

**OBITUARIES**

**Kathleen (Dunham) Knudeson**

**Portland**  
**May 24, 1925 — May 18, 2021**

Kathleen Knudeson (Dunnam) was born May 24, 1925, in Spiro, Oklahoma, to Jeff and Nettie Jo (Greenwood) Dunnam. She passed away at Parkview Assisted Living in Portland, Oregon, on May 18, 2021, at the age of 95. Her children were with her during her last hours.



**Knudeson**

Kathleen had two passions — her children and her faith. Widowed at 28, Kathleen raised her two children in a stable and happy home. She managed through precarious financial and emotional times after the death of her husband in an accident in 1953. She managed with gentleness and humor bolstered by her faith. She worked in hospitals, schools, local government and law offices in Seattle and Pomeroy, Washington, and Hermiston and Salem, Oregon.

Baptized when she was 9 years old in Spiro, Oklahoma, her most satisfying achievements were made in service to her church. She was the missions director for the First Baptist Church of Hermiston. She served on missions to Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and to inner-city Pasadena. In 1986 she founded Agape House, a community food bank, which continues to thrive today. Her work

with Agape House was recognized by the President's Points of Light Foundation, the Oregon Human Development Corporation, and the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce.

Kathleen was a friend to many and beloved by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a talented cook, crafts-woman, watercolor artist and pianist.

Preceded in death by her husband Lloyd Knudeson, she is survived by children Ann Terry (Steve Bauer) of Hansville, Washington, and Kim Knudeson (Rebecca) of Tigard, Oregon; grandchildren Jennifer Coney (Jon) of Portland, Oregon, Matthew Stineff (Andrea) of Homer, Alaska, and Petra Harms (Chris) of Imperial Beach, California; and seven great-grandchildren.

Kathleen will be buried next to her husband at the Hermiston Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial donations to Agape House.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Jackie S. Hughs**

**Hermiston**  
**August 22, 1958 — May 14, 2021**

Jackie S. Hughs, 62, of Hermiston, Oregon, passed away on May 14, 2021, in La Grande, Oregon. She was born on August 22, 1958, in Umatilla, Oregon, to parents Richard and Sharlene (Smith) Hughs.



**Hughs**

Jackie was raised in Hermiston and graduated from Hermiston High School in the Class of 1976. She then attended Blue Mountain Community College. Jackie then worked at the McNary Dam for a short time before going to work at Lamb Weston, retiring after 42 years in 2019. When asked how long she worked at Lamb Weston, she would say, "I started working when I was five."

Jackie enjoyed walking at Riverfront Park as well as finding a shady place to sit and read a book. She crocheted for many years, donating many items to the Veterans Hospital, the Next Step Pregnancy Center in La Grande and making baby clothes for newborns at the hospital. Jackie loved to go shopping and most recently video chats with her daughter and her greatest joy, her granddaughter Lucy.

She was active in many area churches, the Columbia and Stanfield granges, the Yarn Club, Hermiston Public Library, donating over 1,000 books to the

Little Free Library stations located around town, the Stanfield Moose Lodge, Echo Toy Run, the Hermiston Warming Station and donating art supplies to McNary Heights Elementary. She believed in helping others, and with her passing she donated the gift of life through tissue donation.

She is survived by her daughter Kimberly (Hughs) Leggett and her husband Nathan, La Grande, Oregon; sister Alice Hughs, Hermiston, Oregon; granddaughter Lucille; niece Melissa Hughs; and several extended family members.

Jackie was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Wanda Hughs; and several great-aunts and -uncles.

A graveside service following state guidelines will be held on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at 10 a.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Those who wish may make contributions to Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, P.O. Box 289, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Please share memories of Jackie with her family at [burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://burnsmortuaryhermiston.com). Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

**Edwin Louis Brown**

**Hermiston**  
**April 10, 1950 — May 16, 2021**

Edwin Louis Brown was born April 10, 1950, in Eugene, Oregon, to John and Olive (Clark) Brown. He grew up in Sweet Home, Oregon, and graduated from Sweet Home High School, Class of 1968. It was there that he met his first wife, Bonnie Lee Ramey. They were married December 27, 1969.



**Brown**



After high school, Ed served in the U.S. Navy as an electronics technician aboard the USS Hancock for six years. During this time his daughter Jamie and son Brandon were born. In 1976, after Ed was out of the Navy, he and his family moved to Eastern Oregon where they resided in Hermiston and raised their children. Ed was awarded the National Defense Service Medal; participated in Vietnam Evacuation April-May 1975; and received First Good Conduct, awarded for the period ending September 26, 1973, during his time in the Navy.

After his move, he and his father operated Brown & Brown Well Drilling together for several years throughout Eastern Oregon. In 1988, Ed began Water Well Developing & Surveys, which he operated until 2016 when his son and daughter-in-law bought the business. Ed was a third generation water well driller and was well-known for his helpful nature, well drilling knowledge, and his never-quit attitude. The well-camera business he operated allowed him to meet and help nearly every well driller and pump installer in the Northwest.

On July 4, 1999, Ed married Christina Faye Moses in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ed enjoyed hunting, fishing, snow and water skiing, and traveling. He also enjoyed family trips to the Oregon Coast's sand dunes where he drove sand rails. He held a lifelong faith in God. Ed was an amazing father, husband, brother and friend to so many. He was a hard worker and strived to help others succeed. He will be missed by all who knew him and never forgotten.

Ed is survived by his wife, Christina; daughter Jamie (Chris) Brown; son Brandon (Megan) Brown; grandchildren Bali, Loic and Josey; brother Doyce (Jackie) Brown; sisters Joyce Gadek and Joan (Jim) Senner; and many extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Geri Morris.

A service was held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at the Hermiston Cemetery Veterans Shelter.

Family suggest memorial donations in Ed's memory be made to the Northwest Rett Syndrome Association ([nwrettsyndrome.org](http://nwrettsyndrome.org)) on behalf of his granddaughter Josey, who has Rett Syndrome.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Beverly J. 'Bev' Follett**

**Boise, Idaho**  
**June 6, 1942 — May 15, 2021**

Beverly J. "Bev" Follett of Boise, Idaho (former resident of Hermiston), was born June 6, 1942, in Montauk, Missouri, the daughter of Lemuel and Avis (Piatt) Pankey. She passed away on Saturday, May 15, 2021, in Meridian, Idaho, at the age of 78.



**Follett**

At the age of 9, Bev moved with her family to Mount Vernon, Oregon, where she grew up, attended school and graduated from high school. After high school, she moved to Hermiston, Oregon. She married Keith Follett on May 6, 1962, in Hermiston. The couple divorced many years later.

While in Hermiston, Bev worked at the Umatilla Army Depot as a truck driver for a short time. She then took a job as an inventory clerk for Umatilla Electric Cooperative, where she worked for over 20 years. In 1993, she moved to Boise, Idaho, where she has resided since. In Boise, she worked for Micron as an operator for several years. Her last job was an associate at Walmart in Boise.

Bev enjoyed coloring

and doing book puzzles. She also enjoyed being a foster parent for over 10 years.

She is survived by five children: Marlene (Fred) Konnerth, Darlene (Gina) Follett, Brian (Lynne) Follett, Debra (Shane) Glenn and Marcus (Kayla) Follett; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild; sister Bonnie Lemberger; and several extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and two sisters.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Muriel Joy Porter**

**Warrenton**  
**January 25, 1928 — May 15, 2021**

Muriel Joy Porter, longtime resident of Stanfield, Oregon, of Warrenton, Oregon, was born on January 25, 1928, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, to parents Magnus and Dollie Hadley Hughes. She died on May 15, 2021, in Portland, Oregon, at the age of 93 years.



**Porter**

Muriel graduated from Stanfield High School before attending Pacific University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in physical education. She taught at Langlois School, Hermiston High School, Naples (Italy) and Helix High School.

Muriel was united in marriage to Frank Porter on December 27, 1964, gaining four children: Linda, Rita, Kelly and Fritz, and then adding another son, Steven, in 1966.

She was a longtime member of the Stanfield Harmony Club, Stanfield Hobby Club and the Hermiston Travel Club. Muriel had attended the Hope Presbyterian

Church in Stanfield, Faith Presbyterian Church in Hermiston, and the Hermiston First Christian Church before moving to Warrenton, Oregon. She enjoyed gardening, crocheting and cooking. Muriel loved roses and kitties, and cherished being a grandma.

She is survived by her sons Steven (Rachel) and Fritz; daughters Linda, Rita and Kelly; brother Clyde Hughes; and grandsons Nathan, Nicholas and Tyler.

Muriel was preceded in death by her husband Frank; her parents; a sister, Eunice Falk; and a brother, Clarence Hughes.

A graveside funeral service following state guidelines was held on Sunday, May 23, 2021, at 1 p.m. at the Echo Cemetery, Echo, Oregon.

Please share memories of Muriel with her family at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

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

**DEATH NOTICES**

**Edward F. 'Ed' Wiggins**

**Hermiston**  
**May 10, 1929 — May 21, 2021**

Edward F. "Ed" Wiggins, 92, of Hermiston, died Friday, May 21, 2021, in Hermiston. He was born May 10, 1929, in North Arlington, New Jersey. A memorial gathering will be held Saturday, June 12, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 80729 N. Ott Road, Hermiston. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Share memories with the family at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Edda Mae (Thorpe) Lovgren**

**Hermiston**  
**May 5, 1930 — May 21, 2021**

Longtime Heppner resident Edda Mae (Thorpe) Lovgren, 91, of Hermiston, died Friday, May 21, 2021, in Hermiston. She was born May 5, 1930, in Heppner. Per her request, no memorial or graveside service will be held. A private burial will be held at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Share memories with the family at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Vernon Eldon Pifer**

**Hermiston**  
**Jan. 12, 1933 — May 18, 2021**

Vernon Eldon Pifer, 88, of Hermiston, died Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at his home. He was born Jan. 12, 1933, in Eugene. A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 29, at 11 a.m. at the Living Faith Center, 1611 Diagonal Blvd., Hermiston. A private family interment with military honors will be in Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements. Leave an online condolence for the family at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com).

**Alice Phoebe Stephens**

**Stanfield**  
**March 26, 1939 — May 27, 2020**

Alice Phoebe Stephens, 81, of Stanfield, died May 27, 2020, in Richland, Washington. She was born March 26, 1939, in Forest Grove. A graveside service will be held Thursday, May 27, at 11 a.m. at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

**"Scramble for Scholarships"**  
**Friday, June 11th**  
**1pm Shotgun Start**

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION

**Big River Golf Course - Umatilla**

Golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate in the 28th annual "Scramble for Scholarships" golf tournament. Four person teams can sign up together or individual pairings can be made by the tournament committee. Your \$70 entry fee covers green fees, a box lunch, and makes a charitable donation to the foundation to use in awarding scholarships to local medical students.

Register at [gschfscramble.eventbrite.com](http://gschfscramble.eventbrite.com) or call 541-667-3405. Entry deadline is June 9th.

Great prize holes and Hole-in-one on #1 & #9  
**WINS \$25,000 towards a new car sponsored by ROGERS TOYOTA of HERMISTON**

**PET OF THE WEEK**  
**MEET LILLY**

Lilly is like a Golden Lab in a tiny package. She is sweet, silly and soulful. She did have some separation anxiety issues with her previous adopter, so she needs a home where family is there for her, maybe a playmate who isn't demanding. She loves a good belly rub and her soft blanket.

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, animal shelters need our help more than ever. Please donate to your local shelter, or offer to foster an animal in need.

If interested please go to [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) and fill out an application. If you are not able to adopt, but would like to foster or donate, visit [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) or you can mail in donations to Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue, PO Box 580, Hermiston, OR 97838