

Marion Elizabeth Blake

Seaside
April 29, 1918 — Feb. 6, 2021



My mother wanted me to be brief on this part of the assignment. If you knew my "Mudder," you knew she loved to be the Queen Bee, and was truly a force of nature.

Some of her songs, quotable quotes and one-liners included: "To thine own self be true." — Shakespeare

"Accent the positive, eliminate the negative, latch onto the affirmative, don't mess with Mr. In-Between!" sung to the tune of Johnny Mercer and The Pied Pipers.

She loved Voltaire's wisdom: "The pursuit of pleasure must be the goal of every rational person." And of course, Coco Chanel's understanding: "In order to be irreplaceable, one must always be different."

So what were her super powers? She was a good sport, flexible and a straight arrow. What did she believe was her greatest asset? Patience ... patience can be a bitter seed, but it yields rrrrrrrrrich fruits!

When asked what she attributes her longevity to, she easily shares: Good genes, red wine, dark chocolate, being with the ones you love, great friends and having fun!

Marion was born April 29, 1918, in Denver, Colorado, to Marion Elizabeth and Donald Twiss. The Spanish flu, one of the deadliest influenza pandemics, was raging. Marion's father was a pharmacist and her grandpa, Dr. Noble Macomber, had to deal with this deadly health issue, that did not have a vaccine to come to the rescue. The Spanish flu had to burn itself out, but not before killing between 50 and 100 million people worldwide.

Marion's mother had been plagued with a serious heart condition, and died at 42, leaving her at age 13, and her older brother Stanley Craig, 17, in the midst of the Great Depression. Her father remarried within six months, believing Marion needed a mother. Her brother enlisted in the Army.

Marion rarely discussed her heartbreaking youth. She chose to make the best life for herself. She grad-

uated from North Denver High School, and enrolled in the University of Denver. She excelled at writing, sports, dancing and all of the social skills around college life.

She transferred to CSU so they could be close. They married May 27, 1941, at half past four, the day after he graduated. She always referred to their perfect relationship of 55 years.

She loved her life, and wanted to find her perfect soul mate. She met Mr. Perfect, always calling him the Big Man on Campus! Walter Pershing Blake, a three-sport letterman, all years, smart, 6 feet 2 inches, eyes of blue, great dancer and a veterinarian student at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

She was encouraged, and made her last move to Seaside in 1998 so she could be close to her youngest daughter, Mary. Her oldest daughter, Paul, also were drawn to the beach and to be near this most remarkable and resilient woman. She was living with Marny and Paul when, in 2009, Marny died of cancer, and Paul, in 2010, died of a broken heart due to the loss of the love of his life.

Marion had always had the goal of living to be 100. Not only did she reach that goal, our Mayor Jay Barber got the opportunity to proclaim April 29, 2018, Marion Elizabeth Blake Day. To top that, on her 102nd birthday, a drive-by community parade saw her become an honorary detective for the Seaside Police!

She was still kicking butt, playing competitive duplicate bridge three days per week, up until March 4, 2020, when we all were quarantined due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mary moved into Marion's house in 2012, and they and their beloved four-legged friends lived happily together until Marion's peaceful crossing Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021, just a couple of months before her 103rd birthday.

Marion was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. W. P. Blake; Judy Wagner, her middle daughter; and Marny Philippon, her oldest daughter.

Her survivors include

Mary Blake, daughter; grandchildren Kristi Skiba, Laura Warren and Jesse Blake; and great-grandchildren Bridgette and Hayden Skiba and Brandon Blake Short.

My Mudder wanted to live forever! You could help her do that by keeping her spirit alive in your heart, memory and stories. Always remember to love your mother!

A special thank you to the caring hospice team who gave such good compassionate care to us, and helped my mother cross at home, in the most beautiful and sacred space.

We will have a party to celebrate Marion in the fall, when it's safe for us to gather. Until then ... my Mudder would want you to know she's happy and dancing with the love of her life. She wishes you all aloha, and happy trails to you!

Please, no flowers. If you would like to celebrate Marion, please consider a donation of your time, talents or treasure to your favorite cause or to the Clatsop County Animal Shelter.

Miss Me — But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road,

And the sun has set for me,

I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.

Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little — but not too long,

And not with your head bowed low.

Remember the love that we once shared,

Miss me — but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,

And each must go alone.

It's all part of the Master's plan,

A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick at heart,

Go to the friends you know,

Bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.

Miss me — but let me go.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is handling the final arrangements (hughesransom.com)

Richard Whitlock

Seaside
Aug. 24, 1958 — Dec. 7, 2020



Richard Whitlock was born and raised in Seaside. Growing up, sports were always a huge part of his life, from Little League Baseball through high school, continuing into his adult years, to playing city league basketball and softball, to coaching numerous Little League teams and basketball teams.

Richard enjoyed attending and watching Oregon State University football games with his son, David. He ran many 5Ks with his wife, Kirstin, and daughter, Aimee, always being sure to wait at the finish line to say, "what took you so long?" He loved being "Grumpa" to his two granddaughters, Emmy and Ava, always having pictures ready to show off.

Richard took great pride in his work as an auto mechanic. He enjoyed helping people, and numerous customers became lifelong friends.

Richard is survived by his father, Gene (Carole) Whitlock; his mother, Patricia (Hugh) Kerwin; his wife of 42 years, Kirstin

Whitlock; daughter, Aimee, and son-in-law, Seth Morrissey; son, David Whitlock; granddaughters, Emmy Grace and Ava James Morrissey; sisters, Cathy (Al) Drawson and Sally Whitlock; brothers, Sherman (Cindy) Whitlock and George (Angela) Whitlock; numerous nieces and nephews; and many friends, who were also part of his family.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements. A service will be held at a later date.

Donations may be made in his name to Seaside Kids Inc.

Richard will always be remembered for his sense of humor, good heart, and his all-around love of a good cheeseburger.

Three dead in crash

The Astorian

Seaside woman.

Walter Smith, 21, of Pendleton, who was driving the Mercedes, died. His passengers, Erick Fadness, 20, of Decorah, Iowa, and a 16-year-old female from Portland also died.

The Seaside woman who was driving the Toyota Tacoma was flown to a Portland hospital.

The highway was temporarily closed while law enforcement investigated and reconstructed the crash.

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PUBLIC SAFETY LOG



Feb. 5

2:36 a.m., Chamber restrooms: Property crimes are reported.

10:36 a.m., 900 block Holladay Drive: A disturbance is reported.

10:54 a.m., 2100 block S. Franklin: A subject is cited for disorderly conduct.

4:56 p.m., 800 block 13th Avenue: A hit and run car accident is reported.

5:29 p.m., Police headquarters: An iPhone found on the beach is turned in to police for safekeeping.

Feb. 6

3:07 p.m., 400 block 15th Avenue: A resident reports their mail stolen.

6:53 p.m., 400 block 12th Avenue: Caller reports neighbor making a racket. Police contact neighbor who says they are arguing with someone over the phone. They are advised of the complaint and agree to lower the volume.

Feb. 7

6:04 p.m., Carousel Mall: A subject sleeping in a doorway is advised to move along.

8:14 p.m., 1200 block S. Roosevelt: Subjects asked to leave the premises by employees are slow to leave; officers arrive and tell them they are indefinitely trespassed.

Feb. 8

4:27 p.m., 2500 block Mason Street: A subject reported on property they've been trespassed tells police the homeowners have asked him to keep an eye on the property. No further information was available.

5:38 p.m., 1100 block S. Wahanna: A reported domestic

incident at a duplex residence is determined by police to be kids playing.

Feb. 9

9:14 a.m., 2500 block Queen Street: A disturbance is reported.

9:52 a.m., Avenue A: Caller reports a property crime in the past; she said her truck lock was damaged.

10:06 a.m., 800 block 10th Avenue: Caller reports a dangerous hole in front of his water meter. Public Works is advised and says they will remedy the situation.

12:16 p.m., 1100 block Avenue A: Caller reports her neighbor is looking at her mail. Police speak to the neighbor and warn them to stop doing that.

Infant dies in crash on Ecola State Park Road

Seaside Signal

A Seaside man was arrested Monday for manslaughter following a crash that left a baby dead.

Emergency crews responded to a single-vehicle crash at about 6 p.m. on Ecola State Park Road.

Police say a Mazda MZ3 driven by Rony Tomas-Garcia, 23, of Seaside, was heading southbound when it veered off the road, struck a tree and came to rest on its top.

A 3 1/2-month-old baby girl died in the crash. A passenger, Esperanza Martin-Ramirez, 20, of Roseburg, was taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria before being transferred to Oregon Health & Science University Hospital in Portland.

Tomas-Garcia was taken to Columbia Memorial for medical treatment and was released.

He was arrested for manslaughter, assault, reckless driving and driving under the influence of intoxicants.

It's American Heart Month **PREPARE TO SAVE A LIFE**

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