

OBITUARIES

Lawrence Vern Monagon

March 15, 1955 – Feb. 25, 2016

Lawrence Vern Monagon, 60, formerly of Monmouth, died on Feb. 25.

He was born to Leslie Lewis and Gladie Huntley Monagon in Johnson City, N.Y. He moved to Phoenix, Ariz., with his family when he was 3.



From there, he moved to Lyle, Wash., later moved to the Beaverton/Aloha area, where he graduated from Aloha High School.

Larry continued his education at Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) and received his Bachelor of Science degree in social sciences in 1978. In 1981, he received his Master of Science degree at the University of Portland.

Larry married Dawn in Beaverton in 1979. They raised their family in the Beaverton area. In 1996, he moved to Keizer to craft an olive business. Larry continued to work full time for Multnomah County until his retirement.

Larry went on to a long career in corrections. He maintained his ties and continued to work on a temporary or part-time basis in the corrections field after retiring.

Larry grew up with six siblings, Cindy and Sheila, and Ivin (deceased), Lester, Kenny and Eugene.

Larry was always willing to help another, regardless of the task.

He liked to travel, and either went with friends and family, or went to visit family and friends. He never backed down from new adventures: scuba diving, snorkeling, bee keeping, growing olives, or raising teenagers. He liked to visit the museum, or sit and visit with the locals as he traveled.

He loved camping, fishing, hunting, and hiking. He appreciated wildlife and liked to arrange a yearly feeding and viewing of the elk at the Jewel Wildlife Refuge for family and friends.

He volunteered with many organizations, including Oregon Hunter Education, where he was selected as Oregon Instructor of the Year in 1995, Fishing Education, Keizer Grange, Keizer Elks, and St. Vincent School.

Contributions are suggested to St. Vincent de Paul School in Salem.

He was father to son, Michael (Craig), and extended family.

Memorial celebration of life will be from 2 to 5 p.m. on May 1 at the Keizer Elks Lodge.

Farnstrom Mortuary handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: FarnstromMortuary.com.

Victor Charles Richert

Aug. 14, 1945 – March 29, 2016

Victor Charles Richert, 70, of Dallas, died March 29 in Keizer.

He was born in Reedley, Calif., to Talmon and Hilda Warkentin Richert.

He farmed before becoming a long-haul truck driver.



He also drove log trucks. He retired from White's Hauling and Farm LLC division. For the past 47 years, he lived in Dallas. He was a member of the Valley Life Center. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, scrapping metal and working around his house.

His son, Charles; father, Talmon; and sisters, Judy and Martha "Susie" died before he did.

Survived by daughters, Heidi Hicinbothom and Chrystal Ellis; son, John Richert; mother, Hilda

Richert; brothers, Jerry and Kenny Richert; 14 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Valley Life Center in Dallas. Interment was in the Reedley Cemetery in Reedley, Calif.

The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Edith Werner Vanderburg

April 9, 1925 – April 4, 2016

Edith Vanderburg, 90, formerly of Independence, died on April 4.

She was born to Carl and Helen Olson Werner in Norfolk, Va.

She met Neil Vanderburg in San Diego in 1944. They were married on June 10, 1945. They were married for 68 years.



They lived in La Mesa, Calif., until 1955, when they moved to Corvallis.

Edith and Neil moved to Independence once their children were grown. There, Edith spent summers creating flower gardens. During the winter months, she and Neil enjoyed traveling and rock hounding.

In 2012, they returned to Corvallis, to a home where family members were better able to provide their care.

Her husband, Neil; daughter, Joyce Commons; son-in-law Thomas Commons; and grandchildren, Jessica Houck and Laurilee Commons died before she did.

Survived by Carol (Duane) Bolster, David (Janece) Vanderburg, Mary (Jack) Stone, Pauline (Doug) Houck, and Dawn Winokur; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial service was at First Baptist Church in Independence.

Farnstrom Mortuary handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: FarnstromMortuary.com.

Dennis Ashby Spencer

Nov. 3, 1939 – March 27, 2016

Dennis Ashby Spencer, 76, formerly of Monmouth, died of cancer on March 27 in Vancouver, Wash.

He was born in Morton, Wash., to Evelyn (Betty) and Ron Spencer.

Dennis was the second of five boys.

He spent the majority of his life in Tillamook, and graduated from high school there in 1957. He attended Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) in Monmouth, majoring in mathematics. He graduated from OCE at age

21 and began teaching math courses in schools in Lincoln City, Dallas, and Albany before settling at Tillamook High School, where he worked for longer than 20 years.

Dennis retired from Tillamook High School in 1992, and began teaching part-time at WOU.

Dennis accumulated numerous accolades over his 30-year career, including many for coaching basketball, baseball, and golf, as well as for excellence in education. He was an avid music-lover and an accomplished pianist.

Dennis married Nancy Brewer in 1961 (later divorced) and had three children, Dana, Eric, and Gavin. In 1978, he married Carole Anne Anderson, joining her four children, Dayna, Michelle, Karena, and Rebekah, with his three, and soon adding an eighth, Amy.

Dennis and Carole spent their 37 years together raising their large family. Dennis enjoyed taking his children camping, and loved cruising with Carole to see the world. He enjoyed biking, gardening, camping, disc-golf, and annual golf trips.

Dennis was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving many callings over the years, including organist and pianist.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Carole; children, Eric (Crystal), Dana (Dan), Gavin (Michele), Dayna (Mike), Michelle (Dave), Karena (Adam), Rebekah (Brian), and Amy; brothers, Bob (Joanne), Gary (Pat), Mike (Gloria), Steve (Tess); 25 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Service will be at 11 a.m. on May 21 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vancouver, Wash., 7101 NE 166th Ave.

Florence P. 'Phyllis' Gore

May 16, 1932 – April 3, 2016

Florence P. "Phyllis" Gore, 83, of Dallas, died on April 3.

She was born in South Dakota to Phillip and Florence Van Schoonhoven.

She married Vernon Henry Gore in June of 1950. Together they had two sons, Vernon Phillip and Archie Dale Gore. They were married for 43 years.

Her interests included family, gardening, and painting. She had an incred-

ible talent for painting ceramics and even gave lessons. She devoted much of her time and energy as a caregiver to family.



Her husband, Vernon Henry; son, Vernon Phillip; and all of her siblings died before she did.

She is survived by son, Archie Dale Gore; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Private service was held. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

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

Pearl Lucy Embree

July 22, 1919 – March 30, 2016

Pearl Lucy Embree, 96, of Dallas, died March 30, at her home in Dallas.

She was born in McTimmonds Valley, south of Dallas, to Charles Henry and Lucy May (Meekins) Breden.

The family settled at Bridgeport when Pearl was 12 years old.

She graduated from Dallas High School in 1937, and from Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) in Monmouth in 1939, with a degree in elementary education.

She taught for 30 years in schools in Sherwood and Oakhurst, then at Whitworth Elementary School in Dallas before retiring from Falls City Elementary in 1981.

Pearl married Norval Embree on Dec. 20, 1941, in Dallas, and moved to his farm on Gardner Road. She lived there for over 72 years before moving to Dallas in 2014.

Pearl enjoyed reading, sewing, gardening, crossword puzzles, and travel. She and Norval visited all the continents except Antarctica.

She was a longtime member of the Bridgeport Women's Club, Bridgeport Sunday School, a life member of both the Dallas Chapter of Pythian Sisters and Retired Teachers Association, and active in support of her girls' involvement in 4-H.

She was the first woman — and second person — in Polk

County to be awarded a lifetime teaching certificate.

Her husband, six sisters, four brothers, and two sons-in-law died before she did.

Pearl is survived by her daughters, Ruth Hargreaves and Letha Randall, of Salem, and Penny Marlene (Michael) Cox, of Rickreall; four grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; five step-great-grandchildren; one sister; and extended family.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on April 23 at the First United Methodist Church in Falls City. A reception will follow. Private interment will be in the Smith section of Fircrest Cemetery in Monmouth.

In lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Casey Eye Institute at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland for macular degeneration research: www.ohsucosey.com.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center/Bollman Funeral Home handled arrangements.

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

James Otis 'Jim' Foster II,

June 16, 1926 – April 1, 2016

James Otis "Jim" Foster II, 89, of Dallas, died April 1, in Dallas.

He was born in Dallas, to James and Meda Thiesies Foster.

He was a member of the Dallas High School Class of 1944. Jim was drafted out of his first semester at Willamette University.

He trained as a photographer in the U.S. Army Air Corps and flew reconnaissance in B-25s off the California coast.

On Dec. 27, 1947, he married Florence "Betty" Boydston in Dallas.

Jim worked in the Valsetz Mill for a couple of years before getting hired at Pacific Power & Light as a lineman.

He worked for PP&L from 1950 until he retired in 1986.

He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 65 years.

Jim served his community as a volunteer for the Dallas Fire Department from 1957 until retiring at the rank of battalion chief in 1992.

Jim was also a member of the Carl B. Fenton American Legion Post No. 20, Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks No. 1950 Independence Elks Lodge, past member of Dallas Kiwanis, and past member of the Dallas Planning Commission.

Jim received the Dallas First Citizen award in 1975. He was also a past board member of the Southwestern Polk County Rural Fire Protection District and served on the budget committee until his death.

Jim was a member of the Dallas Evangelical Church in Dallas for many years and taught Sunday school, as well as being active as an usher.

For the past several years, he attended the Evangelical Bible Church in Dallas.

He enjoyed bowling.

Jim was an outdoor enthusiast and enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping. He was an avid gardener and took pride in his roses.

His wife, Betty, died on Dec. 20, 2015. His sister, Dorothy Tilson, and brother, Theodore Foster also died before he did.

He is survived by his sons, James Otis Foster III, of Dallas, and Philip John Foster, of Medford; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. on Thursday in the Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Vault interment will follow in the Dallas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dallas Fire Department Harpy Board Scholarship fund or James 2 Community Kitchen, or to the charity of choice in care of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

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