

OBITUARIES

Douglas Mahley
Vancouver, Washington
Feb. 13, 1955 — May 18, 2018

Douglas Mahley was born in Bucyrus, Ohio, to Gene and Mary Stacklin-Mahley. Doug passed peacefully May 18, 2018.

Doug was someone who always had the best stories to tell, but more important, he knew how to be a good listener. He was patient, and kind, and the very best friend you could ever hope to find. His favorite game was Name That Tune, he never got any of the songs wrong! He dearly loved his animals and Harley. His motto was “Remain Calm,” he was a perfect example of that.

He is remembered with great love and fond

memories by his mother, Mary Stacklin; his brothers, Chuck Mahley (Rose) and Tim Mahley (Laurie); his sister, Karen Weiler; his children, Amber Mahley, Dan McClintock and Ryan Wray; and his grandchildren, Desmon McKenzie, Sheldon McClintock, Brielle McClintock and Mason Wray.

He was preceded in death by his father; and grandparents, George and Winona Mahley and Frank and Anna Stacklin.

May the heavenly highway be smooth, your gas tank always full, and your hair be fixed. We will see you on the other side of the stars.



Douglas Mahley

Ellen ‘Ellie’ Hitsman
Kent, Washington
June 24, 1927 — June 2, 2018

A special lady, Ellen “Ellie” Hitsman, died peacefully at her home in the Meridian Valley Country Club, Kent, Washington, at the age of almost 91. Ellie felt that 90 was quite enough.

She was lucky, and said so often. She was happy and said it was easy — simply a choice to be so. She had a “Pollyanna” quality, and always saw the good in any situation, no matter how dire it seemed. She was always smiling.

Our Mom was a bright light, raining good upon the earth, and all who inhabit it. How we will miss her, and how lucky we all are for her having been here.

Born in Portland, Oregon, in 1927, she was raised in Seaside, Oregon, by her parents, Oscar and Karen Olson, proud, hardworking immigrants from Sweden. She attended Oregon State University, where she met Arthur “Art” Hitsman. It was a match ordained from heaven. They were perfectly suited, as individuals and as a fabulous team, working together in concert and harmony.

She moved to Seattle with her husband, Art, when he began his career as a mechanical engineer with Boeing in the “Red Barn” in 1950. She was proud of the three diverse individuals she and Art raised. Her oldest daughter, Sharon, her middle child, Katherine “Kathy,” and her youngest, Douglas, “Doug.”

She is survived by those three children; her son-in-law, Ralph; her beloved only grandchild (and her favorite), Raphael “Raph,” and his girl-

friend, Mackenzie, the “Coloring Book Lady” of Portland’s Saturday Market; and our special family friend, Ken Horne, whom she told many times was like a son to her.

Ellie and Art believed in education, and demonstrated it in many commitments throughout their lifetimes. As such, they ask that if you choose to make a donation in their honor, to please support the Arthur E. Hitsman Student Excellence Endowment Fund at Oregon State University at the OSU Foundation, 850 S.W. 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333. It will help students with their tuition, and is a permanent endowment fund.

We loved her, and we learned from her every day how to be better as a person, and how to contribute more, even if only a smile. A recent example would be when learning of her terminal illness, which took her life in three weeks, she said to the doctor delivering the news, “Oh well,” then, “but how are you doing?” He had tears in his eyes. She was always placing others above herself.

A life well lived.
No flowers, please.

Services are to be held Thursday, June 14, at 11 a.m., at Zion Lutheran Church, 25105 132nd Ave. S.E. in Kent, Washington, with a reception to immediately follow. Then there is a procession to Hillcrest Memorial Park in Kent for interment. All are welcome.

Please sign Ellie’s online guest book at marlattfuneralhome.com



Ellen “Ellie” Hitsman

Walter B. ‘Pokey’ Olson
Warrenton
Sept. 5, 1945 — May 22, 2018

Walter B. “Pokey” Olson passed away at his home in Warrenton on May 22.

Pokey was born on Sept. 5, 1945, in Missoula, Montana, to Boyd Olson and Edna Paulson, and he was raised in Gearhart, Oregon, by his mother and stepfather, Fred Lucas.

He attended Gearhart Grade School, and then graduated from Seaside High School in 1963. He married Sharon, his high school sweetheart, and “best choice he ever made in his life” in 1964, and they started their family soon thereafter.

They settled in Gearhart, and he began working for Crown Zellerbach, where he started as a tree-faller and eventually became a driver, which he enjoyed until Crown shut down in 1985. At that point he took on his own business hauling chips and sawdust from the Warrenton Mill to Wauna (and other mills) until he retired in 2011.

Pokey was an amazing hunter/fisherman and a loving father. He was a witty and funny individual who loved giving anybody and everybody a hard time. He is remembered by most as fun-loving guy who didn’t care who you are, or where you came from, as long as you were willing to sit down and share a story or two.

Pokey is survived by his wife of 53 years, Sharon; children Brad Olson (Tracy) of Olathe, Kansas, Heidi Foster (Clark) of Jewell, Oregon, and Rick Olson (Lisa) of Spokane, Washington; brother Rick Lucas of Prineville, Oregon; and sister Starr Boudreau of Olney, Oregon.

He is also survived by grandchildren Trevor Olson, Curtis and Kaylee Foster (fiancé Patrick Kelly) and Derek and Lindsey Burke; great-grandchildren Kailey, Kimber, Patrick, and Jarrod Kelly; and special friends/family Don and Janey Olson of Seaside, Oregon, and Garry and Sharyn Paulson of Columbia Falls, Montana.

A celebration of life is scheduled on June 30. The time and location will be announced at a later date. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Pokey’s life. In lieu of flowers, please bring your best Pokey stories and be ready to share them with each other at the celebration.

The family would like to thank the caregivers from Hospice, and the Oregon Health and Science University/Columbia Memorial Hospital Cancer Center in Astoria for their efforts in keeping Pokey happy and comfortable prior to his passing.

Please sign our online guest book and share a memory at OceanViewAstoria.com

Dale Edward Larson
Astoria and Seaside
Feb. 22, 1934 — May 29, 2018

An automobile accident on the evening of May 29, 2018, brought the life of a greatly loved man to an abrupt end.

Dale Larson was born Feb. 22, 1934, in Astoria, to a Swedish immigrant father, Karl E. Larson, and a Civil War descended mother, Florence E. Brace. He had an older brother, Allen Larson, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 86, and a recently discovered half-brother, Richard R. Larson Sr., who passed away in 2008.

At age 17, Dale dropped out of high school to work in the woods as a logger with his father. At about age 22, he became a longshoreman alongside his father-in-law. It was a job he truly loved, and he was a member of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) for over 40 years.

He married Yvonne J. Enbusk on June 5, 1955, and together they had four children, Dave, Dennis, Robin and Dean. Yvonne continues to reside in the Clatsop Care Memory Community, suffering from advanced Alzheimer’s.

Dale began the Lewis and Clark Shake and Shingle Mill, during his years as a longshoreman, on the farm property owned by his parents. After his retirement from longshoring, he continued his business/hobby at the cedar mill, which became the perfect place to instill pride of work in his children and grandchildren. Dale’s children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the joy of his life, and he was so proud of their accomplishments.

Dave Larson and his wife, Lancey, own and operate High Life Adventures and Larson Construction Company. They have three children, Katie (Jake), Jana (Shane) and Heidi (Cameron), and seven grandchildren, Austin, Kiara, Alivia, Savana, Ava, Kayla and Colton.

Dennis Larson and his wife, Deon, own Dennis Larson Excavating, and have two children, Neil (Colleen) and Haley, and one grandchild, Ryan.

Robin Jensen works as a civil engineering specialist with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and is married to Doug. They have four children, Tia (Alex), Dale, Courtney and Madison, and two grandchildren, Irelynn and Cleo.

Dean and his wife, Evie, own Custom Excavating and Trail’s End Recovery. They have

three children, Kurstin, Rachel and Wyatt, and four grandchildren, Carson, Kira, Cohen and Yuri.

As his wife’s Alzheimer’s progressed, Dale worked tirelessly to provide for her every need, all while ensuring they attended every family gathering possible. He heroically took on this challenge, only giving over her care to others when it became detrimental to his health, yet he still visited and cared for her at every chance until his final day.

A little over two years ago, Dale met Nita Thomson of Seaside, and with his gentle smile and comforting small talk they soon found support in each other while caring for their ailing spouses. Nita became a widow, and soon their friendship bloomed into a loving companionship. Dale told Nita, “we don’t have much time,” so they packed the next two years with as many adventurous vacations, work projects and family gatherings as humanly possible. There was joy, laughter and a wonderful light in their lives once again.

At age 84, Dale continued to arrive for work every day with a lunch pail in hand, and a smile on his face. Working alongside his grandson, Dale, for the past several years, he took pride in the product they produced.

He was a constant presence and guide in the lives of his children and grandchildren, and they will tell you his recipe for success was work hard and play hard. Their youth was filled with hard work, camping, boating, jet skiing, snow skiing, family picnics and many wonderful adventures. He was especially fond of his granddaughter, Tia, whose mission was to ensure he had every opportunity to continue to do that.

Dale was admired by the community, and deeply loved by everyone who had come to know him, and he genuinely cared for every person he met. Many have commented that he was their second father or grandfather. He was known as “Papa Dale” to hundreds, and he loved that. He was a true gentleman.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2018, at 11 a.m. at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.

To honor Dale’s memory, we can all practice his simple truth: A genuine smile and some small talk can make the world a better place.



Dale Larson

Flag Day ceremony in Seaside

The public is invited to a Flag Day observance at the Seaside Elks Lodge, 324 Avenue A, on Sunday, June 10, at 4 p.m. Flag Day was first

observed by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. It has been a mandatory observance of the order since 1907. President Truman, an Elk

member, made the proclamation in 1949. The public is invited to this program and coffee and cake will be served.

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Stewart Stephen Berry
Seaside
July 9, 1934 — May 31, 2018

Stewart Berry, of Seaside, passed away May 31, 2018, at the age of 83. He was born in Portland, Oregon to Stewart S. Berry Sr. and Mildred Anderson Berry.

He graduated in the first graduating class from Lake Oswego High School, then attended the University of Washington and Whitman College.

He worked and traveled for the Boeing Company for 35 years, taking an assignment to live in Great Britain for two years. In 1960, he married Nancy Tompkins, and they had two sons, Mark Stephen Berry (Robin) and Eric Jon Berry

(Jodie). In addition, Stewart and Nancy welcomed several foster children into their home while living on Mercer Island, Washington.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; by his son, Eric, and grandchildren, Dylan Berry, Lauren Berry, Tyson Berry and Kyson Berry; and by an extended family of in-laws. He was preceded in death by his son, Mark.

Stewart loved travel, fishing, skiing, mountain climbing, and gatherings with family and friends. Many will remember his quick mind and wonderful sense of humor.

At his request, there will be no service.

Obituary Policy

The Seaside Signal publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no

charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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