OBITUARIES

Esther R. Garcia

Dec. 29, 1950 — Oct. 15, 2021

Garcia

Esther R. Garcia, of Hermiston, was born Dec. 29, 1950, in Snyder, Texas, the daughter of Nolberto and Josefa (Ramirez) Ruiz. She passed

away Friday, Oct. 15, 2021, at the age of 70.

As a child, Esther moved with her family to Pleasanton, California, where she grew up and attended school. She married Don Garcia in Livermore, California,

Aug. 16, 1975. The couple lived in Burley, Idaho, for several years until moving to Hermiston in 1988. She has resided in Hermiston for the past 33 years.

Esther studied education at Blue Mountain Community College. She taught English as a second language in several Eastern Oregon schools. She taught at the Stanfield School District for 12 years until retiring in 2016.

Esther loved spending time with her grandchildren and her role as grandma. She had a creative side to her and enjoyed the arts, drawing, crafts, cooking and experiencing culture. She also enjoyed music and singing.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Don; daughter, Liz Fisher; son, David Garcia; grandchildren, Nikolas Fisher, Jackson Wilson, Remy Wilson, Ashton Garcia and Crew Garcia; sisters,

Gloria Mendoza and Becky Herrera; brother, Ray Ruiz; and many nieces and nephews and extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Grace Dudley; two brothers, Robert Ruiz and Richard Ruiz.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, Oct. 23,

Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. To leave an online condolence for the family, please go to www.burnsmortuary-

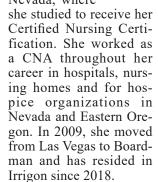
Rita Ann Moreno

Aug. 3, 1969 — Oct. 17, 2021 Irrigon

Rita Ann Moreno of Irrigon, was born Aug. 3, 1969, in Phoenix, Arizona, the daughter of

She passed away in Irrigon, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, at the age of 52.

Rita grew up and attended her schooling in Blythe, California. In 1995, she moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where



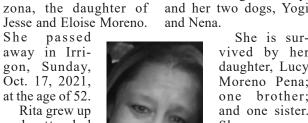
Rita volunteered for the Gleaners in Boardman three days a week and she attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Boardman. She loved spending time with her daughter, Lucy,

She is survived by her daughter, Lucy Moreno Pena; one brother; and one sister. She was preceded in death by her parents. Recitation

of the rosary will be held at 9:30 a.m. Fri-

day, Oct. 22, 2021, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 78922 Olson Road S.E., Boardman. A service was held Oct. 22, 2021 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.. Burial will follow at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

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



Moreno

BIRTHS

GOOD SHEPHERD MEDICAL CENTER, **HERMISTON**

Oct. 15, 2021

GARAY — Jessica Torres and Jose Garay of Hermiston: a girl, Zairah Garay.

Oct. 16, 2021 **ANDERSON** — Kimber LeAnn Sharkey and Tyler James Anderson of Hermiston: a boy, Tyson Edward James Anderson.

BARCLAY — Shandie Marie Peters and Danny Lee Barclay Jr. of Hermiston: a boy, Liam Jaxxon Barclay.

Oct. 18, 2021 **COOK** — Sosena Rodriguez and Travis Cook of Pendleton: a girl, Octavia Emberly Cook.

born in Echo, Dec. 6, 1940, the youngest child of Ray and Bennie Lee Middleton Tolar. He died in Portland

Robert 'Bob' Tolar

Dec. 6, 1940 — Oct. 11, 2021

Formerly Echo

Robert "Bob" Tolar was

Oct. 11, 2021.

Bob's mother

came to Echo

from Texas and

his father from

North Carolina

in 1923. Bob

attended Echo

schools, gradu-

ating from Echo

High School in

1958 and from

Eastern Oregon

College in 1962, majoring

in education, English and

history. He was a lifelong

learner in all three areas.

He also continued his life-

long pattern of making

Milton-Freewater and Ath-

ena until 1966, when he

was asked to teach English

as a Second Language at

Portland State College.

Determined to show his

international students the

"real America," each year

he'd charter a bus to trans-

port his foreign students to

Echo, where for one week-

end each of them became

a guest in the homes of

Echo residents. For many,

this was a highlight of their

a Fulbright grant to train

teachers and advise the

minister of education in

Mogadishu, Somalia -

introducing Bob to his

lifelong love of Africa.

Returning to Portland,

he was asked by Mount

Royal College in Calgary,

Alberta, to design and

implement a program for

non-English speaking stu-

dents and newly arrived

Furniss in 1973. They

returned to Eugene in

He married Maria Anne

immigrants.

In 1968, he received

education.

He taught English in

friends he kept for life.



Tolar

his doctorate at the University of Oregon in higher education, then served as dean of students and later executive vice

1974 and Bob completed

president of Western States Chiropractic College in Portland (where he obtained full academic certification for the college). In 1988, he became state education coordinator for

WSU's Small Business Development Center and two years later developed an international program to institute small business assistance programs in emerging democracies with no history of private enterprise.

This resulted in major programs throughout Romania and later Krasnoyarsk, Russia. Learning of the extreme poverty of many elderly in Romania, he formed the Idea Foundation to raise money through folk concerts — another of Bob's passions — and 100% of proceeds went to the most needy. In the past 20 years, Bob continued to develop educational programs through his own organization, The Echo Group, including projects in Namibia and Cameroon. Remarkably, all of these projects are currently ongoing.

In 2003, Eastern Oregon University presented Bob with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Bob was preceded in death by sisters, Louise Gurtler and Mary Ruth Colburn; and brother, Mick Tolar; he is survived by his oldest brother, Joe Ray Tolar, as well as numerous nephews and nieces.

DEATH NOTICES

Mildred I. Wyzykowski March 4, 1936 — Oct. 17, 2021 Umatilla

hermiston.com.

Mildred I. Wyzykowski, 85, of Umatilla, died Oct. 17, 2021, at home. She was born March 4, 1936, in Philadelphia. A family celebration will be held at a later date. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Mildred with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> **Ira Daniel Bozarth** Aug. 31, 1945 — Oct. 18, 2021

Boardman

Ira Daniel Bozarth, 76, of Boardman, died Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, at his home. He was born Aug. 31, 1945, in Peoria, Oklahoma. Arrangements are pending with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Ira with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> **Chantel A. Robinson** Dec. 8, 1986 — Oct. 19, 2021 Irrigon

Chantel A. Robinson, 34, of Irrigon, died Oct. 19, 2021, at home. She was born Dec. 8, 1986, in Hermiston. A private family celebration will be held. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Chantel with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> Marshall R. Lilly April 27, 1943 — Oct. 19, 2021

Marshall R. Lilly, 78, of Echo, died Oct. 19, 2021, in Hermiston. He was born April 27, 1943, in Wyco, West Virginia. A graveside service will be held Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, at 1 p.m. at the Echo Cemetery. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Marshall with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Andrew Isaac Nolan 'Drew' Brown June 28, 1992 — Oct. 21, 2021 Umatilla

Andrew Isaac Nolan "Drew" Brown, 29, of Umatilla, died Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, in Hermiston. He was born June 28, 1992, in Salem. A funeral service will be held Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, at 2 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 15 Grant St., Umatilla. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Andrew with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> **Emily C. (Brood) Mellick** Jan. 22, 1956 — Oct. 23, 2021

Hermiston

Emily C. (Brood) Mellick, 65, of Hermiston, died Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, at her home. She was born Jan. 22, 1956, in Longview, Washington. A graveside service will be held Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021, at 10 a.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Emily with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> Kenneth D. 'Ken' Fickel Sept. 19, 1946 — Oct. 23, 2021

> > Hermiston

Kenneth D. "Ken" Fickel, 74, of Hermiston, died Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, in Hermiston. He was born Sept. 19, 1946, in Alliance, Nebraska. A funeral service will be held Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021, at 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, Hermiston. Burial will follow at the Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Ken with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

> Stanley J. 'Stan' Spencer Aug. 22, 1929 — Oct. 22, 2021

Stanley J. "Stan" Spencer, 92, of Pendleton, died Friday, Oct. 22, 2021, in Pendleton. He. was born Aug. 22, 1929, in Gillette, Wyoming. A family gathering will be held. A private burial will be at the Hermiston Cemetery. Arrangements are with Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Please share memories of Stan with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.



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