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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

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For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.
For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. The GT is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$15

Karen Ann Prock Cutsforth



Karen Ann Prock Cutsforth, 86, of Pendleton, passed away on August 11, 2024.

Born on March 8, 1938, in Heppner, Oregon, Karen was the daughter of Faye and Gladys Prock. She grew up in Heppner with her brother, Larry, and graduated in 1956 from Heppner High School. On September 20, 1956, Karen married her high school sweetheart, Patrick Cutsforth. They made their home and farmed at Cutsforth Corners in Morrow County, where they raised their three children, Suzanne, Jeff, and Michelle.

In 1981, Karen moved to Pendleton where she began a career in retail. She became a well-known fixture at Milarkey's and The Murphy House, where she could always be seen in the latest fashions from the Pendleton clothing line. Karen enjoyed volunteering and meeting new people; she was always up to something fun, from pouring beer for Altrusa at the Round-Up to volunteering at the hospital gift shop, Meals on Wheels, or The Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon. If you hadn't seen Karen working or volunteering, you probably saw her on one of her daily walks around town. The levee was her preferred route, but she could be spotted speed walking all around town, usually in one of the cute vests she was known for.

Travel was always im-

portant to Karen. From Barbados to Mexico to Aruba to the Oregon coast, Karen hit as many beaches as she could. She also loved taking bus tours in the U.S. and Canada, citing the fall foliage tour in New England as her favorite. But for Karen, no hobby could top reading a good book or a game of cards. It was a rare day Karen didn't play a hand or two of pinochle, Hand and Foot, or one of her other favorite card games with friends or family. And she never missed an episode of her favorite show, Jeopardy-Alex Trebek was practically considered part of the family.

Nothing was more important to Karen than her family. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She opened her home to many of her grandchildren at various stages of their lives and attended countless sports games, choir concerts, plays, and other events. As the matriarch of the family, she leaves behind a legacy of love, support, and humor.

Karen is survived by her son, Jeff (m. Missy Cutsforth); her daughter, Michelle (m. John Huddleston); her eight grandchildren, Shannon Purchase, Megan Huddleston, Kari Rodriguez, Sarah Huddleston, Erin Purchase, Stephanie Hodges, Lindsay Grogan, and Ross Cutsforth; and her 14 great-grandchildren, her beloved "GGs."

She was preceded in death by her husband, Patrick Cutsforth; her brother Larry Prock; and recently her daughter, Suzanne Cutsforth (m. Randall Purchase).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Pendleton Friends of the Library or to Good Shepherd Vange John Memorial Hospice.

A View from the Hill

A view of Willow Creek Terrace last month saw some changes, including some special activities, and promises to feature several more additions to the routine this month.

Always a favorite is the celebration of a resident's birthday, and David Azevedo, the youngster in the community, will be sharing his 63rd birthday with family and friends on the 10th. Rita Dezoete will soon follow with her celebration of 92 years on the 12th. And Dorothy Green will close September with a celebration of her 101st birthday on the 30th! Heading up the preparations for the birthday lunches will be the new chef, Shawn Lifferth, who joined the staff last month. But having to miss those celebrations is Bria Brownie, who is soon leaving for college, with well wishes from all.

Visitors do not have to wait until a birthday celebration brings them to the Terrace, and recently Joyce Ward's three children - Ron, Sandra, and Judy - came for lunch and a chat. Bev Sherman was pleased with a visit from grandson Kyle, and Alex Camarillo welcomed a great-great grandson (and parents) from Florida.

Thanks to Silver Creek Contracting and Jay Keithley as supervisor, the Terrace activities will take place under a new roof.

Spiritually Speaking

Father Thankachan Joseph



Do you have a personal experience of Christ in your life?

We are all very much influenced by what others think and say about us. We all like to be well thought of by others. There is a danger here. We might make popularity the goal of our lives, and we might forget that the only thing that matters is the reality of who and what we are. No matter what others may think of me, God thinks well of me, because I am His child. In today's Gospel reading we come across a similar situation in which the Lord Jesus asks His disciples about the hearsay, what people say about Him and what their opinion is about Jesus, whom they follow. Do you have an answer to this question: "But who do you say that I am?"

The first reading from prophet Isaiah (50:4-9) describes a partial answer to this question: that He is the suffering Servant who has come to the world to redeem all of us from slavery and stain of sin. In the middle section of Isaiah, chapters 40-55, there are four short passages that scholars have called the Songs of the Suffering Servant. Isaiah describes God's message of liberation and salvation, and the degradation and suffering Israel could endure for the rest of the world. But Jesus saw aspects of His own life and mission foreshadowed in the Servant Songs while in the Gospel, He foretells His passion, death, and resurrection for the first time, after Peter's profession of faith in Him as the Messiah and Savior. Jesus identifies Himself and His mission with the sorrowful figure of humiliation and suffering, the Lord's servant. Like the servant described in today's first reading, Jesus's life was one of radical obedience and conformity to God's will. Thus, the prophet Isaiah invites all to be like the Messiah, be obedient to the will of your parents and elders like Jesus as the suffering Messiah.

The Gospel reading from Mark (8:27-35) describes the journey of Jesus and His disciples from northern Galilee to Jerusalem. Along the way, Jesus gives instructions about His identity and what it meant to follow him (discipleship). Today's Gospel, the first of the three times Jesus foretold His passion, death, and resurrection, consists of two sections: the messianic confession of Peter and Jesus's prediction of His Passion and death, followed by His clear teaching on discipleship. In this particular Gospel passage, are two pertinent questions that the Lord has put before His disciples. The first question: "What is the public opinion?" Their answer is, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." All these answers were, we can say, hearsay about Jesus.

The second question that the Lord has put before His disciples is the same question that He would like to put before us all too. Especially those of us who have been following Christ Jesus for several years. From my birth itself what have I learned about this person whom I follow, called Christ? So, Jesus is personally asking this question of each of us who are followers and believers who need to answer it: "Who do you say that I am? What is your opinion?" For the first time in their relationship Peter, speaking for the other disciples, declares publicly: "You are the Christ (Messiah) the Son of the living God." It is evident that Jesus was well pleased with Peter's answer. Jesus first pronounces a blessing upon Peter, the only disciple in the Gospels to receive a personal blessing.

We can conclude by saying that it was Peter's lived experience with Christ for three years, very close with Him, that prompted him to respond as he did. Now, if we are asked by Christ the same question, do you have a personal answer to give to Christ as Peter did? In conclusion, we can see that Jesus was quick to explain to the disciples that He was not a political messiah who would re-establish the Davidic kingdom after ousting the Romans. Instead, He was the Messiah who would redeem mankind by His suffering, death, and resurrection. Like the Suffering Servant in the first reading, Jesus accepted suffering as part of His mission and out of fidelity toward the one whom He called "Father." Jesus's example provides a challenge for us all to accept the mystery of the cross when our turn comes to follow the Suffering Servant and Suffering Messiah.

Lawrence "Larry" Lindsay



Lawrence "Larry" Lindsay was born during a snowstorm February 1st, 1937. His parents, Rosella and Alex Lindsay almost didn't make it to St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton from their home near Lexington due to weather and car trouble. Larry was their miracle child, the only son they thought might never be, their pride and joy. His little boy footprints are stamped in concrete at the end of the front walk outside the "home ranch" house where he grew up and where he passed away September 8th, 2024, surrounded by his family.

Larry attended grade school in Lexington before transferring to St. Joseph's Academy in Pendleton. After high school (Class of 1955), he attended the University of Portland where he studied finance, participated in Air Force ROTC, and met his future wife, Corrine (Remily). He graduated as valedictorian of his UP class in 1959, then attended Georgetown Law School in Washington, DC. When his father died suddenly in June 1960, Larry's future plans changed. After serving his country in the Air Force, he returned home to the ranch—all the while courting Corrine who had graduated valedictorian of her UP class (1961) and was then studying chemistry on a Fulbright Scholarship in Germany. Larry put his exceptional writing abilities to good use and convinced her to marry him and become a rancher's wife. They celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on September 7th, 2024.

Larry lived a full life with both joys and sorrows. Losing his dad at a young age taught him to lean into the promises of Christ. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart: and you will find rest for your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). He loved the Lord, especially in the Eucharist. For a time, he drove his family to monthly all-night adoration devotions at Holy Rosary Parish in Portland, instilling in his children the wondrous mystery of

the presence of Christ, so that home on the ranch, in the dust and sage, they knew Christ was present there, too. He prayed the Scriptures, rosary, and often daily Mass. He lived his faith through acts of generosity, both small and large, such as when he and Corrine sponsored several Vietnamese families—40 persons in all—escaping the aftermath of war. He loved to read, especially about history and his faith. He preserved several sections of the Old Oregon Trail on the family ranch and wrote a history of the Catholic Church in eastern Oregon. He loved music, played the violin and accordion, and encouraged his children with music lessons and access to a symphony of instruments. He was a pioneer in irrigation and served for over fifty years as an elected commissioner of the Port of Morrow, bringing economic development to the region. He relied on God's grace to see him through the rough financial times that so many family farms faced in the 1980s. Grace sustained him through the deaths of three of his children (John, Claire, and Barney), and it was grace that fortified him for the difficult journey through dementia.

While grace is present in sorrow, it is more readily recognized in joy. Larry could laugh so hard he shook all over. He clipped cartoons from the newspaper and shared them with his family. He delighted in a good joke and often had one ready for his many speaking engagements on various community boards. He attended his kids' (and then his grandkids') ball games, brought snacks and treats to the harvest field, and was a master fly swatter.

Larry was a good man, devoted to God and family, country and community. May he rest in peace. Larry is survived by his wife Corrine, children Ann (John) Murray, Cathy (Lawrence) Pedro, Alex (Terreca) Lindsay, Theresa (Arne Henning) Pihl, (Kimberly Lindsay), Dan (Ashley) Lindsay, Joe (Leanne) Lindsay, thirty-one grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, September 18th, 2024, pm at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner, Oregon. A rosary will be held Tuesday evening, September 17, at 7 p.m. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements. You may sign the online condolence book at www.sweeneymortuary.com

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