

OBITUARIES

Ronald Ray Baker

Hermiston

December 26, 1933 — March 28, 2019

Ronald Ray Baker of Hermiston, Oregon, died on March 28, 2019, at the age of 85.

He was born on December 26, 1933, in Pasco, Washington, to parents Edwin Markham and Mary Margorie Baker. He was the oldest of three children, with brother Duane Baker and sister Mardine Larsen. The family resided in Kahlotus, Washington, until 1937 when they moved to a dryland wheat ranch south of Ione, Oregon. Ron was very active in 4-H livestock projects and enjoyed showing both beef and sheep. In 1951 he earned a delegate trip to the national 4-H camp in Washington, D.C., as well as graduated from Ione High School as the valedictorian.

Ron attended Washington State University. While there he was very active, receiving the 1954 Danforth Fellowship for outstanding student in the college of agriculture, president of the Associated Students of College of Agriculture, president and founding father of Farm House Fraternity, named to Top Ten of graduating seniors, received his Bachelor of Science in animal science with highest honors, but most important and rewarding met his future wife of over 61 years, Jane Irene Jacobson.

On June 19, 1955, Ron and Jane were married and moved to a small ranch in Hermiston, Oregon. He worked for two years for Doane Agricultural Services as agricultural management consultant. In 1957 he established Beef Acres, which was a 3,000-head beef feedlot just off Loop Road. In 1961 along with Phillip Cohn they developed C and B Livestock, Inc., which was a modern cattle and lamb feedyard, south of Hermiston on Feedville Road. In 1969 he established the Beef Improvement Division of C and B, which was a cattle breeding program to help establish superior breeding genetics to help producers meet the demands for quality and cutability. Through his exploration and breeding of many different cattle breeds he always found the ones that rose to the top by his standards and that was the Angus and the Simmental breeds.

Ron was always very active in both state and national organizations including from 1965-70 being on the National Cattlemen's Association mar-

keting committee, which later helped spearhead the formation of "Cattle Fax" as well as from 1972-74 on the blue ribbon task force committee to the National Livestock and Meat Board. He also enjoyed leadership roles with associations such as the Oregon Cattleman's and the American Simmental. In 1972 he was awarded the Commercial Feeder of the Year

by Feedlot Management. In 1973 he developed the PTL farming operation that was 3,000 acres of undeveloped farm ground off Powerline Road. By 1974 C and B had expanded to 18,000 head of cattle and 18,000 head of lambs. In 1976 Ron was awarded the Commercial Producer of the Year by the Beef Improvement Federation and in 1985 was recognized as the National Cattleman Businessman of the Year by the National Cattlemen's Association.

Ron was a founding member of Hermiston Christian Center and a member of the Hermiston Rotary Club since 1965.

He is survived by brother Duane Baker and wife Mary of Pleasanton, Calif.; sister Mardine Larsen and husband Don of Wenatchee, Wash.; daughter Sheila Banke and husband Dan of McMinnville, Ore.; daughter Colleen Williams and husband Randy of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; daughter Suzanne Coggins and husband Craig of San Antonio, Texas; daughter Serena Beason and husband Jim of Fair Oaks, Calif.; son Ray Baker of Hermiston, Ore.; grandchildren Nathaniel (Lindsey), Caleb (Annie), Danielle (Jadon), Rachel, Abby, Hannah, Kennedy, Kambree and Kilee; and great-grandchildren Jude, Preston and Everett.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, and his wife Jane Baker.

In lieu of flowers or contributions the family asks that you take a devotional time with our Lord and Savior and thank him for his blessings and mercy.

A celebration of life service will be held on Thursday, May 30, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. at Hermiston Christian Center, 1825 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston, Ore., followed by a celebration.

Please share memories of Ron with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

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



Baker

Nicholas Lawrence 'Nick' Demos

Hermiston

September 23, 1934 — May 16, 2019

Nicholas Lawrence "Nick" Demos of Hermiston, Oregon, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on May 16, 2019, at the age of 84.

Nick was born on September 23, 1934, in Troy, New York, to parents Nicholas and Helen (Houghtling) Demos. He grew up in foster care in Sacramento, California, graduating from Christian Brothers High School in 1953. He received many accolades and was a tremendous athlete.

In 1954, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was a member of Company G of the 11th Airborne Battle Group, 511th Parachute Infantry Division. Later Company B of the 2nd Airborne Battle Group 505th. Nick earned a National Defense Service Medal, a Parachutist Badge and was an expert rifleman. Nick took great pride in serving his country. Nick often spoke of his boxing days that began in Germany while serving in the Army. He found an immense passion for the sport and that continued even after returning back to the states, where he would compete for the Golden Gloves and win.

Also while stationed in Germany Nick met and married Theresa Wiedemann. Upon Nick's discharge from active duty, the couple moved to Sacramento, California, to raise their five daughters. The two were later divorced. Nick moved to Portland, Oregon, in the mid 1960s where he met Dianne Palmblad. The couple married on March 3, 1967, in Gresham, Oregon. In 1971 they decided to move to the east side of the state and call Hermiston home where they would raise their eight children together.

Nick was energetic and worked extremely hard. He held a variety of jobs including the dairy farm, the garbage company, his own lawn service, Simplot and Walmart Distribution Center. It was not uncommon to have more than one job at the same time. He retired from Simplot in 1995 but

retirement didn't last long, as he was part of the first group to be hired on at the Walmart Distribution Center when it opened in Hermiston in 1998. He later retired from there at the age of 76.

In his free time, Nick enjoyed riding horses, raising chickens and turkeys, skydiving, boxing and creating very large vegetable gardens. Nick also found great joy in the many years he coached his children in Little League baseball and softball.

Nick was preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Dianne, in 2005; and his parents.

He is survived by his eight children, all of Hermiston: Albert, David, Bryon, SuAnne Fitzgerald (John), Kriss Dammeyer (Scott), Tony, Pamela Bartoschek (Aaron) and Vince; eight grandchildren of Hermiston: Nicholas, Zachary, Anne Marie, John Jr., Shy-Anne, Makena, Kaiden and Wesley; five daughters of Germany: Mary Theresa, Barbara, Linda, Norma and Brenda; several grandchildren of Germany; and sister Helen Fittipaldi.

Recitation of the Holy Rosary will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at 12:30 p.m. followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, Hermiston, Oregon. Burial with military honors will follow at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

The family would like to thank Guardian Angel Homes and Vange John Memorial Hospice for their compassion and exceptional care.

Memorial donations may be made to Vange John Memorial Hospice education fund, or Made to Thrive (P.O. Box 684, Hermiston, OR 97838) in honor of Nick's passion for sports.

Please share memories of Nick with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

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



Demos

**Roger and Ruth Frances**

Umatilla

April 17, 1952 — May 12, 2019
September 16, 1950 — May 12, 2019

Roger and Ruth Frances of Umatilla passed away together in Umatilla on Sunday, May 12, 2019.

Roger was born April 17, 1952, in Honolulu, Hawaii, the son of Wallace and Loretta (Jackson) Frances. He was 67 years of age.

Ruth was born September 16, 1950, in Oakland, California, the daughter of Albert and Helen (Skelton) Gonyo. She was 68 years of age.

The couple were united in marriage on November 28, 1987, in Santa Rosa, California. They moved to Umatilla in December of 1987 when Roger began working for the city of Umatilla as their public works superintendent. He retired in 2013 after 26 years of employment. Ruth worked as a housekeeper at the Tillicum Inn for 15 years.

The couple enjoyed riding motorcycles together and watching sports events together (Ruth was a San Francisco Giants and 49ers fan, and Roger was a Dallas Cowboys and Giants fan).

Roger also enjoyed working on cars, hunting, fishing, being in the outdoors and was an avid golfer. He

was a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Chamber of Commerce in Umatilla. Ruth also enjoyed bowling and playing softball.

They are survived by their children Cheri Frances of Santa Rosa, Calif.,

Tamara (James) Purves of Hermiston, Joe (Kristine) Smith of Los Angeles, Calif., and Deanna Beith of Reno, Nev.; Roger's sister, Lindsey Mitchell of Vallejo, Calif.; Ruth's siblings, Jeanine Adams and Ted Stahl; seven grandchildren; many extended family members and close friends.

A Celebration of Life service will be announced at a later time.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

To leave an online condolence for the family please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com



Roger and Ruth Frances

Stella M. Johnston

Hermiston

April 5, 1940 — May 18, 2019

Stella M. Johnston of Hermiston was born April 5, 1940, in Newfoundland, Canada, the daughter of George and Claire (Davis) Tulk. She passed away in Hermiston on Saturday, May 18, 2019, at the age of 79.

Stella grew up and attended her schooling in Newfoundland. She moved to the United States in 1958 and had resided in Hermiston since 1976. She attended beauty college and worked as a beautician and a beauty instructor for several years. In Hermiston, she worked in production for Lamb Weston until retiring in 2002.

Stella enjoyed going to the casino and working with ceramics and pottery.

She married William "Bill" Johnston in Lewis-ton, Idaho, in January of 1961. He preceded her in

death in 1999. She was also preceded in death by a sister, Lorraine Parsons; and a grandson, Shawn Dyer.

She is survived by her son, Mark (Velma) Johnston; grandchildren Lindsey (Sam) Johnston, Angela Miller and Jason (Carla) Dyer; five great-grandchildren: Darrin, Dalton, Tyler, Leanne and Paige Dyer; five brothers, Leo, Gordon, Gilbert, Lloyd and Terry Tulk; and many nieces and nephews and extended family members.

No services will be held. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

Family suggest memorial donations be made to Alzheimer's Research.

To leave an online condolence for the family please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

DEATH NOTICES

William S. 'Bill' Hart

Hermiston

Jan. 6, 1957 — May 15, 2019

William S. "Bill" Hart, 62, of Hermiston, died Wednesday, May 15, 2019, in Hermiston. He was born Jan. 6, 1957, in Winslow, Arizona. A funeral service will be held Friday, May 24 at 4 p.m. in the chapel at Burns Mortuary in Hermiston. A family burial will be held later at Skyview Memorial Park in Pendleton. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Share memories of Bill with the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Alice Barkhurst

Hermiston

Sept. 16, 1945 — May 19, 2019

Alice Barkhurst, 73, of Hermiston, died Sunday, May 19, 2019, in Hermiston. She was born Sept. 16, 1945, in New York, New York. At her request, no service will be held. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Share memories with the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Travis Ray Estes

John Day

May 9, 2019

Travis Ray Estes, 45, of John Day, died Thursday, May 9, 2019, at his home. He will be interred Wednesday, May 22 at noon at the Hermiston Cemetery. His family will honor him with a celebration of his life at a later time. To light a candle in his memory or to offer online condolences to his family, visit www.driskillmemorialchapel.com

Carolyn S. 'Carol' Newby

Hermiston

April 21, 1941 — May 19, 2019

Carolyn S. "Carol" Newby, 78, of Hermiston died Sunday, May 19, 2019, at her home. She was born April 21, 1941, in Charleston, West Virginia. Services are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Share memories with the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Gladys 'Maxine' Winebarger

Hermiston

Oct. 31, 1929 — May 19, 2019

Gladys "Maxine" Winebarger, 89, of Hermiston, died Sunday, May 19, 2019, in Hermiston. She was born Oct. 31, 1929, in Weiser, Idaho. A service will be held at a later date. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Share memories with their family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Kenneth J. 'Ken' Cromer

Hermiston

November 16, 1946 — May 12, 2019

Kenneth J. "Ken" Cromer of Hermiston, Oregon, was born on November 16, 1946, in Walla Walla, Washington, to parents Joe and Alberta Weed Cromer. He died on May 12, 2019, in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 72 years.

Ken was raised and attended schools in Hermiston, Oregon, graduating from Hermiston High School in the class of 1965. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1968 and served for three years during the Vietnam War until his honorable discharge in 1971.

Ken had a painting and drywall business for many years. He was united in marriage to Sally Peatow on December 21, 1991, in Hermiston, Oregon.

Ken enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening and working around his home.

He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Sally Peatow; sons Greg and Douglas Cromer; daughter Kimberly Cromer Adkins; sisters Lenielle Starrett Sloan, Connie Joy Cromer Powers and Marcia Cromer Schneidmiller; brother Brian Starrett; three grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents.

A celebration of life service with military honors was held on Friday, May 17, 2019, at 10 a.m. at Burns Mortuary chapel, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please share memories of Ken with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

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



Cromer

**Vaughn L. Moser Jr.**

Vale

May 16, 2019

Former Hermiston resident Vaughn L. Moser Jr., 53, of Vale, died Thursday, May 16, 2019, at a local care home. Arrangements by Lienkaemper Chapel, Vale. Condolences to the family may be made at www.lienkaemper-thomason.com

Ronda Frazier

Hermiston

June 3, 1958 — May 10, 2019

Ronda Frazier, 60, of Hermiston, died Friday, May 10, 2019, near Hermiston. She was born June 3, 1958, in Walla Walla. A memorial service will be held Sunday, June 2 at 10 a.m. at Hermiston Junior Academy, 1300 N.W. Academy Lane, Hermiston. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. View the full obituary or leave an online condolence for the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Tammy Marie Collins

Hermiston

Feb. 3, 1965 — May 11, 2019

Tammy Marie Collins, 54, of Hermiston, died Saturday, May 11, 2019, in Hermiston. She was born Feb. 3, 1965. No services are planned at this time. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Leave an online condolence for the family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.