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*Dean Nodine*  
November 26, 2021



Dean Nodine, age 89, said "Good-bye" to his family and friends on November 26, 2021, at Blue Mt. Hospital in John Day. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

He was born in Hetland, South Dakota to Jack and Ruth Nodine, making a family of seven brothers and sisters. He was an identical twin and baby of the family. The twins were delivered by their father. Dean had one living sister.

After graduating from high school, Dean and his twin brother joined the United States Navy on June 30, 1952.

When he returned home, he enrolled at South Dakota University. Upon graduating, he was hired over the phone to teach shop and be vice principle in John Day. He advanced to principle and then District Superintendent after the consolidation of John Day, Mt. Vernon, Canyon City, Seneca and Izee schools. He held that position for 28 years.

During that time, a lot of progress was made in School District #3. Humbolt school acquired a gym and classrooms, a track facility was added to Grant Union High School plus a new gym, cafeteria and four new classrooms. A district office and bus shop were established. The purchasing land on 7th Street was developed into a beautiful 7th Street Sports Complex.

Dean was involved with many community activities. He was a member of the John Day Elks, Grant County Cemetery Board, Budget Committee, OSHA Board of Control, City Planning Commission, Park and Rec Budget Committee, American Legion, 4-H Leader and Grant County Shooting Sports Club including Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

He was elected Jr. Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year and in 2019 he had the honor of Grand Marshal of the Grant County Fair.

Deans' personal family consists of his wife, Joyce, who he met during college, and they celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. His son, Jeff (Dayma) of Elko, Nevada; two daughters, Jody of John Day, and Janean of Medford. He has five grandchildren, Mitch, Mariah, Jordan, Haley and Sierra and one great grandson.

Besides giving 200% to his family, job, and young people, he loved to hunt, fish, shooting clubs, gardening and being with friends. We will all miss him in our lives.

Memorial contributions can be made to a charity of one's choice through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. Paid for by the family of Dean Nodine.

5272694-1

# Grant County reports 16th COVID death

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Grant County has lost another resident to COVID-19.

The most recent fatality is a 71-year-old man who tested positive for the virus on Nov. 25 and died Nov. 28 at his residence, the Oregon Health Authority announced on Friday, Dec. 3.

The presence of underlying conditions is being confirmed.

It's the 16th COVID-related death for Grant County, which has now recorded 1,091 cases of the disease since the start of the pandemic in early 2020.

Oregon has a cumulative total of 394,569 cases and 5,243 deaths from COVID-19, OHA data show.

The nation as a whole has seen 787,681 COVID-related deaths and just under 49 million cases, according to records compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

The Grant County Health Department issued a press release asking for residents to be respectful as the man's family grieves.

Grant County Health Department Administrator Kimberly Lindsay said she couldn't disclose the man's vaccination status for medical privacy reasons.

She added that her staff has recorded no new cases in the past several days, but she expects the case counts to start to rise again with the arrival of a new variant in the United States. She also noted that cases and hospitalizations are once more on the rise in other parts of Oregon and around the country.

"I hope Grant County residents continue to be thoughtful about keeping their distance and wearing masks," Lindsay said.

"People who are vaccinated are still coming down with COVID, although they don't get as sick, and it's hammering the unvaccinated."

# Merc averts foreclosure sale

By STEVEN MITCHELL  
Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE — The Dayville Mercantile was not sold at auction on the steps of the Grant County Courthouse on Friday, Dec. 3, as a foreclosure notice declared it would be.

The historic general store's owner, Scott Knapp, filed Chapter 13 bankruptcy to protect the business after the property's previous owners declared him in default of his purchase agreement.

Chapter 13 bankruptcy is a "wage earner's plan" that allows debtors to repay all or part of what they owe. Under this chapter of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, debtors propose a payment plan to make installments to creditors over three to five years.

Knapp, the Merc's owner since the start of 2020, was facing the prospect of closing up shop after representatives of the Graves Family Trust, the store's previous owners, implemented foreclosure proceedings in July.

According to Knapp, he had been making interest-only payments to the Graves family in an arrangement they had worked out after his restaurant hood-cleaning business — which he was using to subsidize the Merc — was forced to shut down for a time because of COVID-19.

Knapp said the Graves family did not renew the interest-only payment plan and instead offered him \$50,000 to take the Merc back.

Graves Family Trust attorney Douglas J. Raab did not immediately respond to the Eagle's request for comment.

Jay Graves declined to comment on pending litigation but said he would once the legal process has concluded.

The trust published a paid advertisement in the Blue Mountain Eagle as part of the foreclosure process. The ad stated that Knapp still owed \$489,258.58 on the property, plus interest and past-due payments dating back to February.

## OBITUARIES

### Dean Nodine

Dean Nodine, age 89, of John Day passed away Nov. 26. A celebration of his life will be announced at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Driskill Memorial Chapel.

### Anna L. Pearson Alegria

Anna L. Pearson Alegria, 97, of Boise, formerly of John Day, died on Dec. 1 in a Boise assisted living home. Arrangements are by Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel, Boise.

### Ace Robbins

Sept. 21, 1936 — Nov. 24, 2021

Ace Robbins of Monument died Nov. 24. No services will be held. Tip a cold beer in his honor and shed no tears.

"A man of action and few words."

### About Obituaries

News obituaries of 300 words or less are a free service of the Blue Mountain Eagle. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries submitted to the Eagle with incorrect information may be corrected and republished as paid memorials. Obituaries longer than 300 words may be published as paid memorials. Send obituaries by email, office@bmeagle.com; fax, 541-575-1244; or mail, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-575-0710.

# Blanche Lundbom

Blanche Irene Lundbom was born on June 26, 1931 in Boring, Oregon to Pete and Lillian Packard. She was the middle child of three; her sister Bernice was the oldest and her brother Eugene was the youngest. They lived on a farm in Kelso, Oregon where they raised 40 acres of strawberries.

Blanche attended Sandy High School where she met Don Lundbom and they courted throughout her junior and senior year. She graduated in the spring of 1949, and in the fall, Blanche attended Binky Walker Business College in downtown Portland. Don spent his weekends driving to and from his families' farm in order to see her and on November 10, 1950, they married at Gresham Lutheran Church. They honeymooned in Lake Tahoe, but being 19 and 20, there wasn't much more to do than see the sights!

They returned to Kelso and together they worked as the camp house manager of the berry pickers on Blanche's parents' Marshall Strawberry farm. In 1954 Ron, their son was born and in 1955 their daughter Tootie was born. In their spare time they built a home and raised 5 acres of roses, however after a particularly harsh winter in 1958, all their crops froze and they lost everything. For a short time Don considered homesteading in Australia. At the time the country was leasing 600-acre parcels to those who would farm it. However, Blanche informed him he would be going alone and that was the end of that.

In 1959 they moved to downtown Sandy on the main street Blanche began working for

McRobert Ford in Gresham as a bookkeeper and they bought a service station, Don's Mobile Service. Blanche kept books for the service station at night after her day job was done. In 1963 Don was involved in a car accident, which resulted in them selling the service station and Don went to work for Fancher's NAPA Auto Parts next door. Three years later they decided to buy into the NAPA franchise. At the time there were 5 locations in the state of Oregon available and John Day was one of them. It looked to be the most promising since competition was limited in the county, and they had been coming to this area to hunt for many years!

On June 26, 1966, Blanche's 35th birthday, Don moved the family to John Day to open the NAPA John Day Auto Parts store. With the help of Maurice Lundgren, Blanche's brother-in-law, they built their house on Charolais Heights. The first house in the neighborhood and they would call it home for the



next 46 years. Blanche was a vital part of the business, helping out customers and doing all the books for the store. She also helped other new franchise owners set up their accounting practices. They were committed business owners and active members of their community. Every year they supported the kids in 4-H by buying their livestock and donating it back, sponsoring local sports for the youth and donating dinners at the senior center, just to name a few. One of their biggest accomplishments was their participation in the heritage foundation, which funded the Grant County fairground barn renovation.

When Blanche wasn't working down at NAPA you could find her hosting regular bridge parties, cheering on her grandchildren at their sporting events, traveling with their NAPA friends to such places as the Grand Cayman Islands, Panama Canal, London and Paris, France as they aged, spending the winters in sunny Surprise, Arizona at Happy Trails resort community.

Blanche was blessed with 16 grandchildren (natural, adopted through marriage) as well as 26 great grandchildren and 5 great great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered.

Memorial contributions in her honor can be made to the Grant County Senior Center, The Heritage Foundation, or the Charity of one's choice through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To leave an online condolence for the family visit, www.driskillmemorial-chapel.com.

Paid for by the family of Blanche Lundbom.

5272696-1

### Donald R. Tuter

December 28, 1934 - October 27, 2021

"Good Mornin' Lord," he said, in the early morning hours of October 27th, 2021. Don went to be with his Savior and friend in the comfort of his home, surrounded by his loving wife and children.

Don was born on December 28, 1934, in Brookline, Missouri to Edward and Hildred Tuter. After graduating high school in 1953, he went to work for the Union Pacific Railroad and joined the Kansas Army National Guard. In 1956, he enlisted in the United States Air Force.

While enlisted in the Air Force, Don, a tremendously talented vocalist and instrumentalist, joined a country music band and began playing the fiddle and mandolin professionally. His performances included the Tokyo Grand Ole Opry, while on deployment.

Don and long-time friend, Joyce Jones, wed February 16, 1961. Don and Joyce welcomed son Russ in 1964, and son Paul in 1967.

In 1968, the family moved from Bashor, Kansas to John Day, Oregon, where Don worked for Hines Lumber Company in Bates, Oregon, and the U.S. Forest Service as a core driller. Don pursued his career in country music with his new band, Wild Country. It was with Wild Country that Don recorded his first professional country music album.

Don accepted Christ as a child, and in 1975 when he became a Spirit-filled Christian, he decided to stop playing in honkey tonks to begin pursuing a career in country gospel music and ministry.

In 1973, Don and Joyce completed their family with the addition of Carrie Jo.

The family moved to Prineville in 1978, where Don worked for the Ochoco Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service and also started a Christian band: "The Average Jesus Band." Don medically retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1979.

In 1988, along with the evangelism, the couple opened a soup kitchen in downtown Prineville where Don would lead Bible study and Joyce made soup for those in need. In the last 20 years of their traveling ministry, the couple traveled to Mexico with donated items such as building supplies, tools, rice, beans and seeds for gardening. Together, Don and Joyce spread the joy of the Lord all around the world.

In 2013, Don became a member of the Oregon Band of Brothers Prineville chapter, later joining the Honor Guard. In January 2018, Don was elected as Chaplain. It was with The Band of Brothers that Don's heart's desire was met - he remained in ministry, spreading the love of Jesus, through his final days.

Don never knew a stranger - he will long be remembered for his ability to make others know they were important to him, and they belonged. His motto was, "EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY, in this place." He fully lived out this motto... To know Don Tuter was to have a friend.

Don is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Joyce; son, Russ (Lori) Tuter, son, Paul (Shani) Tuter, daughter, Carrie (Jason) Bauer; grandchildren; Jessica (Shawn) Tuter, Dale (Sammi) Tuter, Zach (Danielle) Tuter, Kylie (Chase) Cole, Andy Tuter, Koltan Collins, Brittney Taylor, Dustin Collins, Hannah (Jason) Burgess; eight great-grandchildren, four brothers and, five sisters.

A celebration of life will be held December 11, 2021, at 11 a.m., Eastside Foursquare Church, 3174 N.E. Main Street, Prineville, Oregon. The service can be viewed online at: https://www.facebook.com/carrie.bauer3

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that charitable donations be made to: Christians At Work, PO Box 272, Prineville, Oregon, 97754. Paid for by the family of Don Tuter.

5272342-1

### Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Wednesday	62/39
Thursday	57/35
Friday	52/37
Saturday	54/35
Sunday	50/41
Monday	47/34
Tuesday	43/34

### 24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY  
162.500 MHZ

### WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 8-14

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Rain/Snow showers	Snow showers	Cloudy	Rain/snow	Rain/snow	Cloudy	Snow
<b>42</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>