

**OBITUARIES**

**Robert W. 'Bob' Brinkley Jr.**

Hermiston

July 19, 1957 — October 23, 2019

Robert W. Brinkley Jr. (Bob) was born on July 19, 1957, in Torrance Calif. He was a longtime resident and business owner in Hermiston, Oregon. Bob left his earthly journey doing what he loved to do. God called Bob home on October 23, 2019, at the age of 62.

Bob was on a hunt early that morning, and in his view was a large herd of elk coming up on them. If you knew Bob, you knew there was nothing more thrilling to his heart. One his favorite things to say was, "Get ready, here they come."

Bob seemed to some to be a little rough around the edges at times, but he had a heart of gold. Bob had a very private relationship with his God and always said that being in the mountains was where he felt his presence the most.

Bob Brinkley opened Columbia Auto Body 36 years ago. He obtained his business degree in auto body repair at Treasure Valley College in Ontario, Oregon, where he also played college football. Bob was a smart, dedicated, successful businessman who was always willing to help others. Bob was very generous to his family, friends and his community.

Bob was an athlete in his day. He felt it was important to support his community, and that he did. Back in the early days he sponsored American Legion baseball, men's bowling leagues, Hermiston Little League and Grid Kids Football. He always sponsored his buddies and young men in the community, making sure they had a basketball or softball team to play on. He was proud to make that happen.

Over the years Bob also put on annual fishing derbies during the winter holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. He made sure that on long, cold, winter days his relatives, friends and anyone who wanted to participate had a chance to win some big bucks by catching the biggest fish. He loved seeing people have a good time.

For the past 15 years Bob's love of golf led him to put his heart into making sure that the Hermiston High School golf program did not lose its steam. He said, "We have got to do something here to make this program stay alive for these kids."

That's when the tide changed for Hermiston High School golf program.

Bob rallied parents, fellow golfers

and the athletic director together and said, "We need fundraisers for this program, why not put on tournaments?" With Bob's vision the first annual Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament began. The Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament is now in its 15th year. In memory of Bob, the tournament will now be "The Bob Brinkley Memorial Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament."

Bob loved anything that had to do with being outdoors: hunting, fishing, camping and golfing with family and friends. For the past several years he fell in love with sprint boat racing.

Years back one of Bob's best friends, Rodney Cox, and his son Robbie built a sprint boat that has the only Ford racing engine in U.S. Bob was hooked. He decided he wanted to be a part of Obsession 049s team. Bob became a dedicated sponsor, partly due to the speed of the boats, but mainly because of the love he has for the team's family.

Bob made relationships with many people. He had that gift. Bob gave out of the kindness of his heart. He was loved by his family and friends and will be sorrowfully missed.

Bob is preceded in death by his mother, Patricia Wilson Brinkley of Fossil, Ore. Bob leaves behind the love of his life, his wife Karla Johnson-Brinkley of Hermiston; his sons Steven Brinkley of Hermiston and his wife Angalena, Taylor Johnson of Spokane, Washington, and Aaron Johnson of Hermiston.

Bob also leaves behind four wonderful grandchildren: Garret, Kaylee and D'Layne Brinkley, and Braven Johnson, all of Hermiston; Bob's father, Wayne Brinkley of Libby, Montana; and his two siblings, James Brinkley of Prineville, Oregon, and his sister-in-law Kathy, and Joseph Brinkley of Terrebonne, Oregon, and his sister-in-law Wendy.

Bob has many aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews and cousins that meant the world to him.

In honor of Bob there will be a celebration of his life on November 30 from 2-7pm at Skip and Sherry Walchli's Farm, 32697 E. Loop Road, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please share memories of Bob with his family at [burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon.



Brinkley

**Ann Marie (Elliott) Leonard**

Hermiston

Sept. 27, 1934 — Nov. 23, 2019

Ann Marie (Elliott) Leonard of Hermiston, Oregon, was born on September 27, 1934 in Bozeman, Montana, to parents, Jerry and Myrtle Bean Elliott. She died on November 23, 2019 in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 85 years.

Her family moved to Butte, Montana, when she was a small child and then to Portland, Oregon, when she was in the fourth grade. Ann attended St. Francis of Assisi grade school and St. Mary's Academy where she graduated in 1952 as salutatorian. She attended Marylhurst College on a nursing scholarship for one semester.

Ann was united in marriage to John Myles Leonard on April 11, 1953, in Portland, Oregon. She worked for several companies before the birth of their first child when she stayed at home to care for their growing family. They continued to live in Portland until moving to Hermiston, Oregon, in 1996 where she has lived since. Ann was a member of Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. She enjoyed the outdoors, camping and hunting. Ann cherished time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by her daughter, Karen Yvonne Breese (Tom), Potlatch, Idaho; son, Matthew "Matt" Leonard (Deanna), Hermiston, Oregon; son-in-law, Dennis Dixon, Falls City, Oregon; sisters, Helen Elliott, Garibaldi, Oregon; Barbara Lester, Battleground, Washington; Dorothy Colombe, Dallas, Oregon; Davia Elliott, Troutdale, Oregon; Patricia Sanders, Troutdale, Oregon; and Carol Blanton, Portland, Oregon; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

Ann was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, John Leonard; daughter, Molly Cecilia Dixon; granddaughter, Elizabeth "Liz" Breese; her parents; brother, Joe Elliott; and sister, Rita Joan.

Recitation of the Holy Rosary will be held on Friday, November 29, 2019, at 1 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 1:30 p.m.

Burial will follow at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon. Please share memories of Ann with her family at [burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://burnsmortuaryhermiston.com). Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.



Leonard

**DEATH NOTICES**

**Sonda Kay Barber**

Hermiston

April 3, 1956 — Nov. 24, 2019

Sonda Kay Barber, 63, of Hermiston, died Sunday Nov. 24, 2019 in Hermiston. She was born April 3, 1956, in Baker, the daughter of Thomas and Laura (Bulkley) Wade.

Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

**Robert Ray 'Bob' Miller**

Irrigon

June 20, 1938 — Nov. 16, 2019

Robert Ray "Bob" Miller, 81, of Irrigon, died Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019, at his home. He was born June 20, 1938, in Riverside, California. At his request, no services will be held. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon. Share memories at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**COURTS**

**Sentences**

**PENDLETON — The following sentences have been imposed in Umatilla County courts:**

FELONY

- Alejandro Gonzales, 43, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to Delivery of Heroin: sentenced to 36 months Oregon Dept. of Corrections (DOC) and 3 years post-prison supervision; pleaded guilty to Possession of Methamphetamine: sentence to discharge.
- Carri Ann Olea, 39, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to Fleeing/Attempt to Elude Police

- Officer: sentenced to 180 days jail, 1 year post-prison supervision, \$200 fine and 90 days driver's license suspension; pleaded guilty to Theft II: sentenced to \$100 fine.
- Adilene Aguilar, 21, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to DUII: sentenced to 30 days jail, 150 days jail-suspended, 3 years probation, 80 hours community service, \$3,000 fine, \$3,250 fine-suspended and 3 years driver's license suspension, plus court costs and fees; pleaded guilty to Recklessly Endangering Another Person: sentenced to

\$100 fine and 1 year driver's license suspension.

**Suits Filed**

**PENDLETON — The following suits have been filed in Umatilla County courts (interest, court costs and fees not listed):**

- DNF Associates LLC vs. Candice Carlson: seeks \$2,392.30.
- IQ Data International Inc. vs. Shawn Tracy of Hermiston: seeks \$1,976.54.
- Nationwide Recovery Service Inc. vs. Flavia Feliciano of

See Courts, Page A6

**George I. Fenton Jr.**

Umatilla

Feb. 25, 1931 — Nov. 21, 2019

George I. Fenton Jr., 88, of Umatilla passed away on November 21, 2019 in Kennewick, Washington. George was a longtime Umatilla resident, where he served in the public schools and on the city council.

George was born near Harper, Oregon, February 25, 1931, to Hazel Star Northrup Fenton and George I. Fenton. He was the youngest of six children. George routinely told dramatic stories of early ranch life. He vividly remembered the fresh water spring on the ranch and meals with the ranch hands. However, as the Great Depression worsened the family moved to Ontario, Oregon.

George attended school in Ontario, where he played football and baseball. He also worked for the Moore Motel, the City of Ontario, and the local movie theater. He graduated in 1949 and briefly attended the University of Oregon and Eastern Oregon College in La Grande before being drafted during the Korean War.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1951-1953, completing his basic training in Camp Pendleton California. He served in the Sixth Infantry Division where he was a clerk-typist at Ordnance Battalion Headquarters in Nancy, France. He was honorably discharged as a sergeant.

Following his military service, he used GI benefits to complete his bachelor's degree at Eastern Oregon College of Education. At EOC, he met his beloved wife, Joyce Joann Kroenlein. George graduated in 1957 and began work in Halfway, Oregon.

He and Joyce continued to see each other and married June 14, 1958, in Weiser, Idaho. Both taught in Pine Valley schools. George often reminisced about those early years when Pine Valley School quadrupled in size due to the construction of dams on the Snake River.

George enjoyed his time in the classroom, teaching business and social science as well as coaching. He earned a master's degree in business and social science from EOC in 1960 and became the principal of Pine Valley High School in 1961. He continued to pursue additional education, including post-graduate work at the University of Nevada, Reno-Las Vegas in educational administration, finishing in 1964.

He and Joyce enjoyed an active outdoor life, fishing and hunting in the Wallowa Mountains near Halfway. George loved being outdoors and working on antique cars. In Halfway, they raised a huge garden

and cultivated roses. He continued his love of gardening and antique cars throughout his life.

In 1966, they began a family with the birth of their eldest daughter, Jonnie Joann Fenton. Kristle Starr Fenton followed the following year. He was also an amateur photographer and took hundreds of pictures of his family and Pine Valley throughout the years.

In 1978, he became Umatilla Junior-Senior High principal. In the Umatilla Public schools, he moved through many administrative positions, retiring as Umatilla School District superintendent in 1996. He served on various committees for the Oregon School Activities Association and was active in the Oregon Small Schools program.

He was involved in various community groups include the Lions, Elks, Kiwanis, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Phi Delta Kappa.

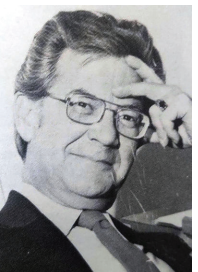
Following his retirement, George was elected to the Umatilla City Council and began serving in January of 1997. One of his proudest accomplishments was the Veteran's Memorial at the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery in Umatilla. He served on the council until 2015, including short periods as mayor pro tem. He was active in the Hermiston Methodist Church, bringing his budgeting experience to the financial committee.

During retirement, he spent hours with his family and grandchildren. He was a constant fixture at sporting events with his camera. He deeply loved and cared for his family. He lost his beloved wife, Joyce, in 2006. He was also preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and three sisters.

He is survived by two daughters, Jonnie Fenton of Richland, Washington, and Kristle, husband Marvin Wyant of Umatilla; two grandsons, Jacob Vandever of Tigard, Oregon; and Justin Vandever of Umatilla, Oregon; many nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday November 30, 2019, at the Hermiston First United Methodist Church (191 E. Gladys Avenue Hermiston, Oregon). Burial will be at 11 a.m. Monday December 2, 2019, at Evergreen Cemetery in Ontario, Oregon. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of final arrangements.

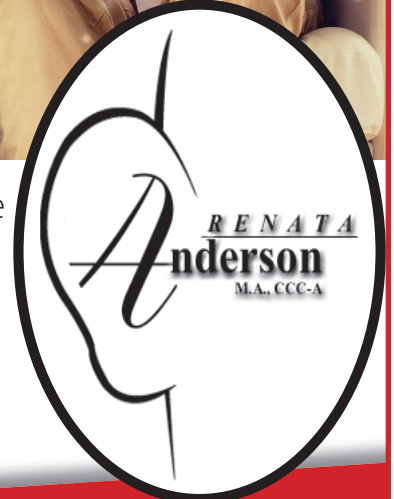
Family suggests memorial donations to the George Fenton Scholarship Fund at Banner Bank. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).



Fenton



Hearing loss can sometimes make the holidays feel isolating or stressful. Make the most of your time with family and friends this holiday season. **Contact us and let us help you hear what you are missing.**



Renata Anderson, MA



Pam Wagenaar, Administrative Assistant

2237 SW Court, Pendleton • 541-276-5053  
[www.renataanderson.com](http://www.renataanderson.com)