

NORTHWEST REGIONAL MEETING GROUP

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Updated 02/26/2022

JOYS

CONCERNS

Schaefli, Rosalie Hensley (Dec 17, 2019) Schaefli, 85, of Brinnon, WA(formerly of Wenatchee, WA), passed away in a house fire on December 17, 2019. Rosalie grew up in Sunnyslope.

She was born to William and Eva Hensley. She graduated from Wenatchee High School in 1952. She met and married Wayne Schaefli (**JCPenney**) on December 26, 1953. They would have celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary this year. They lived in Seattle, WA, and California, while raising their children, and chose to retire in Brinnon.

Rosalie is survived by her husband, Wayne; son, Steven, three daughters: Laura, Susan, and Julie; many grandchildren; sister, Dorothy Oelke of Wenatchee, WA; two brothers: Donald (Gloria) Hensley of Wenatchee, WA, and Larry (Cicillia) Hensley of East Wenatchee, WA; sister-in-law, Nola Hensley of Cashmere, WA; brother-in-law, Wilfred Dunn, of Colville, WA; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Don; brother, Harold of Cashmere, WA; sister, Norma Dunn of Colville, WA;

There will be no services.

Hercher, Robert (Nov 26, 2021) It is with Heavy Heart that I tell you of the passing of my Dad. He worked his whole 40+ year career **with JCP** mostly as a District Personnel Manager, and loved every minute of it. He is survived by his spouse, Ruthe. Bob was a Century Club Member.

Robert "Bob" J. Hercher lived from 04-03-1931 to 11-26-2021 spending 37 years working for the **JC Penney Co.** He received his 50 Pin in 2004 and was inducted in the Century Club in April 2021. Bob wishes to be cremated and his ashes held until Ruthe, his wife, passes and both will be buried together on the Oregon Coast. Bob and Ruthe were members of the Northwest RMG where he served his early years with JCPenney, and the Northern California/Northern Nevada RMG where he served as the Sacramento District Personnel Manager, retiring on April 30, 1991 (*Brian Hetcher, No obituary available*)

Cogburn, Gordon F. (Nov 16, 2021) (*no obituary found*) Cogburn passed away in Gresham, Oregon on November 16, 2021. He was a **J.C. Penney** associate for 40 years, store manager of 7 different stores, and worked as a district manager during his career. He retired in 1991 from the J. C. Penney store in Modesto, California. Born and raised in Lakeview, Oregon, he attended Oregon State University where he met and married his wife of nearly 62 years, Verdalee Currey. Verdalee preceded him in death in 2014. He leaves behind 4 children, their spouses, 8 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren, the most recent of which was born the day before he died.

Isbell, Jack O (Jne 20, 2020) Jack began his long career with **JC Penney** at the Downtown Seattle, WA store located at 2nd and Pike St. Jack started out in the Men's Workwear department located in the stores basement selling clothes and fondly remembered feeling the rumble of the many trains going through downtown Seattle each day. From there, Jack went to Downtown Everett, WA.

After Everett he helped open and worked at the Lloyd Center store in Portland, OR. Along the way, he and his adored wife Patricia had 4 children. From Portland he was sent to Downtown Salem, OR on Liberty, then

Florin Center in Sacramento, CA where he was merchandising manager and promoted to assistant manager. He told of a promotional visit by Playboy model and actress Barbi Benton who was Hugh Hefner's girlfriend at the time.

Jack was then promoted to store manager of downtown Richmond, CA. He recalled his security manager there was a sparring partner for professionals in heavy weight boxing. At that time the store was located directly across from the Richmond Chapter of the Hells Angels Bike Club. He said they were some of the nicest customers he ever had! His next assignment took him to the Astoria, OR store. After that, Jack accepted the downtown Casper, WY store which he ran and closed once the new Eastridge Mall store was completed and served as manager there until he retired.

Jack served J C Penney and the community by belonging to the Chamber of Commerce, Casper Service League, and the Wyoming Retail Merchants Association. Jack is also a member of the HCSC Alumni Century Club.

Jack and Pat treasured the decades' long friendships they made with the good people of JC Penney and kept in touch with many people over the years.

Jack survived his darling wife Pat; he is survived by his 4 children and 9 grandchildren. We will always love and miss this wonderful man and hearing his memorable experiences working for J C Penney!

Note: There is no obituary available. Information provided by family member

Van Kleek, Mildred "Mickey" (May 20, 2019) Mickey was born May 2, 1923 and passed away May 20, 2019. She is survived by her sister Madge Palmer, her daughters Cindy Porter, Melinda Sundby, and Jody Jaycox, as well as six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Bob Van Kleek in 1979.

Mickey was born and raised in Greensboro, North Carolina, as one of 6 children. Here she met the love of her life, Bob, as he was leaving for overseas during WWII. After the war they married and drove cross country to his hometown of Seattle where they went on to have 3 daughters. During Bob's career with **JCPenney CO.**, which took them to many locations across the US, Mickey thrived as a homemaker and devoted and loving mother.

She was a fantastic cook and loved to entertain, especially if it involved dancing and singing to the old standards. Upon the untimely death of Bob in 1979, she lived for 40 more years in the Seattle area filling her life with friends old and new, as a member of Bellevue UMC, golf, and more entertaining. Mickey was a loving, generous and strong woman who will be dearly missed by her family.

Tanner, Henry Lee "Bud" (Nov 15, 2019) Tanner, 85 of Pendleton, Oregon passed away at home. Bud was born on February 21, 1934 in San Francisco, CA to Leland and Lillian (Reilly) Tanner. He was raised in Millbrae, CA. and attended St. Catherine's elementary school and Serra High School.

After graduation he received a commission to the Coast Guard Academy. The cruise on the sailing ship Eagle was a highlight of his life, but the trip on the cutter convinced him that a life at sea was not for him so he resigned his commission. He then attended the University of San Francisco where he earned a degree in Business Administration.

Bud loved playing baseball for the USF Dons, and watching his classmate Bill Russel play basketball. After graduation Bud enlisted in the Army and was stationed at the Presidio in San Francisco.

He worked at Standard Oil for a time then in 1960 began his career with the **J.C. Penney Company**. He worked in many California locations, and then was transferred to Pendleton, Oregon to manage the Penney store from 1969 to 1994 when he retired. Bud had a lifelong love for the game of baseball--playing, coaching and watching.

An avid sports fan he passed on his love of the San Francisco teams--Giants, 49ers and Warriors to his children. He loved to ski. While on a ski vacation at Lake Tahoe, Bud and his friends noticed two girls with tire chain trouble. He told his friend to pull over so they could help them and he said, "I'll take the brunette." Six

months later on July 25, 1970 he married Kathy Walsh in Novato, California. He was a runner for over 30 years. He ran in the first San Francisco marathon and ran his last marathon in Coeur d'Alene, ID at the age of 73. He also competed in many triathlons.

Bud was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and served on the finance committee for many years. He was also on the St. Mary's Outreach board. Bud enjoyed photography, golf and fishing. He also made wonderful beer and wine for 20 years. And, he had a sour dough starter going for ten years making delicious bread and pancakes. He also grew the most amazing tomatoes from seed.

Bud is survived by his wife Kathy, Daughters Laura (Jim) Rore, Woodbridge, CA, Jill Tanner, Moscow, ID, Donna (Matt) Bostwick, Pendleton OR., Gayle (Andrew) Wittenberg, Plainsboro, NJ, son David (Jessica) Tanner, Richland WA. He is the loving grandfather to 15 grandchildren: Steve Coler, Malinda Coler, Melanie Coler, Katie Rore, Taylor Nurmi, Morgan Nurmi, Annie Bostwick, Bobby Bostwick, Jacob Bostwick, Paul Wittenberg, Mark Wittenberg, Madison Tanner, Sophia Tanner, Lillian Tanner, Henry Tanner, and one great grandchild Aiden Coler and many nieces and nephews. Bud was preceded in death by his parents, Lee and Lillian Tanner, his sisters Maureen Huth and Jeaneen Ferraris, his brother Paul Tanner, nephews Brock Ferraris and Leland Tanner, and niece Toni Tanner. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to St. Mary's Catholic Church, 809 SE Emigrant Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801 or Vange John Memorial Hospice, 645 W. Orchard Ave. Suite 500, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Hogenson, Galen R. (Jan 8, 2019) A man of unshakable conviction, values and a love for family, Galen R. Hogenson, passed away peacefully at home in Burlington, WA after reaching the age of 96 years old. He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirlee Hogenson after 65+ years together (*see her obit below*).

Galen and Shirlee are survived by their four children; daughter Gretchen & her husband Jud Hartmann residing in Blue Hill, Maine; son Peter & his wife Theresa, son Samuel & his wife Julie, and son Andrew & his wife Stephanie, who all reside with their children in the Seattle/Bellevue area.

Galen earned the respect and love of many throughout the world both in his personal and professional life.

Galen was born in Centralia, WA on December 27, 1922. He interrupted his studies at University of Washington to enlist in the USAAF in October of 1942, serving as an armorer gunner in the 832nd Bomb Squadron flying missions from England over Germany. After being honorably discharged in October, 1945, Galen returned to Seattle where he completed his studies at the University of Washington.

Upon graduation, Galen joined the **JC Penney company** in their Seattle store, eventually working his way up as an executive in their New York headquarters. In 1975, Galen and Shirlee moved to Brussels, Belgium where Galen led European Operations for the Penney Company. During their time in Brussels, they traveled extensively throughout Europe taking full advantage of their time overseas.

In 1980, Galen and Shirlee retired to their dream home in Utsalady Bay on Camano Island, WA where he pursued his passions of gardening, fishing, crabbing and entertaining friends and family. Only briefly retired, Galen took an advisory role for the Italian retailer La Rinascente in Milan, Italy which not only gave him the opportunity to stay involved in the retail world, but allowed he and Shirlee to continue to indulge in their passion for global travel combining business trips with pleasure.

In 1990, Galen and Shirlee moved to Skagit Valley, fully retired and settling down in Shelter Bay, La Conner. They enjoyed playing golf as members of the Skagit Valley Country Club, boating and spending time with many great friends in the area. They made their final move together to the Creekside Community in Burlington, WA in 2007.

While Galen's family misses him deeply, they are comforted in the beauty, richness and depth of life that Galen experienced and the love that he shared with Shirlee and together with their family.

Galen will be laid to rest with Shirlee at Anderson Cemetery in Stanwood, WA. Galen has requested that in lieu of flowers, people wishing to pay their respects send donations to Hospice of the Northwest, 227 Freeway Dr., Suite A, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

Hogenson, Shirlee (Feb 10, 2013) Love of Christ the Lord and her close-knit family were central in the life of Shirlee Hogenson, who departed at Hogenshome in Burlington, Washington. Shirlee was loved by many, reflecting the personal warmth and selflessness they always felt when in her presence.

Shirlee was born in Tacoma, Washington on April 3rd, 1923. She graduated as Salutatorian of her class at Centralia High School. She went on to Centralia Junior College, the University of Washington Seattle, and New York University at Stonybrook, Long Island, New York.

In 1947 at a Pi Phi Sorority/Sigma Chi Fraternity exchange, Shirlee met Galen Hogenson.

Shortly after, on October 4th, 1947, Shirlee and Galen were married at Christ's Episcopal Church in Tacoma. They were blessed with 65+ years of a rewarding and beautiful life together with their family.

Shirlee and Galen were parents to daughter Gretchen, currently married to Jud Hartmann and residing in Sedgwick, Maine, and of three sons and their wives; Peter & Theresa, Samuel & Julie and Andrew & Stephanie, who all reside with their children in the Seattle/Bellevue area.

The Hogenson family wishes to extend special thanks to the Hospice of the Northwest and the Visiting Angels for their very needed assistance and support.

Kahny, Eldon J. (Aug 24, 2019) Eldon, age 95, died in Everson, Washington. He was preceded in death in 2011 by his wife of 60 years, Emily (Kerkman) Kahny, and is survived by daughters Joan Yoder (Alan) and Marilyn Sippy (Martin), son James Kahny (Doray), four grandchildren Jeff and Chris Yoder and Lauren and Ryan Sippy, and his sister Dyann Alexander (Dick).

Born in Pierce, Nebraska to Frank and Emma (Kolterman) Kahny, he was raised in Nebraska and Springfield, Oregon. A graduate of Springfield High School, Eldon served honorably in the US Army during World War II. He worked for the **JC Penney Company** for 37 years and retired in Lodi, California in 1984.

He had been a resident of Everson for twelve years. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bellingham, and the Lynden Senior Center. Burial will be at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon. A Celebration of Life was held on Monday, September 9, 2019 at his daughter's home in Everson. Please share your thoughts and memories online at www.sigsfuneralservices.com. Location information can also be found on the website.

Hughes, David (Sept 29, 2020) Mr Hughes, 94, of Beaverton, OR died at home surrounded by family. He was born December 2nd, 1925 in Seattle Washington. David grew up in Longview Washington until 1943 when at the age of 17 he entered the US Merchant Marines. At 18 he entered the US Marine Corps. His Marine assignment on the Battleship USS Massachusetts lasted until the end of the war in 1945.

David met his wife Lois of Seattle and married in 1951. They had four children; Diane, Bob, Ed and Mike. David spent 35 years working for the **JC Penney** company in the custom decorating field, moving from Seattle to Orange County California and then on to Portland where he retired in 1986.

David spent most of his retirement years volunteering for many Catholic organizations and was president of Catholic Charities until 1994. He went on to become president of St Vincent de Paul and regional chair until 2000. He then went on to become president of the Serra Club until 2013. Our dad relished his years serving others in the Catholic community.

David is survived by his wife Lois, his four children Diane, Bob, Ed and Mike. He also was blessed to have 16 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to any of the above Catholic organizations of your choice.

Probst, Val Bowen (Feb 14, 2020) Val, 90, of West Richland, died Feb. 14 in Kennewick. He was born in Ogden, Utah, and lived in the Tri-City area since 1981. He was a retired retail store manager for JCPenney. Einan's at Sunset, Richland, is in charge of arrangements.

Bowden, Gerry (Sept 1, 2020) *Note: an obituary is not available at this time; what follows are comments from associates.*

Gerry started his career with **JCPenney** in Eugene, OR. He managed stores in Portland, Or, Great Falls Mt., Fairbanks Alaska and Bellview Nebraska. He and his wife Marian conducted retirement seminars for several years after he retired.

He was a big fan of University of Oregon sports. He was an excellent golfer. He vacationed in Mexico every year.

He was a SCORE, (Service Corp of Retired Executive) member for 29 years and was a counselor for New Business startups. He served as Chairman of the SCORE Chapter in Eugene, OR.

His wife Marian passed away in 2012..

Major Funeral Home in Springfield, Oregon is making arrangements. A celebration of Life will be held next summer after/if the covid 19 epidemic subsides.

Any donations in his memory can go to the Service Core of Retired Executives at the Eugene of Commerce, 1401 Willamette Street Eugene, 97401.

Family contact-Andy Bowden, 6030 Newport CT, SW Olympia Wa. 1-360-561-6785. (Son)

de Klaver, Andre (Dec 29, 2019) Andre was surrounded by his family at the time of his passing. He was the most loving, positive and generous husband, father and friend. He touched everyone he met with his bright beautiful heart and no matter what always showed up with a pocket full of optimism.

Born in 1933 in Utrecht Holland, Andre de Klaver grew up during WWII. He was a graduate of St. Bonafacius Preparatory School and then attended the Dutch Military Academy and became a First Lieutenant. In 1958 he worked in public relations for the American Pavilion at the Brussels World's Fair which prompted him to come to the United States in 1960.

He started a career in Denver Colorado with the **JC Penney** company. In 1962 he married Tone Fridheim who he met at the International club of Denver while she was visiting from Norway. Immediately after their wedding, they moved to San Francisco and started a family. As an executive of JC Penney, he worked in Brussels and various locations in the United States for a total of 35 years. He loved traveling and visited many countries throughout his life. Although "retired" he never really retired. Andre was involved with Service Core of Retired Executives, United Way, and an eventually became Executive Director of King County council of St. Vincent de Paul for 6 years. He continued to volunteer, working at the Salinas Casey Center for the Homeless with St. James Cathedral of which he was a member since 1996.

In his life, family was always his number one priority. He is survived by his wife, Tone de Klaver; his daughters, Michele White (Geoff White), Karen de Klaver, Jennifer de Klaver; grandchildren, Kirsti (Kevin Sontgerath), Stefan, and Hanna White, Landon and Elsa Fletcher; great-grandchild, Claire Sontgerath; brother, Ton de Klaver; and sisters, Lisbeth de Klaver, Ann de Klaver and Trudy Gielen-de Klaver. We will miss you. You were pure LOVE.

Johnson, Stanley Afton (Feb 3, 2018) Stanly, 83, Shelton, WA, died at Capital Medical Center in Shelton, WA. Services were held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Dunn, H Wallace "Wally" (October 18, 2016) Our beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great great-grandfather, Harvey Wallace Dunn, passed away at the age of 91 in Everett, Washington. He was preceded in his death by his wife Ruth Ada "Boots" Brown Dunn who passed in August 2002.

Wallace is survived by his son Bernard Wallace Dunn of Yorba Linda, California, daughter Susan Grace Ralls of Soap Lake, Washington, and his sister Betty Welde of Edgewood, Washington. Wallace had six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great great-grandchild as well.

Wallace was born in Elma, Washington on December 23, 1924. He graduated from Olympia High School in 1942, and joined the United States Navy during World War II where he served in the Pacific. After his discharge from the Service in 1946, Wallace returned to Olympia, where he met and married Boots on June 2, 1946.

Wallace worked for the **JCPenney Company** for 40 years, with a stint in the Navy Reserves during the Korean War. Wallace's career spanned many locations with JCP with assignments in Tacoma, WA, Portland and Eugene, OR, Kent and Aurora Village, WA, Phoenix, AZ, and Sacramento, CA.

Throughout his life, Wallace enjoyed hunting with friends and family in Washington, California, Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska, and North Dakota. He also enjoyed outdoor activities, rafting rapids on the Colorado River, American and Tuolumne River in California, riding his bicycle, and walking....he had a great collection of walking sticks.

Wallace liked his vacations, and his favorite destination was Mexico. He and Boots made annual trips for a lot of years.

Wallace retired from the JCPenney Company in 1985 as Manager of the Watt Avenue store in Sacramento, California. When Wallace and Boots moved to Poulsbo, WA in 1991, Wallace kept his hands in retail by becoming the Manager of the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, WA. After Boots' death in 2002, Wallace moved to Everett, WA where he remained for the rest of his years with his childhood sweetheart Patricia McCormick Thomas.

Our Father "Wally" was a wonderful caring person and enjoyed by everyone he met. He had a great sense of humor and was always ready to man the BBQ. He was always prepared for a good time, like Happy Hour, as he never traveled without his little black bar case with stickers on it from the places he had visited or vacationed. He was always there for all of us, and always lent a helping hand when needed.

Dad. We all miss you so very much, but we know you're in a better place. Rest in Peace ~~~Bernie Dunn

Dean, Melvin (April 6, 2019) Melvin passed away after a brief illness. Melvin was born February 3, 1930 in Garibaldi Oregon to Henry and Lena Mae Petersen.

Mel married Patricia Anderson May 23, 1953 in Seattle, Washington. He attended Kent High School and graduated in 1948.

He attended one year of college at the University of Washington before enlisting in the Naval Reserve. He was called up to service during the Korean War for 2 years.

Mel was always very active in any community he lived in. He worked for **the JC Penney** company for 42 years and the Tillamook Penneys store is where he ended his career retiring in 1990.

He was a member of the Kiwanis, was a Port of Tillamook commissioner, was involved with the Tillamook County Fair Chamber as well as member of the Ambassadors. Also, a member of the Elks and Sons of Norway.

He was preceded in death by his mother Lean Dean, Stepfather William Edward Dean, Father Henry and granddaughter Rachel Dean.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia, daughter Sheryl (Robert), and sons Bill Dean (Dena) and Andy (Wendy). Five grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. A Celebration of Life will be announced later

Elkins, Richard (Dick) Meredith (March 15, 2019) Richard was born on July 15, 1933 in Billings, Montana to Chuck and Maude Elkins. Dick spent his childhood moving back and forth across the country as his father earned a living working on major public works projects.

Due to moving, Dick attended 13 schools before graduating from Pasco High School. This is where he met Bettylee Elliott before he spent two years in the US Army immediately after graduation (1951).

Upon his return to Pasco, WA, Dick and Bettylee began to date and were married in 1955. In 1957 Dick joined **JCPenney** and headed to California where he and Bettylee started their family. During his career, Dick

moved 9 times throughout the Golden State and held numerous positions in the stores, on District staff and Regional staff before retiring in 1993 as a Store Manager (he managed 5 JCPenney stores). Dick loved his time with JCPenney and the opportunity to mentor many people along his 36-year career. Dick was a true merchant and loved buying, selling and promoting merchandise, especially shoes!

Dick was a Master Gardener, a member of The Gideons International, and enjoyed reading and teaching the Bible. Dick is survived by his bride of 63 years, four children and their spouses, 9 grandchildren and 5 grandspouses, and 4 great-grandchildren.

He passed away on March 15, 2019 in Portland, Oregon. Condolences can be sent to Bettylee Elkins at 1340 SE 107th Ave Space #226, Portland, OR 97216

Whitesmith, Donald M. "Mike" (Apr 20, 2017) Whitesmith, 88, was born on May 24, 1928 in Rochester, Minnesota to Donald "Don" and Christine "Chris" Whitesmith. Three years later, the family moved to a farm in Birch Bay where he graduated Blaine High School in 1946.

After graduation, he joined the **J.C. Penney Company** in their downtown Bellingham store and stayed with the company until his retirement in 1988. In his 43 years, he managed 4 stores (Heppner and Hood River, Oregon, plus Norwalk and Bishop, California), was promoted to the Western Regional office as "Small Store Merchandising Manager" in the late 1960's, where he wrote the book for the position used by all 5 Regions. In the early 1970's, he was promoted to the Merchandising Director for Penney's European acquisition called of a company called Sarma, where he spent 3 years based in Brussels, Belgium. Along with wife Leila, they traveled Europe, visiting most every county at least once. Upon his return to the country, Mike spent a year in the New York office. Always a man who enjoyed managing a store instead of being in the home office, he and Leila spent the last 12 years of his work life managing a store in Bishop, CA. During that period he 5 times won the "Presidents Trophy." The prestigious company trophy was symbolic of achieving the highest profit per square foot of store space in the company. It was also the last store in the company to become open on Sundays. He was also fortunate enough to have met and know Mr. Penney, whom he held in high regard.

The things which made him the happiest were always his family. The marriage to his wife Leila in June of 1948, and their subsequent life, was something you only read about in fairy tales. They were married two months shy of 70 years, walking every step (mentally and physically) hand in hand. His long time interests were roller skating (he also managed the Birch Bay rink for a while during his early days at Penney's), golfed as a 2 Handicap and travel.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years Leila in Vancouver, WA, his son Rod in Vancouver, WA and daughter Terri in Blaine, WA. He was cremated and laid to rest at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Vancouver, WA

Glenn Gullickson (March 30, 2018) Glenn Gullickson, Retired JCP Associate - 1/31/1998, from Grants Pass, Oregon passed away in Surprise, AZ while walking his dog on one of his seven daily walks. His death was due to a motor vehicle accident.

His burial services will be conducted on Friday (April 6th) at the Church of the Advent Episcopal Church, 13150 W. Spanish Garden Drive, Sun City West, Arizona.

Time is 11:00 AM.

Glenn retired from Grants Pass, Oregon, however, he had worked in the Midwest, Chicago/Minneapolis areas, and subsequently did participate in the North Central HCSC group for a few years, as well as Valley of the Sun HCSC.

His wife, Sharon survives, and I would offer the address for condolences to be directed to the family at 15556 W. Coral Point Drive, Surprise, AZ 85374.