

COMMUNITY

A LOOK AT BORDERLAND

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community.

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OBITUARIES

The Journal publishes paid obituaries in Wednesday and Saturday editions and on its Web site at www.ifallsjournal.com.

Obituaries must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesdays to be published in the Wednesday edition, and by 10 a.m. Thursday to be in the Saturday edition.

All obituaries must be prepaid before they are published.

Obituaries can be faxed to the Journal at 285-7206; e-mailed to tammiec@ifallsjournal.com; or mailed to The Journal at 1602 Highway 71, International Falls, MN 56649.

We encourage electronic delivery of obituaries and any accompanying photos.

If desired, The Journal will e-mail or fax a proof of the obituary to the funeral home handling the service.

For more information, call Tammie Calder at 285-7411.

Thomas J. Coco, 87

Thomas J. Coco, age 87, passed away Sunday, Sept. 30, 2013, after a short struggle with cancer.

Thomas was born in Omaha, Neb., to Sebastian and Louise Circo Coco on Dec. 29, 1925.

He moved to International Falls in 1995, where he lived until his death.

He was a World War II veteran, having served in the United States Navy from 1941 to 1945.

He returned to Omaha after the service, where he worked as a finish carpenter and contractor.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Sebastian Coco and Louise Circo Coco; and sister, Josephine Plechas.

Survivors include his brother, Sebastian (Subby) and sister-in-law, Mary; nieces, Louise (Walt) Link and



Rosann Meier of Dallas, Texas, Kristina (Coco) Hackenjos and Sarah (Jeffrey) Findley, both of Portland, Ore.

Thomas is also survived by close friends, Jim Jackson, Harry Batdorf and James Cowlshaw.

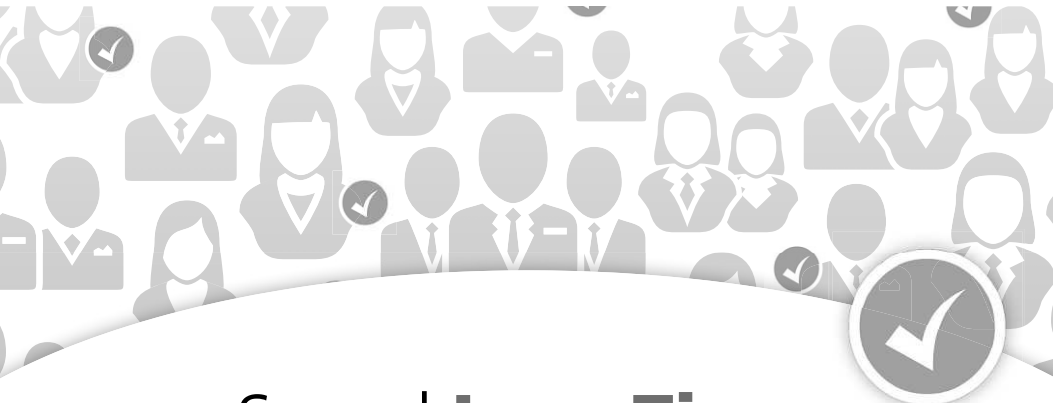
A graveside service will be conducted in Omaha with interment at Westlawn-Hillcrest Memorial Park.

Funeral arrangements are by Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

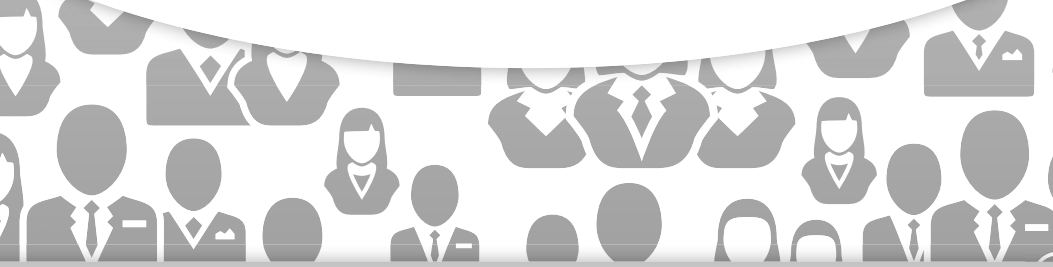
Louis R. Gordon, 80

Louis R. Gordon, age 80, of Osceola, Wis., died Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, at St. Anne Extended HealthCare, Winona, Minn.

Talbot Family Funeral Homes/Scenic Rivers Cremation Center, Cochrane-Alma-Mondovi, Wis., assisted the family with arrangements.



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Josephine Ernestine Muckala, 90

Josephine Ernestine Muckala was born in 1923 on her parents' farm near Hewitt, Minn. As the first of five children born to Earl and Emma Snakenberg, she was named to honor both her grandmothers.

Josie was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church of Hewitt. Her faith in Jesus was a constant in her life and she shared it not only with her children but also with countless others, teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

She attended rural school and graduated from Hewitt High School in 1941.

She loved school and went on to graduate from three colleges — St. Cloud State, Moorhead State and Bemidji State. Her teaching career was spent at Herman, Paynesville, Crosby, International Falls and Staples.

In 1951, Jo married Hank Muckala of Astoria, Ore. They began their married life in Washington and became the parents of two daughters, Linda and Connie, both of whom followed in their mother's footsteps becoming teachers.

Hank and Jo loved to travel and did so often. Their favorite trips were to Alaska and Europe. After Jo's retirement in 1985 they enjoyed spending time each winter in the American Southwest.

In 1991, Hank and Jo sold their farm at Staples and bought a home in Miltna. Hank died suddenly four months later while fishing. Jo continued to live in Miltna for quite a few years finding enjoyment in volunteering and church activities.

A few years ago she moved to a twin home in Alexandria. For nearly four years she has been a resident of Peaceful Bliss Assisted Living where she received wonderful care.

Josephine died Friday, Oct. 4, 2013, at Peaceful Bliss, at the age of 90.

Jo was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Emma Snakenberg; her husband, Hank Muckala; her sister, Bernita Jasmer and her husband Elsworth; her brother, Forrest Snakenberg; brothers-in-law, Kenneth Greenwaldt, Milo Haugrud and Kermit

Gimre; and sisters and brothers-in-law, Robert and Ruth Bush and Gertrude and Allard Johnson.

Left to rejoice in her memory are her daughters and their husbands, Linda and Bob Bergan of Lowry and Connie and Neal Zappe of Alexandria; her sisters, Erma Greenwaldt of Staples and Marian Haugrud of Pelican Rapids; and her sister-in-law, Lorraine Gimre of Astoria, Ore.

She also leaves behind five grandchildren who were blessed to have her as their grandmother — Jennifer (Jeremy) Swift of Plymouth, Minn., Brian (Tiffany) Bergan of Great Falls, Mont., Melissa Zappe (fiancée Richard Schmidtke) of Bemidji, Minn., Heidi (Jason) Anglin of Savage, Minn., and Craig (Janel) Zappe of Carlos. Also left behind are her great-grandchildren — Jasper Swift, Hunter, Brody, and Finley Zappe, Henry and Claire Anglin, and Bella Josephine, Mason and Ashton Bergan; as well as 22 nieces and nephews with their families.

A funeral service was



conducted Monday, Oct. 7, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Alexandria, with the Rev. Eric VanScharrel officiating.

Music was provided by organist Sue Nelson.

Interment was at Trinity Cemetery, Stow Prairie Township, Todd County, Minn.

Casketbearers were Brian Bergan, Craig Zappe, Jeremy Swift, Jason Anglin, Michael Wachholz, Sidney Greenwaldt and Philip Jasmer.

Arrangements were with Anderson Funeral Home, Alexandria; www.anderson-funeral.net.

Betty Danielson, 86

Betty Danielson, 86, passed away Sunday, Oct. 13, 2013, in the early morning hours at the Ranier Roost.

Her life began in International Falls, Minn., and ended in Ranier, Minn.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Blanche and Elmer Trompeter; in-laws, Selma and Andrew Danielson; husband, Lloyd Danielson; friend, Swede Sundberg; sister-in-law, Ev Trompeter; brother-in-law,

Duane Magnuson; son-in-law, Chuck Fischer; and nephew, Paul Trompeter.

Betty is survived by sisters, Ruth Magnuson and Mary Whalen (Pat); brothers, Bob Trompeter, David Trompeter (Barb) and Deane Trompeter (Pam); children, Mary Jo Fischer (Dwayne Mannausau) and Dan Danielson (Bev); grandchildren, Jessica Runnels (Clay), Joshua Fischer, Shannon Fischer (Jamie Short), Peter Danielson and Betsy Gerard (Josh); nieces and nephews, Tom Egan (Marjorie Bingham), Ron Danielson (Sally Sullivan), Rob Trompeter, Susie Olson, Mark Trompeter,

Gus Christiansen, Carol Allen, Jeanie Cook, Lori Beck, Doug Furuseth, Tracey Klocek and Jamie Trompeter; many other relatives; and special great-grandchildren, Harrison and Eleanor.

Betty will be missed by many — her family, church friends, apartment tenants, Hardee's friends, and many whose lives were touched by her generosity and love. *Carpé Diem.*

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at First Lutheran Church.

Memorial donations are preferred to First Lutheran Church, Koochiching Coun-



ty Historical Museum, or the donor's choice.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Arrangements are with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Betty Delores Dahlen, 81

Betty Delores Dahlen, age 81, of Littlefork, Minn., died Thursday, Oct. 10, 2013, at Littlefork Care Center after a lengthy illness.

She was born March 11, 1932, in Bagley, Minn.

She grew up in Bagley and then moved to Littlefork and graduated from Littlefork-Big Falls High School in 1951.

The former Betty Vesey was united in marriage to William E. Dahlen on March 15, 1952, and resided in Big Falls, Minn., until they moved to Littlefork in 1966.

She was a homemaker and cooked at the Littlefork Hospital for 15 years until her retirement.

Betty enjoyed quilting, knitting, playing board games and cards.

She and her good friends spent many hours at old homesteads looking for antiques and treasures.

Betty was also fond of refinishing old furniture, attending auction sales and collecting pretty bottles and

other antiques.

She loved decorating and continually rearranging her furniture.

Betty loved her flowers and was a judge for the Northern Minnesota District Fair flower show for many years.

Betty was a member of the Big Falls Methodist Church and later attended Littlefork Lutheran and Littlefork Evangelical Free Church.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Jean and Helen (Tereau) Vesey; step mother, Edith (Peterson) Vesey; and her husband, William E. Dahlen in 1998.

She is survived by her son, Paul Dahlen; daughters, Shelley (Eddie) Williams and Ruth Lattu of Littlefork; her grandchildren, Shane (Angie) Williams, Spicer Lattu, Zachary and twins Karly and Ria Dahlen; great-grandchildren, Chandan Street, Brenden, Andi and Addison Williams; sisters, Vivian Dahl (Willis) of Tolna, N.D., and Joyce



Hendrickson (Ronald) of Michigan, N.D.

Memorial services will be conducted at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18, at Littlefork Lutheran Church.

Interment will be at the American Legion Cemetery, Big Falls.

In memoriam donations are preferred to the Koochiching County Chapter Cancer Society or the Littlefork Care Center.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Arrangements are with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

FUNERALS

Juanita Oveson Leolich, 77

A memorial service for Juanita Oveson Leolich, 77, of International Falls, who died Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013, was conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at Green-Larsen Mortuary.

Officiating was Deacon Rev. Leland H. Grim.

Music was by Vickie Davis and Eulogist was Bob Hilke.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Ralph Peterson, 77

Memorial services for Ralph Peterson, 77, of International Falls, who died Friday, Sept. 27, 2013, were conducted at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at St Thomas Catholic Church.

Officiating was Deacon Fran Zaren.

Music was by Joe Belanger and Mark Gierszewski.

Readers were Keith Goulet and Pat Kjellgren.

Remembrances were given by Pat Bjorum.

Greeters were Keith Goulet, Mike Peterson and Tom Sakry.

Military rites were accorded by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2948.

Interment was at Evergreen Cemetery, Big Falls.