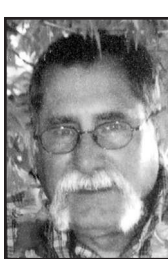


# OBITUARIES

## William Patrick O'Malley

Aug. 22, 1949 – June 16, 2016  
William Patrick "Paw" O'Malley, 66, died June 16 from injuries sustained from a tractor accident.



As a young man, he served two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter crew chief on Huey UH1C069. Following his military service, he worked as a logger as well as a federally licensed aircraft mechanic at Columbia Helicopters and Boeing. Throughout his life he was devoted to farming.

His parents and son, Dayne, died before he did.

Survived by wife, Terri; sisters, Molly, Hester and Annette; sons, Ryan and Tygh; stepsons, Sean and Kevin; and 12 grandchildren.

Memorial service will be at 7 p.m. on Friday at Bridgeport Community Chapel, Dallas. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

To leave an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Irvin H. Ratzlaff

June 20, 2016

Irvin H. Ratzlaff, of Salem, formerly of Dallas, died June 20 in Salem.

He was born to Henry H. and Anna Lutke Ratzlaff in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

He graduated from high school in Dalmeny, Saskatchewan, and attended two years of Bible college.

He married Mabel D. Baerg on July 6, 1950, in Dalmeny. They came to Dallas in 1958. He was a member of Evangelical Bible Church in Dallas, and later Salem First Baptist.

He taught Sunday school and sang in the choir. Together with Mabel, he sang in a quartet with their dear friends.

He was born to a farming family and continued farming until 1964.

His other work experiences included retail, real estate sales, car sales, truck and bus driving, and many years as a metal lathe machinist for Towmotor (Caterpillar) in Dallas.

Irvin and Mabel spent 15

years volunteering with mission work in Texas, Arizona, California, Europe, Cannon Beach, and Wildhorse Ranch.

His son, Donald, died on July 15, 1964. His wife, Mabel, died on Jan. 30, 2004.

Survivors include son, Ray, of Mission, British Columbia; daughters, Phyllis Souter, of La Pine, and Doreen Ratzlaff, of Dallas; brother, Vern Ratzlaff, of Dallas; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held. Contributions may be made to Wycliffe Bible Translators in care of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center in Dallas, which handled arrangements. To leave an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Steve Whitus

Sept. 2, 1945 — June 17, 2016  
Steve Whitus, 70, of Dallas, died on June 17 in Salem.

Steve was born in Lafayette, Ind., to Emery and Leona Whitus, and graduated from Riverside High School in 1965.

Steve was an avid sports fan, and especially loved the Oregon Ducks.

He went out of his way to spend time with friends and family.

Steve was a graduate of ICC Bible College in San Bernardino, Calif., and his desire was for everyone to understand the concept of grace.

After retirement in 2012, he served as an itinerant Bible teacher in churches in Washington state, California, Nevada and Arizona.

Steve spent his working years as a manager. He managed Denny's in Huntington Beach, Calif., and then transferred to Eugene, where he worked in his father's restaurant, Whitey's Cafeteria.

Then he took his management skills to newspapers, where he took the carriers under his wing to teach them good customer service. Most of his newspaper years were spent at the Salem Statesman-Journal, The World in Coos Bay, and The Daily Astorian.

Steve enjoyed movies, concerts, Diet Pepsi, basketball with his grandkids, cards with his sister, and Ducks football games.

Survived by his best friend in life, Irene Stoops; son, Brannon (Julie) Whitus; daughter, Raeha (Raymond)

Steinle; eight grandchildren; sister, Judy (Jim) Hawkins; and extended family.

His brother, Dave Whitus, died before he did.

Celebration of life will be held at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, 287 Washington St., on Sunday at 3 p.m. Dinner will follow at Grace Community Church, 598 Ellendale Ave., Dallas.

## David R. Wilkes

Dec. 15, 1953 – June 22, 2016  
David R. Wilkes, 62, of Dallas, died on June 22 in Dallas.

He was born in Valdosta, Ga., to Charles and Reba Haller.

Dave grew up in the San Francisco Bay area. He graduated from Petaluma High School in 1972.

In 1977, Dave met Cathy Givens. They were married on Oct. 18, 1980, in Lake Tahoe, Nev.

Dave had his own plastics fabrication business in California. They moved from San Jose to Dallas in 1994. Dave worked as a truck driver for Western Interlock in Rickreall for 17 years.

Due to his declining health, he had to stop working in January of 2014.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and his garden every year. He would barbecue year-round and also make jerky.

Dave was always experimenting with his cooking, developing new dishes. He won a number of Chili Cook-off's in both California and Oregon, earning grand champion honors. Dave liked to tinker and was always working on projects.

Mother, Reba, and brother, Edward Wilkes died before he did.

Survived by wife, Cathy, of Dallas; sons, James and Adam, both of Dallas; father, Charles Haller, of Union, Ohio; sister, Carol (Ron) Austin, of Piqua, Ohio; and extended family.

Celebration of life will be announced in the near future.

Memorials are suggested to a charity of choice. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

To leave an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Violet Lillian Scott

July 21, 1921 – June 23, 2016  
Violet Lillian Scott, 94, of Falls City, died Thursday in Falls City.

Violet Scott was born in Dallas to Peter and Lena (Weins) Diehm.

Violet enjoyed sewing, knitting, and crocheting. She raised Boston terriers and, later, Dachshunds. She lived in the same house for 73

years in Falls City. Many years ago, the Falls City City Council asked her to be a member. She told them they wouldn't want her to be on



the council because they would regret it after getting ear fulls from her.

Survived by sons, Arthur Wayne Scott, and Danny Neil Scott (Betty); sister, Evelyn Anderson; seven grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and extended family.

Her husband, Elwin Alonzo Scott, died in 1972. Three brothers and one sister also died before she did.

Viewing will be on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

Memorial service will be held on Thursday at 2 p.m. in Dallas at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, with reception to follow.

The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

To leave an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Frances Anna Haines

Dec. 13, 1922 – June 26, 2016  
Frances Anna Haines, 93, of Dallas, died Sunday in the Dallas Retirement Village.

She was born in St. Paul, Minn.

Viewing will be from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday in the Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. A funeral Mass will be held in the latter part of July 2016.

The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements.

To leave an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## 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 [ionews@polkio.com](mailto:ionews@polkio.com).

For more information: Emily Mentzer, 503-623-2373.

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

These Polk County groups would welcome individuals who have time or expertise to volunteer. Organizations that would like to be added to this list should call 503-623-2373 or email [IONews@polkio.com](mailto:IONews@polkio.com).

- AARP Foundation Tax-Aide — 503-930-7636
- After DARC — 503-623-9501
- Arc of Polk County — 541-223-3261
- Central School District — 503-838-0030
- City of Dallas — 503-831-3502
- City of Independence — 503-838-1212
- City of Monmouth — 503-751-0145
- Crime Victims Assistance Program — 503-623-9268
- Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce — 503-623-2564
- Dallas Fire Department — 503-831-3532
- Dallas Food Bank — 503-623-3578
- Dallas Kids, Inc. — 503-623-6419
- Dallas Police Department — 503-831-3582
- Dallas Public Library — 503-623-2633
- Dallas Retirement Village — 503-623-5581
- Dallas School District — 503-623-5594
- Delbert Hunter Arboretum — 503-623-7359
- Girl Scouts of Southwest Washington and Oregon — 503-581-2451
- Ella Curran Food Bank — 503-838-1276
- Falls City Arts Center — 503-559-6291
- Falls City School District — 503-787-3531
- H-2-O — 503-831-4736
- HandsOn Mid-Willamette Valley — 503-363-1651
- Heron Pointe Assisted Living — 503-838-6850
- Independence Health and Rehabilitation — 503-838-0001
- Independence Public Library — 503-838-1811
- Kings Valley Charter School — 541-929-2134
- Luckiamute Watershed Council — 503-837-0237
- Luckiamute Valley Charter School — 503-623-4837
- Meals on Wheels — 503-838-2084
- Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce — 503-838-4268
- Monmouth-Independence YMCA — 503-838-4042
- Monmouth Public Library — 503-838-1932
- Northwest Human Services — 503-588-5828
- Oregon Child Development Coalition — 503-838-2745
- OSU Extension Service - Polk County — 503-623-8395
- Perrydale School District — 503-623-2040
- Polk County Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) — 503-623-9268, ext. 1301
- Polk Community Development Corporation — 503-831-3173
- Polk County Community Emergency Response Team — 503-623-9396
- Polk County Museum — 503-623-6251
- Polk County Public Health — 503-623-8175
- Polk County Resource Center — 503-623-8429
- Polk Soil and Water Conservation District — 503-623-9680
- Reading for All — 503-623-9664
- SABLE House — 503-623-6703
- Salvation Army — 503-798-4783
- SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) — 503-391-8423
- West Valley Hospital — 503-623-8301
- Willamette Valley Hospice — 503-588-3600

# Minet to develop strategic plan

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — The management of Monmouth-Independence Networks has been given the go-ahead by its board of directors to create a strategic business plan for the company.

During the process, the management team will consider the company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, corporate finance officer Mark Thoenes said.

For more than a year, Thoenes has called Minet "stable and flat" as far as revenue is concerned. To move the company forward, it will look at other revenue opportunities.

Minet has been able to pay its operational costs, but has struggled to pay the debt the cities of Independence and Monmouth took

out on its behalf to build the infrastructure for the telephone, cable and data company.

"These are plans that have unique benefits," said Jon Carey, Minet board member and Monmouth city councilor. "Minet's an interesting company in that, because of its nature, it's dynamic. Things are changing all the time. Technical demands are increasing, and in some cases falling by the wayside. It's backed by public debt and landlocked in the traditional sense, with plans to break out."

Scott McClure, board president and Monmouth city manager, said he hopes the strategic business plan will help find new business opportunities, form the baseline and core of the business, while identifying long-term goals and objectives.

## Leave pets at home, not in cars

**Itemizer-Observer staff report**  
POLK COUNTY — The best place for your pet during the heat of the day is inside, not in a car, according to the Oregon Humane Society.

If you see a dog in distress in a hot car, dial 911. Local law enforcement may assess the situation and determine if the car needs to be entered.

"The best thing to do is call the police and request they respond," Monmouth Police Department officers stated. "We have resources to find vehicle owners and if not can force entry into a vehicle as a last resort if the animal is in distress."

Oregon does not have a "good Samaritan" law that protects citizens from breaking into a car to access a dog or animal.

Instead, the Oregon Humane Society recommends leaving animals at home in a cool place, not in the car while you run errands.

For more information about pet safety during the summer heat: [oregonhumane.org](http://oregonhumane.org).

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