

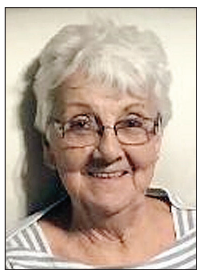
**OBITUARIES**

**Christina G. 'Chris' Kennedy**

Hermiston

April 2, 1940 — Sept. 26, 2020

Christina G. "Chris" Kennedy was born on April 2, 1940, in Rupert, Idaho, to parents, Virgil and Mildred Christensen Norwood. She died on Sept. 26, 2020, at her home in Hermiston, Oregon, at the age of 80 years.



Kennedy

She was raised throughout the west as her father worked on construction projects. Chris was united in marriage to Louis "Sonny" Kennedy on Sept. 7, 1957, in Selah, Washington. They moved to Hermiston, Oregon, in 1957 where they raised their three sons, Alan, Dean and Gary.

Chris stayed home until the boys were in school and she went to work at Burnham's Department Store. In 1992, they moved to Boardman, Oregon, and she worked as a teacher's aide for the Boardman School District. Chris enjoyed bowling, gardening, traveling and watching classic movies.

She is survived by her sons, Dean Kennedy, Battle Ground, Washington, and Gary Kennedy, Hermiston, Oregon; sister, Carol Nelson, Hermiston, Oregon, and Faye Demeree, Shelton, Washington; grandchildren, Nathan, Heather, Bradley, Kirsten, Megan, Devan, Justin, Jessica and Jordan; 17 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

Chris was preceded in death by her husband, Sonny; a son, Alan; a granddaughter, Rebecca Kelly; and her parents.

A graveside service following state guidelines was held on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020, at 12 noon at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon. Please share memories of Chris with her family at burnsmortuary-hermiston.com.

**Milton G. 'Milt' Casper**

Hermiston

June 17, 1930 — Sept. 23, 2020

Milton Gaylord Casper passed away on Wednesday, 23 September 2020 at the age of 90 in Hermiston, Oregon. He was born 17 June 1930. The family moved to Hermiston, Oregon where Milton attended school, graduating in May 1948. Milton joined the United States Army in September 1948 and was honorably discharged in June 1950, only to be called back in October 1950 due to the Korean War, serving until September 1951.



Casper

On 3 November, Milton was united in marriage to Laura Dee Peterson and to this marriage, Bernard and David became his family. Milton worked to help build McNary Dam and then took a job at the Ordinance Depot. With the depot, he went to many schools in Illinois to become a surveillance inspector, taking assignments in Pennsylvania, Alabama, Colorado, Korea and Hermiston. After retiring from the depot, Milton went on to build houses and apartments in Hermiston, Stanfield and Umatilla in partnership with two others, retiring in 1990.

Surviving is his wife, Laura Casper; sister, Sherrie Tucker, Stanfield, Oregon; and several nieces and nephews.

Milton was preceded in death by his sons, Bernie and David; sisters, Eleanor Elwood and Carol Cook; and a brother, Jim Casper.

There will be no services at his request. A private family burial will be held at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please share memories of Milt with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

**Cheryl Lynn Kemper**

Hermiston

Dec. 31, 1944 — Aug. 18, 2020

Cheryl Lynn Kemper, age 75, passed away suddenly, of natural causes, in her home on Aug. 18, 2020. She was born on Dec. 31, 1944, in Dayton Washington, to LaNita and John Blessinger.



Kemper

Cheryl, known as Sherry to friends and family, lived in Hermiston, Oregon, since 1975, where she was a beloved first grade teacher at West Park Elementary, and then Highland Hills Elementary, until her retirement in 2003. After briefly living in Dayton, Washington, she moved to Craigmont, Idaho.

Growing up, Sherry was involved in acrobatics, cheerleading, and nearly every activity a small town had to offer in the 1950s and '60s. She held a great fondness for her childhood, and spoke of it often.

Sherry graduated from Highland High School in Craigmont in 1963, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. She attended Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, from 1963-66, before transferring to Washington State University in 1966, where she received her BA in Elementary Education in 1967.

Sherry married her high school sweetheart, Bob Kemper, in 1966. After college, they moved to California, where she attended graduate school at Long Beach State University. She then taught elementary school in Torrance for 5 years. Sherry and Bob welcomed their only child, Craig, in 1972, while living in Westminster, California. Shortly before her

divorce from Bob, Sherry and Craig moved to Hermiston, Oregon in 1975, to be near her brothers, Bob and John. This move proved to be the perfect fit.

Sherry loved being a mother, grandmother and teacher. She taught school for over 35 years, and influenced generations of students. Sherry's superpower was her ability to create little magical moments of discovery for her students, and first grade was tailor-made for her. Hundreds of children, and sometimes even their own children, benefited from her imagination, patience, creativity, and skill.

Sherry was preceded in death by her mother, LaNita Blessinger Harrison; her step-father, Walt Harrison; and her father, John Blessinger.

Sherry is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Craig and Lindi Kemper of Beaverton Oregon; her grandchildren, Bethany Kemper, Quinn Kemper and Chelsea Read; her brother, Bob Blessinger of Gresham, Oregon; her brother and sister-in-law, John and JoDee Blessinger of Pendleton, Oregon; her beloved nieces and nephews, Ron Blessinger, Dan Blessinger, Lisa Broberg, J.B. Blessinger, JoLonna Windsheimer and Jason Blessinger; as well as numerous cherished aunts, uncles and cousins.

A small private service for family was held in Dayton, Washington, where she was born, and laid to rest near her parents. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

**William J. 'Bill' Brehaut**

Condon

Feb. 25, 1932 — Sept. 27, 2020

William J. "Bill" Brehaut was born on Feb. 25, 1932, in Fossil, Oregon. He died on Sept. 27, 2020, at his home in Condon, Oregon, at the age of 88 years.



Brehaut

Bill was raised by his grandparents, Edward and Mary Goodwin, at Service Creek until he was 8 years old where he then moved into Fossil and attended the first grade. The family then moved to Condon where he attended school through tenth grade.

Bill started his working career at the age of 15 where he worked for a power company digging holes and setting poles in the Lonerock area. He served in the United States Navy until his honorable discharge in February 1956.

Bill was united in marriage to Rosalyn Schmidt on May 30, 1958, in Fossil, Oregon. He worked briefly for the Kinzua log mill and then for Van Reitmann off and on five different times. He was a foreman and equipment operator for the Gilliam County Road Department for 36 years, retiring in June 1996.

Bill never sat idle; he always had a second job. In his early years he had various roofing jobs, remodeling and adding on to his home and making improvements on the family cabin, to name a few. Bill was known well in the community as the Kenmore Appliance repairman where he and his wife owned the Sears Roebuck Catalog Merchant store for 20 years. His wife operated the business and Bill did all the appliance repairs in the evenings after his day job.

Bill had a great sense of humor and was known for playing tricks on his children. He loved his annual

elk hunts, playing cards and board games, enjoyed traveling the Northwest, and tinkering in his shop.

He always loved his birthdays and would say he loved getting a year older because it's better than the alternative. His favorite gift was a shaker card (money). Eating healthy was always important to him. But above all, Bill was the most honest and humble man and never liked conflict.

Bill cherished family more than anything else. He is survived by his wife, Rosalyn Brehaut, of 62 years. He was extremely proud of his three daughters, Tammy Barrett and husband Brian of Montesano, Washington, Jackie Hardie and husband Larry of Condon and Kellie Hill and husband Vince, who passed away earlier this year; grandchildren, Travis Barrett, Della Shields, Alex Dyer, Jessica Hill, Dayn Hardie, Lola Hill, Dustin Hill and Taylor Hardie; and seven great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Dorothy Brehaut; and a brother, Bob and his wife Carrie, all of Condon, sister-in-law Carol Brehaut of Pendleton, Oregon; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother, Murial; grandparents Edwin and Mary Goodwin; and brother Danny.

People wishing to honor Bill's lifelong commitment to family and community can make donations to South Gilliam County Ambulance Service, P.O. Box 85, Condon, OR 97823

Please share memories of Bill with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Arrangements by Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

**High school hosts Futures Month**

HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston High School will host Futures Month in October, offering students programs and events oriented around their future.

Oct. 5-9 is College Application Week for the high school, offering seniors assistance in completing college applications. A free virtual college fair will be offered Oct. 5-8 through pncac.swoogo.com/PNACAC and students can also register for virtual college visits through their high school. Students can also register

for virtual sessions via Google Meet with guest professionals from a variety of industries, who will answer questions and share information about what it takes to work in their field.

An in-person financial aid night is Oct. 28, and seniors can attend a virtual financial aid workshop Oct. 10 that will walk them through completing the FAFSA or ORSAA. Registration is required by Oct. 8.

Information about registering for the above events has been emailed to Hermiston High School students.

**Local students make OSU honor roll**

HERMISTON HERALD

Students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll for Summer term 2020 have been announced by Oregon State University.

A total of 1,207 students earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make

the listing. To be on the honor roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

Hermiston students on the honor roll are **Kevin Mendez Guardado**, senior, bio-health sciences, and **Kellie Zepeda**, senior, kinesiology.

**BIRTHS**

**Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston**

SEPT. 15, 2020

UTTKE — Sierra Lea Hoffman and Joseph M. Uttke of Hermiston: a boy, Jackson Shilo Brian Uttke.

SEPT. 17, 2020

VAN HORN — Keala Hope Van Horn of Hermiston: a girl, Jaiden Mae Van Horn.

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