

OBITUARIES

**Cecile A. Gooding**

**Milton-Freewater**  
August 28, 1930-May 19, 2015

Cecile A. Gooding was born on August 28, 1930, in Siletz, Oregon, to parents James and Leona Parmenter Wilson. She died on May 19, 2015, in Milton-Freewater, Oregon, at the age of 84 years.



Gooding

In 1943 she moved from Siletz to the Barlow, Oregon, area where she attended and graduated from the Canby High School. She married Charles P. Gooding on November 26, 1952, at the Aurora Lutheran Church. She had several jobs: farming, raising her family, summers picking anything from berries to beans, and later becoming a bookkeeper working for a hospital in Wilsonville. She moved to Hermiston in 1970 where she lived in the same home until 2014. There she worked as a bookkeeper for Good Shepherd Hospital and later Ron Noland Doors. She also did bookwork for the family-owned gas station and mini-mart.

Cecile enjoyed the annual deer and elk hunting trips, clamming, vacationing at the Oregon Coast, and time visiting with family and friends. Her hobbies were sewing,

beading and reading, but her true passion was gardening and quilting. We will always cherish her beautiful quilts!

She is survived by her sons Rick Gooding and wife Belinda, Gresham, Ore., John Gooding and wife Kathy, Milton-Freewater, Ore., and Alan Gooding, Pendleton, Ore.; daughter Kathy Jewett and husband Mike, Hermiston, Ore.; brothers Jim Wilson, Aurora, Ore., Don Wilson and wife Pat, Meza, Ariz., and Bill Wilson, Meza, Ariz.; sisters Virginia Yoder, Mollala, Ore., and Jean Christianson, West Salem, Ore.; grandchildren Nicole, Megan, Angela, Melissa, Joseph, Kayla and CJ.; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Cecile was preceded in death by her husband Charles P. Gooding, sister Nancy Palmer, and her parents.

Disposition was by cremation. A private family service will be held at a later date.

Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home of Milton-Freewater, Oregon, was in care of arrangements.

**Lois Lorene Wells**

**Richland, Wash.**  
May 25, 2015

Lois Wells, a long-time resident of the Umatilla/Tri-City area, went to be with the Lord on Monday the 25th of May at Richland Life Care Center.



Wells

She was survived by her son Jerri Wells and wife Sharon; son Kenneth Wells; grandchildren Diane Daugherty and husband Tom, Deanna Gilday and husband Jim, Jerri Mickalson and husband Toby, Carey Wells and wife Cathy, Loreta Wells, Patty Wells, Gary Wells, Alan Wells and wife Beth, and David Mikels along with 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son Garry Wells and daughter Janice Wells.

Born in 1916 in Gustine, Texas, Lois was one of 13 children. She moved to Oregon in the early 1980s after spending most of her life in Texas and Arizona. After raising her four children, she moved to Phoenix, Ariz., and worked as a waitress for over 19 years at the Safari Resort & Restaurant — one of the Valley's most remarkable and luxurious resorts of its time. After moving to Eastern Oregon, Lois also worked as a teacher's aid through the Foster Grandparents Program at McNary Heights Elementary School in Umatilla, Ore.

Lois enjoyed cooking (especially if it meant

trying out a new recipe and sharing it with others), crafting, ceramics and spending time with friends. She loved the land

Lord Jesus with all her heart and attended church and Bible studies regularly. Lois was an avid Yahtzee player and would never turn down the opportunity to play.

Her most treasured times were spent with her family who absolutely adored her and visited every chance they could. She was incredibly proud of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and faithfully took time to stay in contact with them. Any one of her grandchildren would agree that time with "Grandma Lois" was something to be treasured and always filled with laughter, stories, sweet words of wisdom, encouragement, and of course delicious food.

Lois was an inspiration to anyone who was blessed to know her. Her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ was unwavering and her heart's desire was for all to know and experience His unending love and grace. She was a light and joy to this world that will be greatly missed.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Monday, June 1 at 2:00 p.m. at the Event Center at Sunset, 915 Bypass Highway, Richland, WA 99352.

**James Edward 'Jim' Cox**

**Hermiston**  
November 9, 1944-May 21, 2015

James (Jim) Edward Cox passed away peacefully at his home in Hermiston after a valiant but short battle with pancreatic cancer.



Cox

Jim was born in Wenatchee, Washington, at St. Anthony's Hospital, on November 9, 1944. He was the first son of Melvin and Doris Cox. He attended Whitman Elementary School and H.B. Ellison Jr. High School. He was a star Little League pitcher and hitter, played the trumpet in the school band, learned to become an excellent water skier on Lake Chelan and had the largest paper route in Wenatchee.

He moved to Pasco when his father was transferred there in 1959. He enrolled at Pasco Jr. High and played football, basketball and baseball. In the summers he would water ski, play baseball, and work. One summer, too young for a driver's license, he drove out to a farm in the Basin every morning to change sprinklers with his brother, Dennis.

In high school Jim became an outstanding basketball and baseball player. He was a First-Team All-State basketball player his senior year. He continued to play basketball at CBC and was a member of their undefeated team in 1963-64, which was inducted into the NWAC Hall of Fame. He transferred to the University of Denver with his friend, and star player, Byron Beck to play basketball.

He joined the Navy Reserves in 1967 and began working as a switchman for the Northern Pacific Railroad at about the same time. He began active service in the Navy in 1968. He was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Ranger, and after boarding the ship at night, he awoke the next morning to what appeared to be the entire Seventh Fleet responding to the Pueblo Crisis. Also during Jim's tour of

duty on the Ranger they completed a full West Pac cruise to Vietnam. Upon his discharge from the Navy he returned to Pasco and was hired back by the Burlington Northern Railroad as a switchman. It was at this time that he met Gail Pipes and they were married on April 17, 1971.

In the '70s he played competitive basketball and softball with local teams. He began to play golf, which like all of his athletic pursuits he was good at, and it became a lifetime hobby. He also was an avid snow skier. Later in life he and Gail moved to Hermiston, Oregon, on a 20-acre farm where they raised cutting horses and grew alfalfa. Jim competed in cutting events throughout the Northwest. He also became a National Cutting Horse Association director for the state of Oregon.

Jim is survived by his wife Gail of Hermiston and his son Jason of Portland; brother Dennis (Becky); mother-in-law Marguerite Hilgers (Gordon); brother-in-law Gary Pipes (Cathy), nephew Jared and niece Bailey; sister-in-law Geanette Strosahl (Steve); nephew Bill Cox and great-nieces Brittney and Emily, and nephew Scott Cox (Michelle) and great-nieces Angela and Ashley.

At his request there will be no memorial service. However, there will be a Celebration of Life event to be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's memory may be made to Tri-Cities Cancer Center Foundation, 7350 W. Deschutes Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336 or Vange John Memorial Hospice, 645 W. Orchard Ave., Ste. 300, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Please sign the online guest book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

**Wilma 'Marie' Pierson**

**Hermiston**  
May 13, 1930-May 25, 2015

Wilma "Marie" Pierson of Hermiston, Oregon, was born on May 13, 1930, in Bertha, Missouri, to parents Willie and Anna Burden Medlock. She died on May 25, 2015, in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 85 years.



Pierson

Marie was raised and attended school in Ava, Missouri. She moved to Hermiston, Oregon, in the early 1940s and graduated from Hermiston High School in the class of 1948. Marie was united in marriage to Jack E. Pierson on June 18, 1948, in Lewiston, Idaho. He wrote Marie a little love note every day.

She modeled in Portland, Oregon, in the 1960s and later worked at Stewart's Grocery Store as a clerk. They moved to Ontario, Oregon, in 1972 where Marie owned and operated Petals & Gifts for several years before returning to Hermiston, Oregon, in 1998 where she has lived since. When she returned she worked for Good Shepherd Health System in dietary nutrition until retiring in 2003.

Marie was a member of St. John's Episcopal

Church, Hermiston, Oregon. She enjoyed painting, reading, and interior design.

She is survived by her daughters Susie Jones and husband Bruce, Hermiston, Ore., and Cindi Mitchell and her husband Herschel, Boise, Idaho; grandchildren Becky, Shelly, Stephanie, Jackie (Jennifer), Amanda, Kristy, Adam and Ciara; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Marie was preceded in death by Jack Pierson, her husband; her parents; and sisters Arzan Pierson and Sybil Hamm.

A celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 665 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston, Ore.

Those who wish may make contributions in Marie's memory to the Good Shepherd Foundation Scholarship Fund.

Please sign the online guest book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

**Lucile Urey Peck**

**Lexington**  
April 1, 1921-May 9, 2015

Lucile Urey Peck passed away Saturday, May 9, 2015, in Heppner, Oregon, at the age of 94. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 16, 2015, at the Heppner Christian Church.

She was born on April 1, 1921, at Weiser, Idaho, the daughter of Clarence and Gladys Orcutt Urey. When Lucile was two years old, her family moved to Eugene, Oregon, where she grew up and graduated from high school. She attended the University of Oregon where she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority; Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University); and earned her Bachelors of Arts degree at Marylhurst College.

Lucile taught elementary school in Prineville, Portland and Eugene during World War II. She married Clinton Kenneth Peck in Seattle in 1943. After the war, they moved to the Peck farm near Lexington, Oregon. She became an enthusiastic farm wife and was always proud of their farming accomplishments. She taught school for many years in Heppner.

Her interest included painting, sewing, genealogy, reading and writing. She was the editor of the

Morrow County Chronicles for fifteen years, and was the author of three history books. She collected antique buttons. She spent many hours skiing with her family and she enjoyed playing golf. In 1980 at age 59 she earned her private pilot's license. Lucile was a member of Bookworms (book club), Eastern Star, and the Church of Christ. She served on the Morrow County Medical Board and the Heppner Library Board.

She is survived by her husband Clinton K. "Ken" Peck of Lexington; son Stephen K. Peck and Kaye Peck of Walla Walla, Washington; daughter Martha Peck Andrews and James Andrews, Portland, Oregon; brother Bruce Urey and Kelly Urey of Vida, Oregon; five grandchildren: Jennifer Peck Dobson, Christopher P. Andrews, Hilary Peck Mahoney, Benjamin J. Andrews, and Joseph N. Peck; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests contributions in her memory to the charity of your choice.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in care of arrangements.

**Obituary Policy**

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