

Obituary

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Survivors include four children, Ann Marie Mott, Mary Pat Nester, Karen Embury, and Bill Fulkerson; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Tualatin Valley Funeral Alternatives was in charge of arrangements.

HELEN M. MOEHNKE

Helen Margaret Moehnke, 93, Banks, died June 23, 2011. A graveside service was held June 29 at Union Point Cemetery in Banks.

Mrs. Moehnke was born August 18, 1917, in Greenville, to Edward and Olga (Mielke) Berwald. She was raised in Banks, where she attended Schefflin Lutheran School in the 7th and 8th grades. After her children were grown, she earned her G.E.D. from Forest Grove High School



Helen M. Moehnke

In 1940, she married Dorman Michael Moehnke. They made their home in Jewell and Alsea, before moving to Hayward Hill, near Banks in 1945. She was a homemaker.

She enjoyed gardening, houseplants, embroidery, crocheting, sewing, camping and

photography. She was an avid bowler who loved nature and animals.

She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Michael J. "Mike" Moehnke; two brothers, Otto Berwald and Oswald Berwald; two sisters, Marie Berwald and Ella Snyder.

Survivors include one son, Robert H. Moehnke of LaCenter, Washington; three daughters, Linda L. Rieben of Banks, Irene O. Mott of Evergreen, Colorado, and Ella M. Duyck of Parkdale; a brother, Rudy Berwald of Renton, Wash.; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to Doernbecher Children's Hospital Foundation.

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home of Forest Grove was in charge of arrangements.

Action Ads

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Request for Bid

P&C Construction New Vernonia K-12 School Bid Package Four (BP-4): Photovoltaic System

Bids Due 2:00 pm PST, July 26th, 2011

Bids for the "VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT - PHOTO-VOLTAIC SYSTEM: BID PACKAGE FOUR (BP-4)" will be received by the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC), P&C Construction, 2133 NW York St., Portland, Oregon 97210 by the time and date listed above. Faxed bids will be accepted. Questions regarding the proposal shall be in writing and directed to Kevin McCall at P&C Construction by fax (503-667-

LEGAL NOTICES

2565) or e-mail (kmccall@builtbypandc.com). Late bids will not be accepted.

The scope of work for this bid package includes, but is not limited to, a full design / build Photovoltaic System on the roof of the new Vernonia K-12 School in Vernonia Oregon. It is anticipated that work on site will commence in September 2011 and must reach Final Completion no later than April 12th, 2012.

Beginning on July 12th, 2011, bid documents may be examined at the offices of P&C or obtained electronically by contacting Rosanna Williamson at P&C Construction (503-665-0165 or

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MARVIN O. MEYER, 92, a longtime resident of the Vernonia community, died Friday evening, June 17, 2011 at his home.

Graveside Services were held on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 2:00 P.M. at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery, 2080 Bridge Street in Vernonia, Oregon, with Pastor John Cahill, of the Pioneer Baptist Fellowship in Vernonia, officiating. A Flag Honor Presentation was held under the direction of the American Post #119 in Vernonia and the American Legion Washington Post #2 in Forest Grove.

Marvin Oren Meyer was born February 13, 1919, at Ridgefield, Washington, to Otto William and Ida Hathaway Meyer. He was the third child

in a family of five boys and one girl.

Several moves were made by the family before they settled on a farm along Timber Road. He spoke of early childhood memories, working with his father supplying firewood to the Pleasant Hill school and harvesting cedar poles off of a forest ridge with horses. Also as a youth, he worked as a caddy at the nearby Vernonia Golf Club.

He received his early education at the rural Pleasant Hill elementary school and Vernonia High School. He left high school to work in the logging industry, first working with his father. He told of many memories when he worked in the area of the Sunset Highway (Hwy 26 to the coast) before the highway was completed. Later, he worked for small private, "gypo" logging contractors.

He married Irene Bergerson; they later divorced.

Before entering the US Navy during WWII, he was an electrician at the Mare Island naval base in California. While at naval boot camp, he contracted scarlet fever which resulted in rheumatic fever and heart damage and a year of hospitalization. He was discharged with 100% disability.

His love of the outdoors and knowledge of the logging industry led him back to the forest and to logging. He decided that working for himself was most satisfying and began to purchase equipment and timberland when possible. As the years passed, he slowly regained his health.

About 1962, he began growing cultivated and cultured Christmas trees as he realized a market was developing for the product; he had previously harvested natural growth Christmas trees. He was a pioneer and innovator for this new industry. People wanted a fuller, more perfect tree and it was his challenge to produce just that tree. Noble fir became the "Cadillac" of Christmas trees but its natural growth was alpine in nature. Marvin was one of the first growers to shear, align and shape the top of each tree. Over the years his many innovations were studied and adopted by other growers.

In 1962, he was awarded the first Columbia County "Tree Farmer of the Year" award and received that award again in 1972. He was a charter member and director of the Columbia County chapter of the NW Woodlands Association which later became the Columbia County Small Woodlands Association, an affiliate of OSWA. He was very active in the offices of the county association during those early years.

Before the state-wide Outdoor School program was envisioned, Marvin and a group of forest owners, including then county agent Don Coin Walrod, held a day of learning about the forest. This annual event was conducted at Camp Wilkerson for all of the 6th grade classes in Columbia County.

Every Christmas season through 2009, he hosted Head Start and private school children on his tree farm to tell them about growing trees. He illustrated tree growth with seeds and seedlings and how they grow, culminating with the cutting and baling of a tree which the group of children would take with them to decorate. In addition, a small treat or memento was offered to each child, sometimes it was their own seedling to plant. He looked forward to their eager faces each year.

The majestic Sequoia and Port Orford cedar trees in the Vernonia city park and the trees lining the roadway in Anderson park were donated and planted by Marvin in the early 1960s when they were about 5-6 feet tall. He faithfully watered them to ensure that they grew. Several area homesteads and rural properties have beautiful mature trees which he either planted or provided to his friends and acquaintances. He planted many thousands of trees and experimented with numerous types of conifers.

Marvin had many other interests in addition to his life-long commitment to the forest industries. He was a very competent mechanic, doing most of his own repair work on his logging and tree farming equipment and personal vehicles. He had a love for the Chevrolet automobile and owned several collector cars and trucks, showing them to anyone who was interested. He also enjoyed photography, gardening, touring with a travel trailer, clam digging, and other outdoor activities. Before arthritis invaded his knees, he enjoyed square dancing and round dancing.

He has been a member of the First Christian Church of Vernonia since 1933.

In 1975, he married Ellen Hanson. They constructed their home on the tree farm and operated a successful u-cut and wholesale Christmas tree business for 35 years.

He was predeceased by all of his siblings. Surviving are his wife, Ellen; sons, Phillip of Aloha, Ron of Portland, Stanley and Gary, both of Vernonia, and three grandsons, Justin, Nick and Michael Meyer.

To sign the online guest book or to send a condolence to the family go to www.fuitenrosehoyt.com.

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Vernonia was in charge of the arrangements.