OBITUARIES

John Michael 'Mike' Driscoll

Bullhead City, Ariz.
September 23, 1947 - August 29, 2018

John Michael "Mike" Driscoll was born on September 23, 1947, in Los Angeles, California. He died peacefully at his home in Bullhead City with his wife Carole, son Tim, daughter Tabby and brother Brian by his side.

Driscoll

Mike was the oldest of seven siblings in a Catholic Irish family born to parents John Miller Driscoll and Helen Marie Driscoll. He met his wife Carole Lee (aka Fluffy) Fay in San Fernando, California, in 1967 and they were married on November 6, 1969, in Las Vegas.

In 1976, Mike moved his family from Saugus, California, to Hermiston, Oregon, to raise their children and be involved with the community. During that time he sold institutional groceries and equipment for S.E. Rykoff before retiring in 1991. He and Carole bought Frasus Restaurant in 1993 and operated it along with starting TCB Transportation. Mike's love of driving trucks compelled them to sell Frasus Restaurant in 1998 to put all of their effort into the trucking company. They moved to Bullhead City, Arizona, in November of 2017 to enjoy retirement.

Mike's love for people took him to auctions, wheeling and dealing, teasing, giving advice, helping, and being a good listener. Mike loved to go to the car races, driving his own race car in the '70s, going camping and as he got older he loved to camp with his children and their children. He was always doing things with his grandchildren and enjoyed being surrounded by their laughter and play fighting.

Mike was a man of his word and a hand shake sealed any deal. He spoke honestly and from the heart and you best not ask for his opinion unless you were big enough to accept his answer.

During his years in Hermiston he made many friends from all walks of life and was a dad and papa to many in the community. He loved the fair and rodeo and was a silent helper in both along with countless donations for school sports and FFA. A man that lived his life his way!

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Carole Lee Driscoll; son Timothy Paul Driscoll Myles (Kimberley); daughters Cynthia Lynne Driscoll (Dennis Whitaker) and Tabby Akers (Robby), plus a bonus daughter, Karen Michele Primmer (Doug); grandchildren Brent Driscoll, Shilo Fay, Deven (Jessie) Patrick, Tamara Myles, Kyle Qualls, Sevana (Ethan) Reardon, Derek Whitaker, Jason (Chrissy) Primmer, Jessica (Kris) Jenson, James Primmer, Cody Primmer, Savannah Whitaker, Christopher Jones, Courtney Qualls, Mayakla Akers, Faith Akers and Robby Akers; great-grandchildren Aria Patrick, Quinn Patrick, Cloie Corbin, Gadge Primmer, Gunner Primmer and Klay Jenson; brothers Barry (Gina) Driscoll, Neal (Faye) Driscoll and Brian Driscoll; sisters Colleen Wieland and Cathy (Jim) McAlpine; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Timothy Patrick Driscoll; son Michael Andrew Fay; and daughter Tamara Denise Driscoll.

Memorial services will be held at Burns Mortuary on September 22, 2018, at 11 a.m. with a celebration of life following at Skip Walchli farm, 32697 E. Loop Road, Hermiston.

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.

Judith Amanda Reeves Kinney

Spokane, Wash.
September 1, 2018

Judith Amanda Reeves Kinney passed away September 1, 2018, after fighting so hard and so long. We admire her courage, strength and dignity through her battle. As God took her by the hand, she was reluctant to leave, telling the doctors she was not yet ready to go.

Kinney

Judith is survived by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, friends and family. She will be missed always.

In Hermiston, Ore., a committal is scheduled September 15, 2018, at 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery. In Spokane, Wash., a memorial service is scheduled September 22, 2018, at 10 a.m. at Central Lutheran Church, 512 S. Bernard St. (99204).

Rayford Lloyd 'Bear' Miears Sr.

Hermiston
December 29, 1951 - August 5, 2018

Rayford Lloyd "Bear" Miears Sr. was born on December 29, 1951, in Artesia, California, to parents Raymond and Aubrey Cook Miears. He died on August 5, 2018, at his home in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 66 years.

Miears

Bear has lived in the Hermiston, Oregon, area since the 1980s. He had a love for motorcycles, especially Harleys, and for his many friends who he enjoyed sharing stories with. Bear enjoyed playing poker and cherished spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his sons Ray and his wife Regina, and Tim and his wife Josie; mother Aubrey; brother Gene; sister Shelly; grandchildren Carlos, Miranda, Josiah, Brandon and Stephanie; and numerous nieces and friends.

Bear was preceded in death by his father.

In memory of Bear, honor him by going for a ride.

A celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018, at 10 a.m. at Burns Mortuary chapel, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.

Alan Stone Grossmiller

Hermiston
June 13, 1920 - July 20, 2018

Alan was born on June 13, 1920, as a tiny preemie baby to Charles and Florence Grossmiller. Doctors said he would only live a few months. Alan passed away July 20, 2018, at the age of 98.

Grossmiller

Alan grew up on a family farm, near Eagle Creek, Oregon. Alan graduated from Oregon City High School in 1939, then went to diesel engineering school in Portland. Upon graduation Alan worked as a machinist in Portland for three years. Alan then enlisted in the Army Air Force and spent 2 1/2 years in the Aleutian Islands as a nose gunner on a B24. Al attained the rank of master sergeant.

Upon discharge from the military Alan moved to Echo, Oregon, where his parents owned a dairy farm. Alan purchased a partnership in a machine shop in Echo and in the early 1950s married Margarita (Peggy) Dahl of Echo.

Al sold his part of the machine shop and went to work at Boeing's wind tunnel in Seattle. While working for Boeing Al was assigned the task of taking the designs and building the first prototype space shuttle for the Boeing Space program. In January 1983 his wife Peggy passed away and Al retired after working 25 years for Boeing and moved to Hermiston. In June of 1988 Al married Jabudah Miller of Hermiston.

Al and Jabudah built a beautiful home north of Hermiston, sold it and moved to Baker City. After traveling around the Northwest digging for gems and rocks, in 2002 they returned to Hermiston. After 29 years of a happy and fun-filled marriage, Jabudah passed away on July 3, 2017.

Al enjoyed creating and designing in metal, wood and lapidary. Al made, designed and sold pens, coffee, salt and pepper grinders, cutting boards, bowls and much more. Al was a gemologist who made and designed all kinds of fine jewelry. Al was masterful in his ability to create anything he wanted from metal.

Al is proceeded in death by his parents Charles and Florence Grossmiller and his wives Peggy and Jabudah, nephews Cary Grossmiller and Kenneth Bowman, and stepdaughter Pennelope Cano. Al is survived by his brother Donald (Mary) Grossmiller of Portland; nieces Nicki (Tom) Pierce, Jonyaln (Michael) Horsesall and Clydie Johnson, and nephew Kelly (Carol) Grossmiller, all of Portland; nephews John Bowman (Donna) and James Bowman of Umatilla; and his stepchildren Raymond (Barbara) Miller of Portland, and Linda Miller, Benjamin Miller and Sheila Cross of Hermiston.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, September 29 at 11 a.m. at the Stanfield Baptist Church, with a meal following.

Donations can be made to the Hermiston VFW, Rock Hound Club or your favorite charity.

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.

Benjamin Eugene Coombes

Hermiston
December 11, 1927 - September 7, 2018

On September 7, 2018, Benjamin Eugene Coombes went to be with his savior after 90+ years on this earth. He passed peacefully while surrounded by his family.

Coombes

He was born in Yakama, Washington, to Oscar and Maude Coombes on December 11, 1927. Many of his early years were spent in and around Baker City, Oregon. He went to high school in Stanfield, Oregon, distinguishing himself in athletics. He graduated in 1947 (the only four-year letterman that year). He held the Eastern Oregon half-mile track record for Class B schools for many years. After graduating, he attended Eastern Oregon College in La Grande.

He worked a number of jobs including felling timber with his brother Jasper and working a lead mine near Ouray, Colorado. He was drafted into the United States Army during the Korean War in 1950 and served honorably until his discharge, when he returned home and continued to serve in the Oregon National Guard.

Upon discharge he went to work for the Mayflower Milk Company in Hermiston, Oregon, where he met his future wife, Doris Ufford. Ben and Doris in their nearly 65 years together raised four children: Deanna, David, Duane and Della. He worked for Mayflower for 21 years and later another 16 years for the Umatilla County road department.

Ben was elected and served on the Stanfield School Board for 10 years. He was very active in his local church (Stanfield Baptist) and also Child Evangelism Fellowship. He and Doris moved from their small family farm in the Stanfield/Echo Meadows early in 2017 to reside at Sun Terrace in Hermiston.

He is survived by his loving wife Doris Coombes; children Deanna and Mike Frantum, David Coombes, Duane and Elizabeth Coombes, and Della and Tom Jackson; siblings Jasper and Lois Coombes, George Coombes, and Edward and Karen Coombes; 11 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and nieces Sheila Cross and Linda Miller, who were very involved in his life, especially in the later years. Granddaughter Crystal Coombes relocated to Hermiston, Ore., to help grandma and grandpa for a time.

He was known for his many unique sayings, positive quick humor and self-taught harmonica skills. He will be long remembered for the joy he brought to those around him, and will be missed by all.

Those who wish may make contributions in Ben's memory to the Stanfield Baptist Church, Stanfield, Oregon. A celebration of life service with military honors will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018, at 10 a.m. at the Stanfield Baptist Church, 310 Wheeler Ave., Stanfield, OR.

Please sign the online condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.

Thomas Edward Matheson

Irrigon/Prineville
March 27, 1936 - September 5, 2018

Thomas Edward Matheson was born to Sue and Tom Matheson in Vinita, Oklahoma. He attended school in Tulsa, Okla., graduating in 1954 from Central High School. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science in 1958 and then Baylor Medical School, completing his doctorate in medicine in 1962. He worked at Methodist hospital in Houston, Texas, and Charity Hospital in New Orleans, La., before he took his first practice position on The San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona under the Indian Health Service of the United States under the branch of the U.S. Coast Guard. He then moved to Miami/Globe, Arizona, and worked as the company physician of the Miami Inspiration Copper Company until he and his family moved to Prineville, Oregon, in 1971. He was in private practice at Prineville Medical Clinic and Pioneer Health Care and continued to work as a part-time hospitalist at Pioneer Memorial Hospital until 2012 when he retired from the community after 41 years of practice.

Matheson

He married Kay Doran Matheson on December 26, 1959, in Claremore Oklahoma, and they had two children, Blair Matheson and Kimberly (Matheson) Crofcheck, and a foster son, Jim Oliver. Tom and Kay were married until 2008 when Kay lost a long battle with ovarian cancer.

His greatest love was doing yardwork, reading, spending time with family, raising bird dogs and he was an avid upland bird hunter. He spent time every fall traveling to North Dakota and Arizona hunting pheasant and quail. He loved sports and enjoyed watching his grandchildren, Sarah, Erin, Morgan and Brady, in all of their athletic, extracurricular and academic activities.

He was a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and took pride in documenting and sharing his historical knowledge with the state of Oklahoma and had donated a plot of family land to the state of Oklahoma as a historical site for the Cherokee Nation.

He served on the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, was a member of the American Academic of Family Physicians, and was a founding member of the American Association of Indian Physicians. He was on the advisory board for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oregon and was considered a mentor to many of the medical personnel in Prineville throughout his long and prosperous career as a family practice physician.

He volunteered his time to the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, serving as one of the attending physicians along with his son Blair. He was honored by the rodeo in November of 2017 for his contributions.

He married Joyce (Hensley) Matheson on June 26, 2010, and moved to Irrigon, Oregon. He enjoyed their multiple trips to South America, growing tomatoes and flowers, and sitting on their back porch. He and Joyce took many trips around the United States and getting to know Joyce's extended family. He continued to practice medicine part-time at St. Anthony's urgent care in Pendleton, Oregon, until October of 2017.

He lost this last battle to cancer although he conquered non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1989 and again in 1996.

He is survived by his wife Joyce Matheson (Irrigon, Ore.) and her many family members; his son Dr. Blair Matheson and grandchildren Morgan and Brady Matheson (North Dakota); his daughter Kimberly (Matheson) Crofcheck, his son-in-law Dan Crofcheck, and his granddaughters Sarah (Crofcheck) Shinkle and her husband Jake Shinkle, (Prineville), and Erin Crofcheck and her significant other Adam Mackie, (Bend, Ore.); and his foster son Jim Oliver and his family from Madras Oregon. He is also survived by his sister Suzanne (John) Burgess of Tyler, Texas, and their daughter Rebecca and family.

He is preceded in death by his first wife, Kay Matheson, his mother Sue Apperson, and his father Tom Blair Matheson.

He would like to thank his family, friends, patients, staff and colleagues for the many years of support while practicing medicine and enjoyed living and contributing to the communities of Prineville, Pendleton and Irrigon.

Please come celebrate Tom Matheson's life at 11 a.m. at the Crook County High School auditorium on Saturday, October 13 with a gathering to follow at Prineville Golf Club. A second service will be held Saturday, Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. at Columbia View Community Church in Irrigon, with a luncheon following in the main room downstairs.

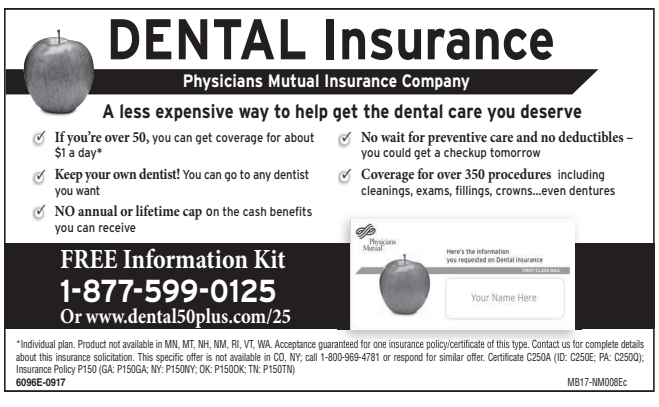
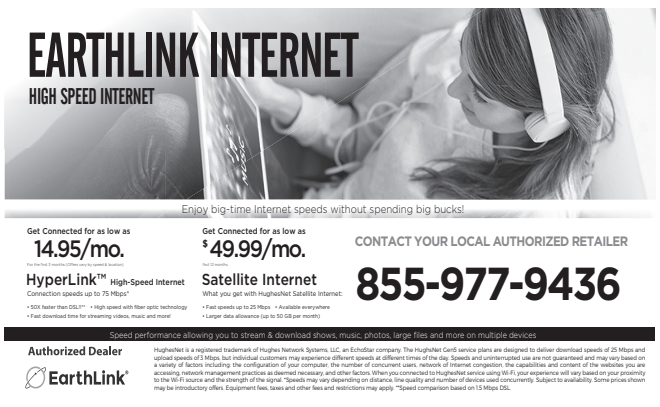
In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Academy of Indian Physicians (aaip.com) or St. Charles Hospice of Prineville, 446 N.E. Third St., Prineville, OR 97754 (www.stcharleshealthcare.org/Our-Services/Hospice-Care).

BIRTHS

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

AUG. 31, 2018

ROSALES — Katie Ambrose and Roberto Rosales of Hermiston: a girl, BrieAnn Marie Rosales.

SEPT. 4, 2018

BISHOP — Akasha Bishop and Nathan Bishop of Umatilla: a girl, Raina Denise Ann Bishop.