

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

I hope you are all thinking joyous thoughts about family reunions and various holiday celebrations. I, too, love Christmastime, but from now on it will be very different for me without Bill whose life ended at 11 p.m. on Dec. 14.

Some who may read my words understand a great deal about cancer, a word and a condition that scares people tremendously. Unfortunately some of us have learned about this disorderly, purposeless growth of cells by watching a loved one suffer.

My husband knew much about cancer because he had watched it take the lives of his mother, an older brother, his first wife and other family members. He also knew he was encouraging it by his long-time, constant cigarette smoking.

Bill prepared for the horrible possibility by arranging for special hospital insurance. He also wrote and published two small books about his family and his community and his friends here. (The second book was printed in September, during his acute illness.)

However, Bill couldn't have anticipated the long period of suffering he endured. His weight fell about 60 pounds—but his spirit and good humor held up remarkably well.

His suffering was eased considerably by the supportive love of the great Weatherford family and the many friends in this community who continually encouraged him. We all know that he had the kind and skillful care from fine doctors, nurses and other hospital aides here and in Portland.

His strong, very active mind considered many problems during the almost six months of his fatal illness. He, as always, was very concerned about other people's problems and about community affairs until his final sleep.

Bill so loved Morrow and Gilliam Counties. He was so positive that the world's greatest people live here. He convinced me to leave the Willamette Valley and to come to "God's Country".

I have been so glad I was persuaded—because he was so right about the great people here.

Collier, Abrams exchange vows

Mary Abrams of Heppner and Keith Collier of Pendleton were married November 27 in Heppner at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Abrams.

Father Dirk Rinehart, pastor of St. James Episcopal Church in Milton-Freewater, officiated at the late afternoon ceremony before family and close friends of the couple.

The bride wore an ivory satin dress originally worn by her mother. Hand-made lace trimming the dress's yoke came from her grandmother's wedding gown. She carried a bouquet of dried flowers in ivory and dark winter red. Elizabeth and Alice Abrams, attendants for their sister, wore winter red print dresses and carried old-fashioned bouquets of red and ivory dried flowers.

The groom's attendants were his brothers, Tom Collier of McCall, Idaho, and Gary Collier of Ukiah.

Rob Abrams, Pendleton, and Frances Mauss of Portland, brother and sister of the bride, read a poem and a passage of scripture as parts of the wedding service.

Special music for the ceremony was provided by Karen Rinehart of Milton-Freewater and Tony Rick, Eugene, singing and playing the autoharp and guitar. Family members attending the wedding from out of town were the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Collier, Pendleton; his grandfather, John Collier of Davenport, Iowa; and his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Heath of Nez Perce, Idaho; the bride's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Haskell, Everett, Washington; and her uncle, Henry Morrow of Palo Alto, California. Special guests were Ann, Nathan and Mark Rinehart; the Bob Clapp family of Pendleton; and the Bishop and Mrs. William Spofford, Redmond. A buffet A buffet dinner and reception for family, out-of-town guests and friends followed the ceremony.

The bride a graduate of Heppner High School, attended Blue Mountain Community College and was graduated from the University of Arizona in September. The groom graduated from Pendleton High School and the University of Oregon. The couple will live in Donnelly, Idaho, for the winter.



Mr. and Mrs. Keith Collier

MORROW COUNTY COMMUNITY

PEOPLE • EVENTS • HAPPENINGS

Peck, Hughes announces plans

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hughes of Heppner announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Patricia Faye, to Lyle Allen Peck, Jr., The Dalles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Peck of Heppner.

The couple will be married in All Saints Episcopal Church on April 8, and will make their home in The Dalles.

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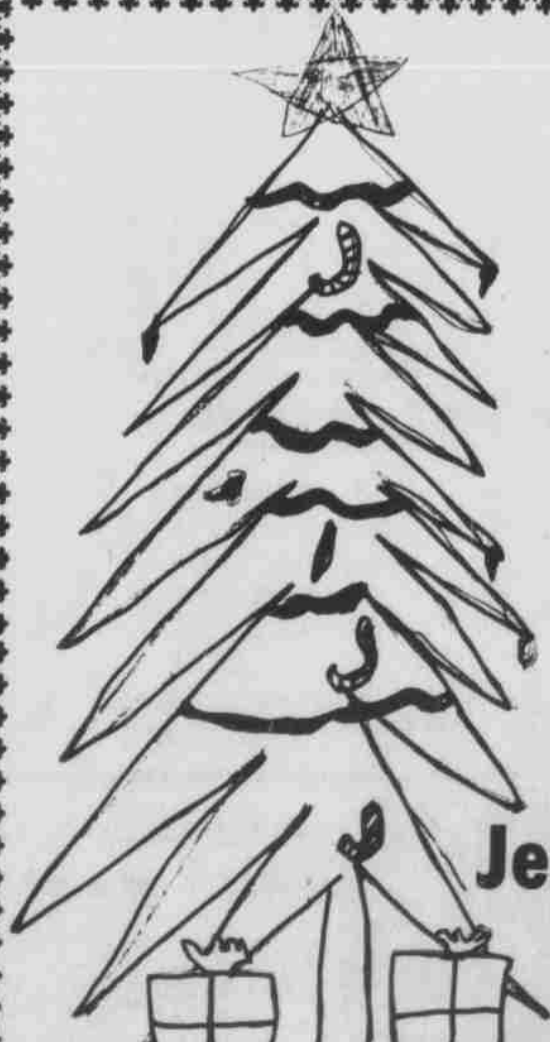
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