

OBITUARIES

Leo Thaut

Hermiston

June 17, 1927 — June 13, 2019

Leo Thaut of Hermiston, Oregon, was born on June 17, 1927, in Union Gap, Washington to parents, Henry and Katherine Koch Thaut. He died on June 13, 2019, in Hermiston, Oregon at the age of 91 years.

Growing up, he worked on his step-father's 1,000-acre wheat ranch. Leo joined the United States Navy as a Yeoman 2nd Class and served in the Seabees where he learned the construction trade. He was honorably discharged and worked with his brother, Mason, on a dairy farm.

Leo was united in marriage to June Scarry on May 4, 1984, in San Jose, California. He worked in construction as a surveyor until retiring in 1989 and they moved to Washington state. They have lived in Hermiston, Oregon, for the last seven years. They were active members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving on missions to St. Kitts & Nevis and Nauvoo, Illinois.

Leo was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by his family. He is survived by his wife, June Thaut, Hermiston, Oregon; children, Sue Lincoln and husband, Mel,

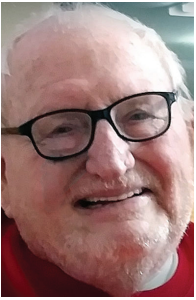
Stockton, California; Phil Thaut and wife, Allison, Elk Ridge, Utah; Jeff Thaut and wife, Dona, Graham, Washington; Annjanette Clayton, Hermiston, Oregon; and Tony Duncan, Hermiston, Oregon; sister, Claire Tessier and her husband, Ernie, San Jose, California; 19 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

Leo was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Heine, Mason Ella and Art, and a son-in-law, Gregory Clayton.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 850 S.W. 11th St., Hermiston, Oregon. Burial with military honors will follow at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in Leo's memory to Alzheimer's Research at www.alz.org

Please share memories of Leo with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.



Thaut



Betty Jean Tucker

Winlock, Washington

Nov. 30, 1934 — June 10, 2019

Betty Jean Tucker, former Umatilla, Oregon, resident of Winlock, Washington, was born on November 30, 1934, in Parsons, Kansas. She passed away on June 10, 2019 in Centralia, Washington, at the age of 84 years.

Betty was raised and attended school in Echo, Oregon. She lived in Washington and Oregon where she worked as a cook in various restaurants as well as owning and operating "LaCasita Blanca" in Sweet Home, Oregon, for several years. Betty returned to Echo, Oregon, and later lived in Stanfield for a time before she was united in marriage to Lawrence Tucker on January 1, 1970, in Kennewick, Washington. They lived in Snohomish, Washington, Tumwater, Washington, Springfield, Oregon, and Grand Coulee, Washington, before settling in Umatilla, Oregon, in 2004. Betty moved to Winlock, Washington, in 2015 where she has lived since.

She had been a member of the Eagles and Moose Lodges in Grand Coulee, Washington. Betty enjoyed

fishing, camping, trips in the motor home, crabbing, playing bingo and was an animal lover.

She is survived by her sons, Gordon Blankenship and wife Molly, Stanfield, Oregon; James Blankenship, Irrigon, Oregon; daughter, Ona Felker and her husband Mike, Winlock, Washington; brother, Rock Wright, Hermiston, Oregon; seven grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Larry Tucker, daughter, Kim Marnee; grandson, Jason Blankenship; and her parents.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, June 24, 2019, at 1 p.m. at Crossroads Community Church, Stanfield, Oregon. A private family burial will be held at the Echo Cemetery, Echo, Oregon.

Please share memories of Betty with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon is in care of arrangements.



Tucker

Janet Taylor

Heppner

January 12, 1954 — June 7, 2019

Janet Taylor, longtime resident of Heppner, passed quietly from this earth Friday, June 7. She was born January 12, 1954, in Salem, Oregon, to Troy and Deanie McGowan, the youngest of three children.

Jani spent her school years in Hermiston and graduated from Hermiston Senior High School in 1972. After school she traveled to Greece with a friend and almost did not return.

In 1979 she married a cowboy, Joe Taylor, and moved to a ranch outside of Heppner. In 1980 Jani gave birth to her only daughter, Crysti Taylor. Eventually, the family moved to town and Jani went to work at the local grocery store in the meat department, retiring as manager.

All those years she faithfully served pretty much everybody in town and always had a smile for everyone. Jani was known for her kindness, her love of children and old people and her innate ability to see the good in everyone she met. She was fiercely independent, caring, generous and

fun-loving. She had lifetime friends who loved her deeply.

She is survived by her husband Joe, though separated by residence, both remained devoted to family and always looked after one another. She is also survived by her daughter, Crysti and her two granddaughters, Ariona and Elissa; her brother Mike McGowan; sister Kathie McGowan; and many, many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made in Janet's name to Willow Creek Terrace, 400 Frank Gilliam Drive, Heppner, OR 97836 or St. Patrick's Apartments and Senior Center, P.O. Box 586, Heppner, OR 97836.

A celebration of Janet's life will be held on June 29, 11 a.m., at the Heppner City Park in Heppner.

Arrangements are in care of Sweeney Mortuary.

"Do not despair my friend. She is free of the shackles of life. Her spirit is dancing on the wind eagerly embracing whatever comes, not looking back knowing we all will follow one day."



Taylor

June O. Kononen

Salem

June 10, 1925 — March 29, 2019

June would say "she lived, loved and laughed." June O. Kononen was born June Olga Jyleen on June 10, 1925, to Olga (Kittilla) Jyleen and Alfred Jyleen in Ferndale, Michigan. June passed away on March 29, 2019, in Salem, Oregon.

After WWII, June moved to Pendleton, Oregon, where she met, fell in love with and married Ellis F. Kononen. They had two children, Elaine M. (Kononen) Cutting and Arni R. Kononen. Her husband, Ellis, and son, Arni, preceded her in death.

June loved her nine

grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She loved family and her many great friends. She believed in giving back to the community, volunteering for numerous organizations throughout her 70 years in Pendleton.

June was ever the punster. She believed a life without humor was not a life at all.

Olney Cemetery interment will be on July 5, 2019, at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, June would like you to either volunteer or donate to your favorite charity.



Kononen

Judith Helen Kurtz

Hermiston

August 16, 1939 — June 9, 2019

Judith Helen Kurtz of Hermiston was born August 16, 1939, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, the daughter of Andrew and Frances (Trester) Neils. She passed away in Pasco, Washington, on Sunday, June 9, 2019, at the age of 79.

Judith grew up, attended her schooling and graduated from high school in Sheboygan, Wis. In the early 1960s she moved to Los Angeles, California. She then moved to Oregon, living in Salem, then Lexington, before moving to Hermiston in the late 1970s. In Hermiston, she worked for Simplot as a potato trimmer for many years until retiring.

Judith enjoyed sewing, traveling, being a member of the Red Hat Society and going out to eat with friends for special occasions.

Judith married Gustave Kurtz in the early 1960s. From this union two children were born, Cynthia and Christopher. The couple later divorced.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Cynthia; her parents; nine siblings; and a great-granddaughter, EmmaLee.

She is survived by a son, Chris (Myla) Kurtz; three grandchildren, Amanda and Zachary Kurtz and Jimmy Lee Tourville; five great-grandchildren; brother Herbie Neils; and many nieces, nephews and extended family members.

Arrangements are pending. A private interment will be in Sunset Hills Cemetery in Umatilla.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.



Kurtz

Dorothy 'Jane' Weston

Irrigon

October 26, 1935 — May 28, 2019

Dorothy "Jane" Weston of Irrigon, Oregon, was born on October 26, 1935, in Oakdale, California. She died on May 28, 2019, in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 83 years.

Jane was raised in Oakdale, California, and attended school there until her mother passed away in 1952, when she moved to Vancouver, Washington, to live with her father. She graduated from Vancouver High School and met Winfred "Win" Weston at a midtown ballroom dance class. They were united in marriage on July 11, 1957, in Stevenson, Washington.

They lived in Portland, Oregon, for 28 years until moving to Irrigon, Oregon, in 1984 where they have lived since. Jane volunteered at Stokes Landing Senior Center in Irrigon, was a CAPECO and RSVP volunteer for over 20 years and served as secretary/treasurer for the Old Time Fiddlers for 13 years. She enjoyed walking, cooking, canning, drying apples, reading, knitting, sewing, crocheting, photography and making Christmas gifts for family and friends.

Jane was very grateful for all of the excellent care she received from her friends, family, all of the doctors,

nurses and receptionists at St. Mary Cancer Center Clinic in Walla Walla, Washington, and the staff at Vange John Memorial Hospice in Hermiston, Oregon. Jane was a former member of St. John's Christian Church.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Win Weston; daughters Barbara Shaffer and Ruth Shefchek; son David Weston; five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Jane was preceded in death by her parents, brothers James and John, sister Kay, and a granddaughter, Monica.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2019, at 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary chapel, Hermiston, Oregon. Burial will follow at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon, Oregon. A celebration of life gathering will follow at Stokes Landing Senior Center, Irrigon, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jane's memory may be made to Stokes Landing Senior Center or St. Mary Cancer Center, Walla Walla, Washington.

Please share memories of Jane with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

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



Weston

Doris I. Ferguson

Boardman

June 1, 1931 — June 10, 2019

Doris I. Ferguson of Boardman, Oregon, was born on June 1, 1931, in Neodesha, Kansas, to parents, Otto Keith Schoonover and Felista Nadine Foster Schoonover. She died on June 10, 2019, in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 88 years.

Doris was raised in and attended schools in Shelton, Washington. She was united in marriage to Donald Wayne Ferguson in 1948 in Idaho. They lived in Ordinance, Huntington (for 14 years), La Grande, Weston and Corvallis, Oregon. She moved to Boardman, Oregon in 2012, where she has lived since. Doris was a member of the Junior Old Timers. She enjoyed reading, needle work, painting, cooking, genealogy, and big band music.

She is survived by her daughters, Linda Schisler and husband George, Boardman, Oregon; Vickie Morris and husband Dee, Union, Oregon; and Pamela Lenon, La Grande, Oregon; sons, Darren Ferguson, Kennewick, Washington; Dusty

Ferguson, Hermiston, Oregon; and Donald Ferguson and wife Nicole, Pendleton, Oregon; sisters, Barbara and Sandra; brothers, Otto "Keith" and Freddy; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Ferguson, a daughter, Julie Lester, and her parents.

A celebration of life service will be held for both Doris and Don on Saturday, June 22, 2019, starting at 1 p.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. at the Pheasant Banquet Room, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston, Oregon. A graveside service will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2019, at 1 p.m. at the Athena Cemetery, Athena, Oregon.

Those who wish may make contributions in Doris' memory to the American Cancer Society.

Please share memories of Doris with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon is in care of arrangements.



Ferguson

MILITARY

Hermiston's John Line completes basic training

EAST OREGONIAN

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — U.S. Air Force Airman **John Henry O. Line** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Line completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air

Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Line is the son of Dave and Tracy Line of Hermiston, and a 2017 graduate of Hermiston High School.



Line

BIRTH

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

JUNE 6, 2019

HOLMES — Raven Newton and Richard Holmes of Hermiston: a girl, Havika Desire Holmes.

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