

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Bobos

Longtime Baker City residents Dave and Carol Bobo are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 11.

After meeting in Spanish class, they were high school sweethearts and married in Redlands, California, in 1962. They've been Baker City residents since 1973, where they raised their family of four daughters.

Dave and Carol now have nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, who will be celebrating the happy couple with a private party later this month.



Contributed Photos
Dave and Carol Bobo.

Some object to political comments at Chief Joseph Days rodeo

BY BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain JOSEPH — Politically charged banter coming from the announcer's booth and the rodeo clown at the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo has stirred up objections from some in the audience, even to the point of decisions to not return to the rodeo.

David Olmos, of Portland, said rodeo announcer Jody Carper should keep his political views to himself.

"It's a rodeo, not a Trump rally, pardner," he wrote in a letter to the editor to the Wallowa County Chieftain.

Olmos said he wouldn't return "until you get back in the saddle of showing respect to all of your patrons."

Joseph resident Mike Mercer said Carper "needs to leave his continued cheap political shots out of the event."

He seems to be playing to a TV audience in order to improve ratings, rather than lifting up what makes the rodeo and this community special," Mercer wrote in a letter to the editor to the Wallowa County Chieftain.

Another Joseph resident, Eric Pippert, addressed the issue in an open letter to the Chief Joseph Days board.

"This wasn't my first rodeo, but I promise you it is my last of your rodeo I'll attend," adding that he'd heard similar complaints about "Jingoistic, dog whistle political commentary, with a sprinkling of misogynistic and racial tropes by the announcer and rodeo 'clown.'"

Board President Terry Jones said he understood how some rodeo fans might object, but hopes to eliminate concerns fans may have.

"I'll visit with our announcer," Jones said. "We'll deal with it. It's OK for some people to say political things and it's not OK for others."

Clown and barrel man John Harrison defended his statements.

"We are in the entertainment business. Just like not all movies, comedians, singers, music genres appeal to all people we may not appeal to all," he said. "The au-



Wallowa County Chieftain
A Tuckerette brings the American flag into the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena during the final night of the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo on Saturday, July 30, 2022.

tograph lines, handshakes, comments of how much people enjoyed the show far outweigh the negative, but that wouldn't make a sensational news story, would it?"

Carper, who bills himself as the "patriotic announcer," was unapologetic in his response to critics. He said he's been criticized in print twice in the 31 years he's been announcing, both times in the Chieftain.

"I like to put a little humor with my announcing and choose to make fun of some of the things that are happening in our country," he said. "I understand that some of the people in this world cannot take a joke and they want every event or concert to only say what they believe. I don't think every comedian is hilarious and I don't like the food at every restaurant. But I don't waste my time complaining about it or trying to cancel someone. But that is the beauty of our country. Everyone has freedom of speech. It is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution. It's called an opinion. And thank God we can have an opinion in the United States of America, because there are a lot of countries that don't allow you that privilege. I will continue to stand up for the red, white and blue, our military, first-responders and the greatest country in the world, the United States of America. Sorry if it offends you and have a great day."

Jones was a bit philosophical about the controversy and eager to see the event not be controversial.

Philip Edmond Medico

August 25, 1950 - February 21, 2022

Philip Edmond Medico was born August 25, 1950 at a US Army Hospital in Shirley, Massachusetts to Philip Simon Medico and Barbara Whitney. Phil spent his childhood years in Massachusetts and Germany as an Army brat. He was one of six children. He even lived across the street from Alice on "The Brady Bunch".

At 17 Phil joined the Air Force. During his time at March AB he married and had two children, Zachary and Christina. He later went on to have two more children in his second marriage, Joseph and Ryan.

In deciding to leave the fast-paced California life Phil made his way to Oregon where he settled and laid roots in Sumpter. In 1998 Phil gained an additional child, Whitney when he married Jenny. If ever a heart was made for a blended family it was his. He was filled with love for his family.

On February 21 Phil passed away at home with his family by his side. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and one sister, as well as his first wife. Phil is survived by his loving wife Jenny, his three sons Zach (Debbie) Joseph (Jennifer), Ryan (Rachel); his two daughters Tina (Miles), Whitney. granddaughters Tiffany and Emma; great-granddaughter Kayla.

Phil lived very full life and will be very much missed by those who knew him but we find comfort in knowing he's never really too far away.

There will be a memorial with military honors on August 19 at 11 AM at the Sumpter Valley Dredge in Sumpter Oregon. There will be a potluck gathering of family and friends to share stories and have a beer in remembrance of him on August 20 at 2 p.m. at 39022 Rhody Rd., Sumpter, OR.

Paid for by the family of Phillip Medico.



Smoke pours from the Pendleton Flour Mills on the morning of Wednesday, August 10, 2022 as firefighters work to control the blaze.
Photos by Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Fire erupts in Pendleton flour mill

BY DAKOTA CASTETS-DIDIER, ANTONIO ARREDONDO AND JOHN TILLMAN

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Fire erupted early Wednesday morning, Aug. 10, at Grain Craft flour mill in Pendleton. By midmorning, first responders were waiting for the possible collapse of the structure.

Pendleton Fire Department, Umatilla Tribal Fire Department and Umatilla County Fire District No. 1 responded to the scene at 501 S.E. Emigrant Ave. Soon after, fire departments from La Grande and Boardman also were responding.

Pendleton Assistant Fire Chief Tony Pierotti said this blaze kicked off at about 4:30 a.m., and all signs point to the massive structure as a total loss.

The silos also were at full capacity of finished grain, he said, so the fire fuel load was extreme.

This fire may have burned through the night. Pendleton and other fire departments on Aug. 9 at 2:55 p.m. responded to the mill on a report of white smoke. Pierotti said a "rubber boot" that is part of the sifter may have caught fire.

Crews had to get a hose up top to shoot water into a silo to put out the fire.

Crews were at the mills for about six hours.

Grain Craft, the third largest flour miller in the United States, owns the mill and employs 22 people there. The company issued this statement:

"Early this morning a fire erupted at the Grain Craft flour mill in Pendleton, Oregon. There have been no injuries reported and our focus remains on the safety and well-being of our team mem-



A Pendleton firefighter sprays water on flames shooting from the Pendleton Flour Mills on the morning of Wednesday, August 10, 2022.

bers and the surrounding community. We are supporting all authorities as they contain the fire and mitigate the damage where possible. We are still working to understand the situation, however everyone is safe, and we will update when we have more information."

"All these other buildings around are considered exposures," Pierotti said as firefighters battled the blaze. "Then we go defensive. It's gonna come down, the goal is to make sure it doesn't go anywhere else."

Pierotti also said chlorine tanks at the site were far enough away they were not an explosion risk. Still, fire crews doused the tanks with water as a precautionary measure.

Buildings at the mill began to collapse around 9:30 a.m. Pierotti said there was a concern about a full building collapse.

"After roof collapse, building is burning down from the interior, which works for us," he said, "reduces threat to exposed buildings."

He added firefighters think the full interior has collapsed

but could not confirm because no one has gone inside.

Umatilla County Sheriff's Office brought in its search and rescue drone to look for hot spots, according to Pendleton police Chief Charles Byram, as firefighters continued to pour water on the north side.

Resources also are pulling back and sending outside agencies back to their jurisdictions,

"They feel like it's under control enough," he said.

Pendleton Fire Lt. paramedic Jared Uselman was one of the people working with the drone. He said the whole building is a shell, and on the south side where there are office spaces is where there's

fires. Pendleton fire was not sending in people because the risk of collapse was too high.

Umatilla County closed the courthouse, 216 S.E. Fourth St., and the emergency prompted the closures of roads in a four-block radius about the mill. Umatilla County Commissioner John Shafer said the county opened the courthouse to rehab firefighters.

The Oregon Department of Human Services reported it closed its office in the state building at 800 S.E. Emigrant due to the fire. Staff were working remotely and attempting to contact and/or reschedule people with in-person appointments.

John Mahoney

September 29, 1970 - August 1, 2022

On Monday, August 1, 2022, John "Hops" Mahoney, beloved father of three, brother, and son, passed away in his sleep at age 51. His trip through St Peter's gates was guided by his beloved dogs, who were sent ahead to scope out the best place to play basketball.



A graveside service and interment was held at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City, Oregon, on Thursday, August 11, at 10 a.m. A celebration of his life followed at his family home in Baker City, Oregon.

On September 29, 1970, John came hopping into the world. He would continue to fearlessly go after life, sometimes to the trepidation of those closest to him.

John's life was one adventure after another, visiting the Oregon coast as often as he could. The pleasures of the coast, like beaches, shops, and the aquarium, were his favorite. Otherwise, he could be found sitting at Mo's with a bowl of chowder and fresh bread or reading a book while he watched the storm roll in.

John, who is survived by his sons, Brenden and Tyran, were the light of his life and the greatest source of joy he had. His soul would shine when he got to see or speak to them. His greatest regret about leaving us so soon will be the moments he will miss with them.

He was generous and handed out time when he ran out of money. His siblings Joy, James, Jeffrey, and Jacqueline, knew his love. They would go on to be his game rivals, co-conspirators, biggest fans, and toughest critics.

John leaves behind friends that span the globe. He would be up at all hours playing online. He was never the one to say he was too tired for a friend in need.

He is preceded in death by his dogs, Bernie 1, 2, and Stalker, his grandparents, many aunts and uncles, and Francesca, whom he lost to COVID.

Survivors include his sons: Micah Johnson and his son of La Grande, Oregon; Brenden Mahoney of Belle Chasse, Louisiana; and Tyran Mahoney of Bend, Oregon; parents Mary Jo and Greg Mahoney of Baker City, Oregon; siblings Joy Mahoney and John McManimie of Portland, Oregon; James and Donessa Mahoney of Baker City, Oregon and their children Mackenzey and Zane, Jeffrey Mahoney and fiancé Jessica of Salem, Oregon, Jacqueline and John Miller of Renton, Washington and as Hops always called their dog, C-Lover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the GBS Foundation International (Guillain-Barre Syndrome) through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave an online condolence for the family of John, please visit: www.grayswestco.com.

Harvey "Bud" Crim

February 24, 1930 - July 29, 2022

Harvey Clayton (Bud) Crim of Baker City, OR passed away on July 29, 2022, at the age of 92, at home with his family by his side. Bud was a caring and loyal husband, father, and friend who nurtured a long and happy marriage and friendships that spanned nearly his entire life.



Bud was born on February 24, 1930, in Weiser, ID. He completed the family of Harvey and Faye Crim and sister Darlene. Bud grew into a fine industrious young man in Baker City, graduating in 1948 and moving away for the first time when he enlisted in the Navy during the Korean conflict.

In 1954, soon after he returned from the Navy, Bud married his sweetheart Ruthella (Ruthie) Phelps. The pair were soon blessed with three children: Debbie, Lou Ann, and Clay. Bud instilled his values of hard work, dependability, and caring in his children, always leading by example. Bud's career was in banking, where, at Pioneer Bank, he started as a teller and worked his way up to President.

Bud and his wife Ruthie also showed their children how to have a good time. The young family spent summers skiing, swimming, and fishing with friends at Brownlee Reservoir. In 1964 the Crims bought their first cabin in Granite to join Ruthie's twin sister and family. At Granite, Bud and the whole family honed their love of hunting, fishing, and motorcycles.

The loved ones left behind include daughter Lou Ann Charbonnier, son Clay Crim and his wife Theresa, and son-in-law Milo Goss and his wife, Toni. Grandchildren include MJ Goss and his wife Becky, Tony Charbonnier, Kristin Charbonnier, Caleb Crim, Jacob Crim, and Lucas Crim. Great-grandchildren include Miles Goss, Owen Goss and Lily Goss.

Preceding Bud in death includes his wife Ruthie, his mother and father, daughter, Debbie Goss, and sister, Darlene Hunnicutt.

Memorial contributions can be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for the family of Bud, please go to www.grayswestco.com.