

OBITUARIES

Jack Merlin Fosmark

Salem
Nov. 3, 1931 — July 2, 2019

Jack Merlin Fosmark, 87, of Salem, Oregon, died on July 2, 2019, of age-related causes at Salem Hospital.

Jack was born at home in Canby, Oregon, on Nov. 3, 1931, to Johan Andrew “Andy” and Grace Ivy Fosmark. He was preceded in death by his older brothers, Robert “Bob” and Lyle, along with his brother Andrew, who died in infancy.

Jack grew up in Canby until he was 11 years old and the family moved to Tillamook, where his father, Andy, worked as a watch maker. At the age of 13, he started delivering newspapers during the summer months, and later worked a job delivering milk.

Jack attended Tillamook High School, and later enrolled in the U.S. Air Force in 1951. His military service included radio operator training in Biloxi, Mississippi, and a deployment to Japan from 1952 to 1954.

After returning to Tillamook, he married Doris “Dodie” Lorraine King in 1956, and was later recruited to join the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as a radio intercept operator. At the start of his CIA career, Jack and Dodie traveled together from Tillamook to begin his first tour in Nicotia, Cyprus.

They had two children, Tim Andrew and Cheryl “Sherry” Lynn, who were both born overseas during his tenure at the CIA. Jack’s career took the family to multiple international locations for two decades, including: Manila, Philippines; Baghdad, Iraq; Bangkok, Thailand; Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Asmara, Ethiopia; and London, England.

The family returned to the U.S. in 1974 and lived in Virginia, before moving back to Tillamook. Jack and Dodie divorced in 1975, and he retired from the CIA in 1978 and moved to Seaside, Oregon.

While in Seaside, he worked as a type-setter at the Seaside Signal from 1979 to 1981, and wrote a column called “Years Ago: Looking Back at Old Seaside.” He also served as a volunteer and contributor to the newspaper until 1991, and began to pursue his interest in family genealogy and Oregon history, including the origination of northern coastal towns and Native American tribes.

During this tenure at the paper, Jack received the Award of Merit for Best Local

Column, Weekly, from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

It was in Seaside that Jack met Lee Strumme, who he would later marry in 2002 in a backyard ceremony at their home in Salem, where he had moved in 1994. Together, Jack and Lee created an oasis in their backyard with custom bird houses, a large vegetable garden and a beautiful koi pond. They often hosted friends and family for gatherings and a daily “happy hour” at their home during their 17 wonderful years of marriage.

An avid bird watcher and outdoorsman, Jack also spent hours fishing the Trask and Wilson rivers in Tillamook County. He also had an interest and talent for wood carving, a hobby he spent several decades perfecting. His family is grateful they will be able to enjoy his wood creations for many years to come.

Jack had a passion for writing for most of his life, and you would often find him researching and compiling historical stories on his home office computer. A proud descendant of settlers who traveled the Oregon Trail, Jack’s maternal grandmother, Kate, was only 2 years old when she arrived in Aurora in her mother’s arms with the 1863 wagon train.

His interest in family history led to a long-time partnership with the Aurora Colony Museum, and if you visit the museum today, you will find a tribute to Jack’s donations of family artifacts and his years of hard work and dedication to historical research.

Jack is survived by his devoted wife, Lee Fosmark of Salem, Oregon; his son, Tim Andrew Fosmark (Andrea) of Eugene; his daughter, Cheryl “Sherry” Lynn Vick (Keith) of Hemlock; his stepdaughters, Amy Snook of Seaside (Ryan) and Terri Adam (Gary) of Portland; along with his granddaughter, Avery Fosmark; four step-grandchildren: Michael, Alissa and Holly Snook and Tony Nelson; and his step-great-granddaughter, Bella Lee.

Jack’s family will attend a small graveside service at Zion Memorial Park Cemetery in Canby, Oregon on July 9.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Jack’s name to the Old Aurora Colony Museum, P.O. Box 202, Aurora, OR 97002 or auroracolony.org.



Fire season begins, restrictions in place

Seaside Signal

Northwest Oregon entered fire season this month, with public use restrictions going into place in an effort to prevent wildfire starts.

Fire season is declared when local conditions create the potential for significant wildfire. Monday’s declaration affects ODF-protected areas in Tillamook, Columbia, Clatsop and western Yamhill and Washington counties.

Public use restrictions as of July 1 include no use of tracer ammunition or exploding targets as well as no smoking within any forest operation area. Use of fuse and caps for blasting is also prohibited unless approval is granted by the district forester.



Police log

June 28

1:09 p.m., Pocket Park: A transient attempting to sell items without a permit is advised of city ordinances.

5:26 p.m., N. Roosevelt: A person is warned of unlawful lodging.

6:08 p.m. Beach: Caller reports a low flying drone; neither the drone pilot or the drone could be located.

6:11 p.m. Pocket Park: Street musicians are advised of a complaint they are playing louder than acceptable noise levels.

June 29

9:55 a.m., Turnaround: A male playing loud music is advised his music is too loud.

3:22 p.m., Beach: Water rescue.

6:42 p.m., Broadway: A liquor violation is reported.

June 30

7:44 p.m., 2100 block S. Franklin: Suspicious circumstances reported.

10:14 p.m., 1000 block S. Holladay: A person is arrested on a warrant.

July 1

1:02 a.m., Turnaround: A loud, impromptu band is advised of noise ordinance and agrees to disband and move along.

3:42 a.m., Turnaround: A subject making a lot of noise is advised to quiet down.

7:07 a.m., Broadway: A transient sleeping in a doorway agrees to move along.

3:11 p.m., 900 block Third Avenue: A dog bite is reported.

9:57 p.m., End of the World: A disturbance is reported.

July 2

12:51 a.m., 1100 block S. Downing: A disturbance is reported.

10:54 a.m., Avenue G: A disturbance is reported.

10:11 p.m., 1300 block Avenue A: Illegal fireworks are reported. Police are unable to locate.

10:15 p.m., Fourth Street and Beach: Fireworks are reported; police are unable to locate.

10:52 p.m., Turnaround: Fireworks are reported; police are able to locate the subjects who are warned of illegal activity. Their fireworks are confiscated.

July 3

10:02 a.m., 700 block S. Wahanna: Sex crimes are reported.

10:56 p.m., 2300 block S. Roosevelt: A person is transported to detox.

July 4

12:27 p.m., 1400 block S. Franklin: Fireworks offense.

1:59 p.m., 300 block S. Columbia: Subjects warned about illegal fireworks.

3 p.m., Holladay: Caller reports subject throwing fireworks out the window of a moving vehicle. Police are unable to locate.

9 p.m., The Cove: Caller advised police of possibly intoxicated person entering the water. Police spoke with subject who was out of the water and agreed to not go back in.

Fire log

June 28

10:26 a.m. N. Wahanna: Emergency medical response.

June 29

8:12 N. Wahanna: Emergency medical response.

9:29 a.m., Irvine and Avenue K: Fire investigation.

8:30 p.m., Turnaround: Emergency medical response.

8:38 p.m., Beach and 12th: Fire investigation.

June 30

3:15 p.m., 600 block Broadway: Emergency medical response

4:40 p.m., Forest Court: Emergency medical response.

July 1

9:44 p.m., N. Prom: Emergency medical response.

9:44 p.m., N. Prom: Emergency medical response.

July 2

11:22 a.m., Highway 101 and Highway 26: Police and fire respond to a report of a motor vehicle accident with serious injuries.

18:49 p.m., 3200 block Sunset: Structure fire.

July 3

1:29 a.m. OceanWay: Emergency medical response.

12:21 p.m., 700 block Avenue B: Emergency medical response.

12:45 p.m., Hilltop: Fire investigation.

8:01 p.m., 1300 block S. Columbia: Emergency medical response.

July 4

12:16 a.m. Turnaround: Emergency medical response.

9:02 a.m., 1100 block Avenue B: Emergency medical response.

5:35 p.m., Beach: Emergency medical response.

5:53 p.m., Semaphore 3: Water rescue.

9:21 p.m., 12th and Prom: Emergency medical response.

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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