

OBITUARIES

MLou Williams

Hermiston

November 25, 1942 - May 30, 2018

MLou Williams of Hermiston, Oregon, passed away on May 30, 2018 at Chaplaincy Hospice House in Kennewick, Washington.

Mary Louise Keeney Williams (MLou) was born at home on Nov. 25, 1942 in Nubieber, California, to Orley Warren Williams and Callie Louise Sloan Williams. Just after her first birthday the family, including her sister, Sue Ella, then age 2, moved to Tri-Cities, Washington, where her parents started work at Hanford, her father as a power operator and her mother in a metallurgy lab.

MLou started school in the Quonset huts set up by Sacajawea Grade School, then Sacajawea, then Jason Lee Elementary, Chief Joseph Junior High, and graduated from Columbia High School in Richland in 1960. She attended Columbia Basin Junior College, Whitworth College in Spokane and graduated in 1972 from the University of Washington with a bachelor's degree in communications. At 47, she earned perfect grades and in one year completed her master's degree in library science at the University of Pennsylvania.

She worked for the Tri-City Herald, St. Helens Sentinel-Mist Chronicle, Everett Daily Herald, Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald. She freelanced for various publications and won photography awards at county fairs in Oregon and Washington and from the Washington Newspaper Association for action sports photos. Her journalism career also brought her a walk through apple orchards with Lorne Greene of Bonanza fame, an evening of chicanery with the then-young Statler Brothers during the Omak Stampede, an internship at the Seattle Science Center in public relations, and an evening of dancing with Swedish oceanic artist Axel Lind.

She married Raymond Bedford (Gus) Keeney in Richland on Aug. 14, 1964. They lived in Richland for a year, then moved to St. Helens, Oregon. There she worked for the state Oregon, then the local newspaper in photography and print shop. She was divorced nine years later, and moved to Seattle to finish college as she managed the print shop for the Catholic Archdiocese, which published the Catholic Northwest Progress, Catholic high school newspapers, and other publications.

After finishing college, she moved to Omak, Washington, where she was society editor, then news editor, of the Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle. In 1976, she was in a life-threatening car crash that cost her six months of recovery. During that time she worked in public relations for Crown Zellerbach in its Omak office and was trained as an audiologist. In 1977, she moved to Hermiston, Oregon, where she became Bureau Chief for the East Oregonian. She covered government and schools, and was presented with an award from the Hermiston Teachers Association for her unbiased coverage of schools.

In 1982, she went to work at the Hermiston Public Library, where her five-year goal was to build a new library. She ran a successful building campaign, wrote grants totaling more than half a million dollars, and automated the library,

the first non-metropolitan library automated in Oregon.

She served on the Oregon State Library's original committee to develop Public Library Standards, and many committees for the Oregon Library Association (OLA.) She participated in many presentations at the OLA annual conference and was published in the OLA Quarterly publication. She was a director on the board of the Public Libraries Association.

Her favorite of many library memories was sharing a bottle of wine and an afternoon chat with Ann Rule, when the author of serial killer Ted Bundy's story was just beginning her book-writing career with "The Stranger Beside Me".

Her library philosophy was "we have something in our library to offend everyone." She believed in free expression and discussion of all ideas, and freedom from censorship. She started special collections in Spanish, large print, CDs, Books on Tape, and videos. She was a modern manager and allowed employees to bring their children to work as needed, finding volunteer work for them when possible. She developed a volunteer program and revitalized the Friends of the Library. She also wrote the grant to hire an automation expert to develop the computer and telephone system for the City of Hermiston.

Her final and favorite job success before retiring after 22 years was funding her dream project, "Elderlibraries," through a grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust. The program is still in place and provides rotating collections of large print materials and videos for local senior living centers. The program was one of the winners of the Governor's 2008 regional Volunteer Awards.

MLou was a charter member and President of the Riverview Toastmistress Club, and a charter member of the Desert Arts Council and National Women's Museum. She was a member of West Side United Protestant Church in Richland. She was a member of Altrusa International of Hermiston for 20 years.

MLou was preceded in death by her mother, Louise, of Alzheimer's in July, 2009; father, Orley Warren Williams, of lung cancer in 1986, and her sister, Sue Ella Williams Bauscus, in a bicycle accident in Seattle, in 1979. Surviving her are nephew, Frederick Harold Bauscus II, of Houston and countless cousins in New Mexico, California and Oklahoma.

Burial is at Einar's Desert Memorial Chapel in Richland. There will be no funeral. MLou loved cats. Donations in her memory may be directed to the Pioneer Humane Society, 517 S.E. Third St., Pendleton, OR 97801 or the Benton-Franklin Humane Society, 1736 E. Seventh Ave., Kennewick, WA 99337.

Do not stand at my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow, I am the diamond glint on snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain, I am the gentle rain. When you wake in the morning hush, I am the swift, uplifting rush, of quiet birds in circling flight, I am the soft starlight at night. Do not stand at my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep.

Anonymous from Northwest Indian News

Charles Wayne Gaede

Stanfield

July 29, 1952 - May 27, 2018

Charles Wayne Gaede was born on July 29, 1952, in Pendleton, Oregon, the son of Manley Sr. and Frances (Sager) Gaede. He passed away at his home in Stanfield on Sunday, May 27, 2018.



Gaede

Charles served in the Oregon Army National Guard where he obtained the rank of first sergeant, was an armor recon specialist and a sharpshooter. In the years before retiring, he helped open the Hermiston Army National Guard station. He retired after over 20 years of service in 1989. He also worked as a diesel mechanic for the Oregon Highway Dept. and later for Con Agra Foods, working 20 years for each.



Charles served on the Stanfield City Council for eight years. He had been a coach for Stanfield Little League for several years. He had a love for cars: working on them, racing them, enjoyed classic cars and watching NASCAR.

He also enjoyed playing games, reading, especially Louis L'Amour books, and spending time with his family. He enjoyed being the best husband, father and grandfather he could be.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Shelley; brothers Clarence, Glen and David; sister Sharon; and granddaughter Chianne.

He is survived by his wife DeEitta; daughter Casey (Randy); son Jerry; granddaughters Kylie, Jaime, Alyssa, Tori, Taylor and McKenzie; brothers Joe, Gayle and Lee; honorary brother Jr.; and sisters Karen, Vickie, Judy, Pat and Tina.

A funeral service was held June 2, 2018, at Burns Mortuary chapel with burial in the Hermiston Cemetery.

To leave an online condolence for the family go to www.burnsmortuary-hermiston.com.

Russell T. Hall

New Rockford, N.D.

April 16, 1974 - May 24, 2018

Russell T. Hall, age 44, New Rockford, N.D., formerly of Hermiston, Ore., passed away on Thursday, May 24, 2018, at his home.



Hall

Russell Teddy Hall was born on April 16, 1974, in Honolulu, Hawaii, the oldest son of Gary and Roma (Huff) Hall. He grew up in Baker, Ore., before moving to Hermiston in 1984. He attended school in Baker and Hermiston, graduating from Hermiston High School in 1992. Later he attend ITT Technical Institute, graduating in 2002.

He married Heather Lund on September 6, 2008, in Umatilla, Ore. The two met by chance; their family friend Karen set them up on a blind date and it was almost love at first sight. Together they made their lives in Stanfield, Ore., where they had two children. Angelina came just a year after they were married on September 24, 2009, and Theodore was born April 23, 2012.

In 2016, they moved their family to New Rockford, N.D., for a better job opportunity and to be close to Heather's family. Russell worked in retail for 14 years before getting hired at Dakota Growers Pasta Plant, where he found work he truly loved as a machine operator.

Russell loved spending time with his family. They would spend Sundays as their family day and went on many outings. He enjoyed thrift store shopping, always looking for a great find. He enjoyed camping with his family,

and riding bike with his kids. He spent time playing video games, watching movies and listening to music, all which helped with his enthusiasm with trivia.

He was a dedicated husband and father; he did everything he could for his family. He never gave up on caring for them no matter how hard things were or how much pain he was in.

He was a member of New Rockford Evangelical Free Church, where he ran the sound board for services.

Russell is survived by his wife Heather Hall of New Rockford; his children Angelina, 8, and Theodore, 6; parents Gary and Roma Hall, Hermiston, Ore.; brother Travis (Andrea) Hall, Redmond, Ore.; sister Stephanie (Andrew) Walchi, Hermiston, Ore.; seven aunts and uncles; and 14 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Russell and Grace Hall; maternal grandparents Theodore and Lois Huff; and one aunt, Inez Andreas.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made directly to the family. Online condolences may be sent at www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com

Visitation and funeral were held previously in New Rockford, N.D.

Memorial: Saturday, June 16, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. in Stanfield Baptist Church, Stanfield, Ore. Officiating: Pastor John Hurty, Special Music: Maria Hurty, pianist.

Jean Croxen

Hermiston

July 20, 1929 - June 25, 2017

Jean Croxen was born on July 20, 1929, in Baker, Oregon, to parents Alexander and Susie Payne Simonis. She died on June 25, 2017, at her home in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 87.



Croxen

Jean was raised and attended school in Richland, Oregon. She later lived in places, primarily throughout the Pacific Northwest, before settling in the Hermiston area in 1980.

She had worked at Lamb Weston, Good Shepherd Hospital, McNary Dam and Walmart, although most people knew Jean as their Avon representative. Jean married Thomas Croxen Jr. on February 14, 1993, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

She was a member of the Hermiston Eagles Lodge #2909. Jean played piano as a child and later raced cars in the Women's Powder Puff series in Salem, Oregon. She enjoyed flowers, gardening, socializing, traveling, and playing card games

with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her sons Earl O'Dell, Katy, Texas, and Stephen Hankins, Sugarland, Texas; daughters Patti Hankins, Umatilla, Ore., and D'vorah Hasheev, Bellaire, Texas; and numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband Tom Croxen Jr.; son Donald O'Dell; her parents; sisters Ruth and Lois; and brothers Harlan, Harold, Lloyd and Floyd.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, June 9, 2018, at 10 a.m. at Burns Mortuary chapel, Hermiston, Oregon.

People who wish may make contributions in Jean's memory to Go Fund Me "Spruce Up For Jean" @ gf.me/u/ispt8u

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.

Roy Lee Thornhill

Salem

September 29, 1955 - May 7, 2018

Roy Lee Thornhill was born in Hermiston, Oregon, on September 29, 1955, and passed away May 7, 2018, after an unexpected heart attack.



Thornhill

Roy received his GED and worked many odd jobs throughout his life.

Most notably, Roy was a volunteer firefighter with the Hermiston Fire Department.

Roy loved to paint, and take pictures. He was known for the love and pride he felt for his children.

Roy Lee is survived by his mother Sharon

Hickey-Waters, stepfather Ronald Waters, sister Sunan Waters-Sutton, and three children Shawn Thornhill, Amanda Thornhill, and Natasha

Hodges-Chapman. He was a grandfather to Nadia and Atlas Chapman.

He is preceded in death by his sister Treena Waters-Colins, and father Leroy Thornhill.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. June 16, 2018, at Salem First Presbyterian Church, 770 Chemeketa St. NE, Salem, OR 97301.

DEATH NOTICES

William D. 'Bill' Cram

Hermiston

April 29, 1953 - June 3, 2018

William D. "Bill" Cram, 65, of Hermiston died Sunday, June 3, 2018, in Heppner. He was born April 29, 1953, in Redmond. Arrangements are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Curtis E. 'Curt' Hinkle

Umatilla

Nov. 15, 1928 - May 31, 2018

Curtis E. "Curt" Hinkle, 89, of Umatilla died Thursday, May 31, 2018, in Hermiston. He was born Nov. 15, 1928, in Barnsdall, Oklahoma. Services are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Patricia 'Nanny' 'Patty' Martinez

Hermiston

March 17, 1965 - May 28, 2018

Patricia "Nanny" "Patty" Martinez, 53, of Hermiston died Monday, May 28, 2018. She was born March 17, 1965, in Ontario. Arrangements are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

BIRTHS

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

MAY 22, 2018

CHRISTENSEN — Alexis Carin Ashcraft and Dylan Jonathon Christensen of Hermiston: a boy, Rykyr Mayson Christensen.

MAY 25, 2018

LEPE-LANDEROS — Victoria Landeros and Jose Lepe of Umatilla: a girl, Ariana Sophia Lepe-Landeros.

MAY 29, 2018

BAILEY — Kourtney Dawn Bailey and Devin Shane Bailey of Stanfield: a girl, Reigni Dawn Bailey.

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