

Obituaries

Harry Eugene Noble

Harry Eugene Noble was born on June 7, 1930 in Klamath Falls, OR to parents, Willard and Helen C. (Vorce) Noble. He died January 15 at his home in Hermiston at the age of 89 years. Harry was raised in the Langell



Harry Eugene Noble

western resort at Waimanalo, Oahu. He had to take some bucking stock and good help, Billy Liskey, from the mainland, to be able to put on some good rodeos for the Gibson family. He taught riding and rough stock lessons to many students. Buddy Gibson, Helen and the crew took folks out on popular trail rides at the resort. He moved his family back to Klamath Falls in 1961 to be closer to family.

Harry went to work for Francis D. Brown Logging Co., loading logs, building roads and running their crane rental service while continuing to rodeo.

In the spring of 1967, he moved the family to Helen's home area to run a ranch for Joe Tatone in Boardman. In the fall of 1968 he went to work for Philippi Ranches and moved to Hermiston on their pasture ranch. He and the girls also helped on the Boardman and Arlington ranches for many years. He worked on the ranch working cattle, training horses, tractor work and moving irrigation.

He said the girls were as good help as he could ask for and was proud of them and their accomplishments. They bought 33 acres just below the ranch to build an arena and kept rodeoing and running their HJN Noble arena.

After 11 years he quit the ranch and got into the union to build up some retirement and drove for CBTC in Pasco, WA. They put a truck terminal on his place so Harry and other drivers dispatched from there for five years, before the company sold.

He then went into construction running heavy equipment. This took him to Cascade Locks, OR, Lake Chelan, WA, Florida, Virginia, Colorado, back to Central Point, Corvallis and Boardman, OR, before retiring from the union. He continued to work part time for Madison's, running

equipment and building roads as well as taking care of a herd of cattle for a few years. Finally retiring from everything and selling all the bucking horses early in 2004, they turned the arena facilities and pasture over to the Belyeas.

His rodeo accomplishments in his 45 years of competition included winning many championships in Hawaii, the last Northwest Bucking Championship in 1954 that was held at the Pendleton Round-Up, several RCA Saddle Bronc Championships, and NRA Year End Saddle Bronc Championship for 1969, 1970 and 1971. He worked as a pick-up man for Christiansen Brothers and Howells Rodeo Stock Contractors for many years as well as judging a lot of rodeos. He put on rough stock schools and worked with BMCC, Eastern Oregon and Walla Walla College rough stock teams for many years in his arena. He was a Gold Card member of the PRCA and NPRA rodeo associations.

Harry was a family man and always took his family with him to rodeos, etc. His family said he was honest, a hard worker, and a good provider. Harry had a big heart and was ready to share and help anyone in any way he could. He loved the arena and helping young kids get a good start if they wanted to learn to ride or rope. The arena was used for rodeos from pee-wee, junior, high school, college and benefits. There were timed event series jackpots, barrel races, buck outs and 4-H for over 30 years. He had a talent for training good working horses to do anything and got his girls mounted on good barrel racing horses at an early age. Harry knew good horses and was an honest horse trader.

He was a lifetime member of the Pendleton Round-Up Hall of Fame and VFW. He was a member of the Elks for over 40 years, Friends of Rodeo and Christian Cowboys. He was raised in the Lorella

Full Gospel Church in the Langell Valley in Oregon.

Harry enjoyed sports, especially watching his girls, grandkids, great-grandkids and nephews, Rocky Steagall as well as the kids he helped in the rodeos and their activities. He also enjoyed herding cattle, fishing, hunting and playing a little golf with family. Harry played the guitar, sang old cowboy songs and gospel hymns and enjoyed the jam sessions with family and friends. Assisted living folks loved his music. He also was quite a dancer.

He loved to beat anyone who would play cards or pool with him. Harry looked forward to visiting friends and reminiscing with good humor. Later in life the telephone became his friend for communicating. He was blessed with a lot of family, extended family and friends that helped him so much after his horse accident that led to his leg amputation in 2011, to get "Back in the Saddle Again" which he did for a while. When his back pain got bad enough, he couldn't walk much, his 4-wheeler became his legs.

Harry was preceded in death by his mother, Helen Noble (Vorce); father, Bill Noble; brothers-in-law, Dave Mamalis and Bill Steagall; son-in-law, Pat Lafferty; sister-in-law, Linda McRae and brother, Duane Noble.

He is survived by his wife Helen for 65 years; daughters, Jody Lafferty and Jerita Belyea and husband Dave; grandchildren, Kayla Clifton Skultety, Shane Clifton, Jesse Belyea and wife Missy; great-grandchildren, Kensie Skultety, Sean Skultety, Willow Belyea and Stetson Belyea; sister, Pauline Mamalis; 100-year-old aunt, Velma Evans; brother-in-law, Bob McRae; sister-in-law, Carole Steagall; nephews and nieces, Rocky and Michelle Steagall, Walt Steagall, Jeannie Greiss, Kristina McRae Tarvin, Karla Noble McKay, Ken and Billy Noble, Buddy Gibson, many great-nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family and very dear friends.

A graveside service with military honors will be held on Saturday, February 1 at 1 p.m. at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon. A celebration of life service will follow at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 Opal Pl., Irrigon, OR 97844.

Those who wish may make contributions in Harry's memory to help with expenses and his great-grandchildren's education c/o Burns Mortuary of Hermiston at P.O. Box 289, Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

Please share memories of Harry with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

Neal Penland

Neal Penland was born Dec. 18, 1942 in Bend, OR and passed away on January 19 at his home in Woodburn, OR. He was the son of Bob and Gretchen Penland, who once owned the Heppner



Neal Penland

Neal was in the news media in Portland, OR for all of his adult life. He was a journalist and on-air per-

sonality and was at KEX Radio when he retired.

Neal was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. He survived his treatment and it returned in January 2020.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Linda, and his three daughters, Danielle, Julie and Terri, plus his four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Colleen Ployhar

Longtime Heppner resident, Colleen Ployhar, 88, a current resident of Hermiston, died peacefully in the early morning hours of January 23 at Avamere Assisted Living Center. A memorial service is being planned for a later date in Heppner. She was born January 4, 1932, in Heppner, the daughter of the late Vernon and Vivian Prock.



Colleen Ployhar

Colleen attended Heppner schools and graduated from Heppner High School in the class of 1950. In 1951, she married Jack Ployhar of Heppner with whom she celebrated 68 1/2 years of marriage.

She enjoyed spending time with family, cooking, baking, traveling the country in their RV and being an avid admirer of our president, Donald J. Trump. Colleen will best be remembered by her loving family and friends for her humility and devotion to motherhood.

Survivors include her husband Jack Ployhar of Hermiston; sons, Bob Ployhar and his wife Cheryl of Hermiston, Jim Ployhar and his wife Jean of

Roseburg; four grandchildren, Jerid Ployhar and his wife Nikki of La Grande, Darrin Ployhar and his wife Tyha of Patterson, CA, Allison Ployhar of Collierville, TN, Elliott Ployhar and his wife Kelley of Atlanta, GA and one great-grandchild, Sage Ployhar of Patterson. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Joan Ployhar; brothers, Wayne Prock and Jimmy Prock and sisters, Janice Cutsforth and Barbara Hale.

Colleen's family wishes to acknowledge the kind and caring staff of Avamere Assisted Living and Hospice of Hermiston for the compassion shown toward their wife and mother.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Elks Lodge #358 Foundation, PO Box 494, Heppner, Oregon 97836

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements. You may sign the online condolence book at sweeneymortuary.com.

Shirley Arlene Zielinski

Shirley Arlene Zielinski was born July 28, 1932 in The Dalles, OR to Ernest and Mabel Peck. She passed away on January 18 at the age of 87 with her family at her side. She attended elementary school in Boardman and secondary school at St. Joseph's Academy in Pendleton, where she embraced the gift of Catholicism which became a major part of her life. She worked as the city clerk for Boardman for 31 years and was instrumental in the relocation of the town to its current site.



Shirley Arlene Zielinski

she was constantly planning her next "adventure." She was truly a life-long learner and travel was her means of study. She visited Mother Teresa's orphanage in Calcutta, walked on the Camino in Spain and saw the wildebeests of the Serengeti. She journeyed to six continents; Australia was the one missed.

She was a foodie that greeted everyone with, "What's the best thing you've had to eat?" Her home was the central point for all family gatherings. "Thanksgiving in July" was often celebrated for those who couldn't make it home in November.

She is survived by her children, Toni Lampkin (Mike), Ron Zielinski (Denise), Jerry Zielinski (Renee) and Julie Lessard (Gordon). It was said that she greatly loved her grand-

children, Heather, Chelsea, Ryan, and Brent and her many nieces and nephews, some of whom still live in Boardman where the Peck family continues to have a presence since 1927.

Recitation of the Holy Rosary was held January 24 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Boardman. A Celebration of a Life Well Lived was held January 25 with Mass being said at our Lady of Guadalupe Church. A short graveside service was held at the Riverview Cemetery with a reception afterwards at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center.

Contributions in Shirley's memory may be made to St. Jude's Hospital for Children at st.jude.org.

Please share memories with the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

Scholarship applications being accepted

Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association Memorial Scholarship applications are now being accepted. Applicants must be a Morrow or Umatilla County high school graduate and will enroll as a full-time college sophomore or above for the fall term/semester in an agriculture re-

lated undergraduate study. To apply online, complete the state's Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) scholarship application. The designation for the scholarship is 275-Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association. Applications must be completed by March 1.

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Rural (outside city limits)	\$25.00
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