

# China's Mars rover touches ground on the red planet

Associated Press

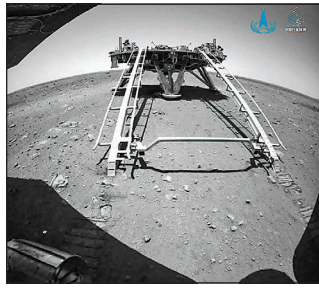
BEIJING — China's first Mars rover has driven down from its landing platform and is now roaming the surface of the red planet, China's space administration said Saturday.

The solar-powered rover touched Martian soil at 10:40 a.m. Saturday Beijing time, the China National Space Administration said.

China landed the spacecraft carrying the rover on Mars a week before, a technically challenging feat more difficult than a moon landing, in a first for the country. It is the second country to land and operate a spacecraft on Mars, after the United States.

Named after the Chinese god of fire, Zhurong, the rover has been running diagnostics tests for several days before it began its exploration Saturday. It is expected to be deployed for 90 days to search of evidence of life.

The U.S. has an ongoing



A landing platform and the surface of Mars are seen from a camera on the Chinese Mars rover Zhurong.

Mars mission, with the Perseverance rover and a tiny helicopter exploring the planet. NASA expects the rover to collect its first sample in July for return to Earth as early as 2031.

China has ambitious space plans that include launching a crewed orbital station and landing a human on the moon. China in 2019 became the first country to land a space probe on the little-explored far side of the moon.

## OBITUARY

### L. Colleen (Harkins) Pickett

March 17, 1922 - May 13, 2021

L. Colleen (Harkins) Pickett died peacefully in the early morning of May 13, 2021 at Mt. Bachelor Memory Care, Bend, Oregon. She was born at the family home in Liberal, Barton County, Missouri on March 17, 1922 to Buford and Beulah (Murray) Harkins. She married Roy Jennings Pickett, July 8, 1940 at her parents' house. Two hours later they left for California, where Roy worked in the early days of aerospace, to begin married life. The couple resided in Glendale and Yucaipa for several years, moving north to Sacramento until retirement took them to Bend, Oregon. Roy predeceased her on March 20, 2002. She is survived by her children: Robert Pickett and Chris (William) Weatherman of Bend, and Catherine Pickett of Edmonds, WA; her niece, Carolyn (John) Kretzer of Wichita, KS; three grandchildren: William (Paige) Weatherman and Robin (Alex) Robinson of the Bend area, and Kari (Robert) Kern of Portland, OR; 10 grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

## OBITUARY

### Linda Ann Burger (Sturm)

1951 - 2021



Linda Ann Burger (Sturm), beloved mother and "Granny", age 69, of Redmond, OR passed away unexpectedly on February 25, 2021 of natural causes.

Linda was born in 1951 to Donald and Jean Sturm of Wausau, WI and later became a big sister to two brothers, Jeff and Tom. Linda graduated from Newman High School in Wausau in 1970 and graduated in 1975 from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a bachelor's degree in Home Economics. Her beloved son Jason was born in 1980 and in 1984 the family moved to Redmond. In 1999, she met Dennis Heater, with whom she shared many adventures over their 20+ years together. Linda deeply adored her grandchildren Xander, born in 2002, and Genevieve, born in 2006.

Linda worked at Seventh Street Brew House, Lancair, and Deschutes Office Products. Linda found her true calling as a special education aide at Obsidian Middle School and cared deeply for each of her students. She retired in 2016. In her spare time, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, camping in Oregon and Nevada, collecting rocks and fossils, vacationing in Wisconsin and Montana, watching Packer games, attending concerts, and listening to music.

Linda is survived by her son Jason Burger and grandchildren Xander and Genevieve of Redmond, OR, life-partner Dennis Heater of Redmond, OR, brothers Jeff (Donna) Sturm of Helena, MT and Tom (Sue) Sturm of Shawano, WI, nieces Brook Sturm and Ali Rice, nephews Andy Sturm and Ben Sturm, and too many other relatives to list. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A Virtual Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Donations can be made to Oregon Special Olympics.



Submitted photo

Bend Fire & Rescue firefighter and paramedic Jared Hopper pulled a woman from a burning house in Prineville on Friday.

## Rescue

Continued from A1

"It's a pretty humbling moment, honestly," Hopper said Saturday. "Looking back at it, it seems like a blur."

Crook County Fire & Rescue and Prineville Police responded around 10 a.m. to the fire, which was isolated to the garage.

"They kept the fire from getting into the house," Hopper said. "It sounded like there was pretty minimal damage."

Hopper gives credit to the neighbor, who was the first on scene and called 911. The neighbor went into the house and closed all the doors to the garage, which helped keep the fire in the garage, Hopper said. "The guy who flagged me

down, he's the one who really made a lot of the heroic efforts," Hopper said. "If he wouldn't have done that, I don't think the outcome would have been the same."

Hopper is grateful he was driving by as the smoke started to spread. He was in his truck on the way to a nearby job site for his concrete business, Hopper Concrete Pumping.

If he passed by any later, the woman may have suffered from breathing in smoke, he said.

"She didn't have much more time before the whole house was full of smoke," Hopper said.

"The timing just happened to be perfect."

Reporter: 541-617-7820, kspurr@bendbulletin.com

## OBITUARY

### Eldon Cecil Pearson

June 27, 1940 - April 28, 2021



Eldon Cecil Pearson (80) of Bend passed away on April 28, 2021 with his family by his side singing to his favorite Highwayman songs. He is survived by his loving family including five

of six children and ten grandchildren. A celebration of Eldon's bright life will be held at the residence of Eldon's dear friend Donna Pearson (541-388-4545) on June 5, 2021 at 12:00 noon. Please join us for BBQ, beer, peanuts and horseshoes, just as Eldon would want it.

## OBITUARY

### MARSHA LOU (STEVENS) STOUT

September 14, 1946 - May 12, 2021



Marsha Lou Stevens was born on September 14, 1946 to Harold C. and Mary Gene (Marshall) Stevens in Ottawa, Kansas. She attended public schools in Ottawa and graduated with honors from Ottawa High School in 1964. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Kansas State University in 1968.

On June 8, 1968 she married Melvin (Mel) James Stout at the First Methodist Church in Ottawa and they embarked on a honeymoon/job intern position outside of Detroit, Michigan that summer. Mel graduated with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree in 1969 and they moved to Washington, D.C. for Mel's service in the US Army Engineer Corps. While Mel served in Viet Nam, Marsha moved back to Kansas and worked at the Credit Union on Forbes Air Force base. When Mel returned in 1971, they moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Mel received his Master's of Landscape Architecture.

In 1972 Mel and Marsha moved to Portland, Oregon, where Mel had been offered a position with a new, young landscape architecture firm. Marsha began a 21-year career at the Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company, in the advertising and community affairs departments. In 1996 Marsha became the Director of Membership/Partner Services for the Portland Oregon Visitors Association (later known as TravelPortland). That position lasted 14 years, and Marsha loved both careers and in helping promote her adopted hometown of Portland.

In 2010 Mel and Marsha retired and moved to Bend, Oregon and the home they designed and built on acreage outside of Tumalo. Marsha became active in her new community and has served on the boards of Newcomers Club of Bend, Arts Central, Deschutes County Historical Society and the Arts & Culture Alliance of Central Oregon. She became a commissioner of the Bend Cultural Tourism Fund in 2014 and was a Central Oregon Ambassador for Oregon Public Broadcasting.

Mel and Marsha became early supporters of the zero population growth movement and chose to not have children. She is survived by Mel, a sister Judith Corbett of Topeka, Kansas, two nephews and a niece. She is preceded in death by her parents and sister Patricia Dempsey Calandrino.

Mel and Marsha were married for nearly 54 years. Marsha passed away May 12, 2021 from complications with cancer. She was loved by all who knew her. She will always be in all our hearts. Her wishes were for cremation and no service. Direct cremation by Autumn Funerals, Bend, Oregon.

Donations in Marsha's memory may be made to Planned Parenthood and the Deschutes County Historical Society.

## OBITUARY

### Linda M. Connelly

March 31, 1943

- April 17, 2021



Linda M. Connelly made her final run on a bright sunny day on a smooth corduroy trail. She had a great smile on her face. She was going to a greater place where powder days go on and on. Linda was 78 years old, a native of Gloversville, New York. She arrived with a smile on her face and it stayed there till her parting breath. I know because I was holding her hand till the end.

- Richard

## OBITUARY

### Edward Anton Straka Jr.

November 3, 1930 - April 26, 2021

Edward Anton Straka Jr. was born November 3, 1930 and passed away on April 26, 2021 in Salem, OR from Alzheimer's. He had a private dental practice in Bend, OR from 1977 to 1994 when he retired in Dallas, OR. Edward was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Carleen. He is survived by his daughters Ann Smith (Bob) of Evensville, TN, and Sally Davies (Robert) of Dallas, OR. He's also survived by five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. If you would like to honor Ed Straka, please consider a donation in his name to the Alzheimer's Association - Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center www.dallastribute.com

## OBITUARY

### William Layton Simmons

May 28, 1939 - May 10, 2021

William Layton Simmons was born May 28th, 1939 in Portland, Oregon to Layton and Minnie Simmons. He attended grade school in Lone Pine, Oregon and graduated from Prineville High School. He entered heaven's gates on May 10, 2021.

How does one begin to write an obituary about Bill, who was so alive with laughter, love for others, and love for God. One who reached out to you with a smile, a hug and an encouraging word. Each grandchild knew they were grandpa's favorite (and they were).

In 1961, Bill opened Bill's Flowers in Madras. Later he farmed with his Dad in the Mudd Springs Valley. They were some of the first farmers to raise mint. In 1970, Bill became a realtor and started Madras Real Estate. He was still selling 50 years later and was known as a man of integrity. Beyond the flowers, farm, and real estate was his love and service to the Lord Jesus Christ. Bill and his wife, Judy, sang for over 40 years for the church and community and they taught 4 year old Sunday School many years. Bill has now gone home where real life has just begun. He is survived by his wife Judy of nearly 60 years, his 2 sons and their wives, 7 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Services will be held May 24th, 10:30 at the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Madras.