ministered to many people through visitation and through the mail.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Julie Ann Clark; husband, Paul Clark; her second husband, Bud Walker; her third husband, Lawrence (Larry) Franks; twin brother, LaVerne Barber; and brothers, Francis A. Barber, Clyde W. Barber, and Kenneth L. Barber.

Visitation is Wednesday (today) from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by her service at 1 p.m. at Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence.

To send an online tribute: www.farnstrommortuary.com.

Sarah Lucille Boyd Schneider

March 6, 1922 – Dec. 23, 2015
Sarah Lucille Boyd Schneider, 93, of Dallas, died Dec. 23.

She was born to John H. and Lurena J. Boyd on the family farm in Phillipsburg, Kan., and was known as Lucy, Babe or Lucille (as she was called by her family).

She met her husband, John N. Schneider, at Fort Hays Teacher's College in Hays, Kan., after World War II.

Later they taught together in a one-room school house, where Lucille taught kindergarten through third grade and John taught fourth through eighth grade. They lived in western Kansas, where two daughters were born, then moved to California, where a son and two more daughters were born, completing their family.

In 1962, another move took them to North Bend, where John taught at Sunnyhill School and Lucille substituted while completing her four-year bachelor's degree in elementary education at Oregon State University.

When the family was nearly grown, Lucille landed a full-time teaching job at Hillcrest School and later at North Bay Junior High School, while John retired. She made many lasting

friendships during her teaching years.

Lucille gave her heart to Jesus at an early age. She and John worshipped in the Hauser Community Church until moving to Dallas in 2004.

One of Lucille's passions was quilting. Lucille gave beautiful handmade quilts to each of her children and grandchildren. Over the years, Lucille rooted for her favorite sports teams, including the Oregon State Beavers and Portland Trailblazers. She and her sister Pauline discussed players and statistics on a daily basis until Pauline's death. Most precious to Lucille was her family.

Lucille was preceded in death by her husband, John; daughter, Kathryn L. Brown; and five siblings.

Survivors include her daughters, Niki (Ron) Wade, Marie Schneider, and Karin Michaelson; son, Jon Schneider; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and a large extended family.

Celebration of Lucille's life is Wednesday (today) at 9:30 a.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

Interment will follow at Willamette National Cemetery at 12:30 p.m.

Contributions are suggested to Ronald McDonald House.

To send an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Joann Pauline Jones

Sept. 23, 1933 – Dec. 19, 2015
Joann Pauline Jones, 82, of Albany, died Dec. 19 in Albany.

She was born in Corvallis to Arthur Linke and Ruby Hartill.

Joann moved to Albany in 1950, when she married Wayne Neiman. They were divorced in 1959.

Joann married Lon Jones in 1960. They were married for 38 years. She lived in Albany until she moved to Dallas in 2012 to be closer to her daughter. As Joann's Alzheimer's progressed, she moved to Brookdale Memory Care in Albany.

Joann was active in the United Presbyterian Church and her community. She sang in the church choir for 35 years and the Linn-Benton Community College Community Choral for 26 years, and ran Adventure Week and served on the Board of Albany Helping Hands for many years.

She worked as the church secretary at United Presbyterian Church prior to going to work at Oregon State University in the admissions office. Joann went back to school to learn accounting and then worked for the School of Pharmacy and finally the College of Veterinary Medicine as an accounting technician. She retired in 1998.

Joann was preceded in death by her husband, Lon Jones; brothers, Walter, Hal, and Richard Linke; and daughter, Carroll Lane.

Survivors include her son, Lon Jones, of Albany; daughters, Kathy Grove, of Portland, Jodie Jones-Herdon (Bob), of Dallas, Bonnie LeCornu, of Albany, Judy Webster (John), of Brush Prairie, Wash., and Lonna Promitas, of Albany; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

There will be a private service in the spring to scatter her ashes.

Contributions are suggested to Albany Helping Hands.

Gerald 'Jerry' Lee Cetto

Oct. 27, 1934 – Dec. 26, 2015
Gerald "Jerry" Lee Cetto, 81, of Dallas, died Saturday.

He was born in Lead, S.D., to Florence and Ernest Cetto.

Jerry graduated from Lead High School in 1952. He

joined the Navy and served during and after the Korean War

on a heavy cruiser and destroyer.

He returned to Lead after his discharge from the Navy in 1956, and worked for Homestake Mining Company and attended Black Hills State Teacher's College, graduating in 1962.

Jerry married Luella J. Larson in 1957.

After graduation, Jerry, Luella and family moved to Oregon. He taught school for three years and then went into Juvenile and Adult Corrections, retiring from Marion County in 1990 as a senior parole officer.

He ran Jerry's Tack Shop in Dallas from 1968 until his death. He was an accomplished saddle and harness maker.

Jerry was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, National Association of Atomic Veterans, AM-Vets, USS Rochester CA 124 Association, USS James E. Keys DD787 Association and Independence Elks Lodge No. 1950.

He enjoyed his family, leatherwork and golf.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Ernest Cetto Jr., and a daughter, Julie Cetto.

Survivors include his wife, Luella, of Dallas; sons, Mike, of Eugene, and David, of Dallas; daughter, Jeannie (Kip) Hanh, of Wadsworth, Ohio; brother, Nick (Patty) Cetto, of Great Falls, Mont.; sister, Cindy (Darwin) Cox, of Denver; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

At his request, there will be no service. Inurnment will be private.

Restlawn Funeral Home of Salem handled arrangements.

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. However, information can also be submitted directly by family members.

Photos will be published in black and white. The *Itemizer-Observer* uses a flag logo in the obituaries of those who served in the U.S. 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 ionews@polkio.com.

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



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