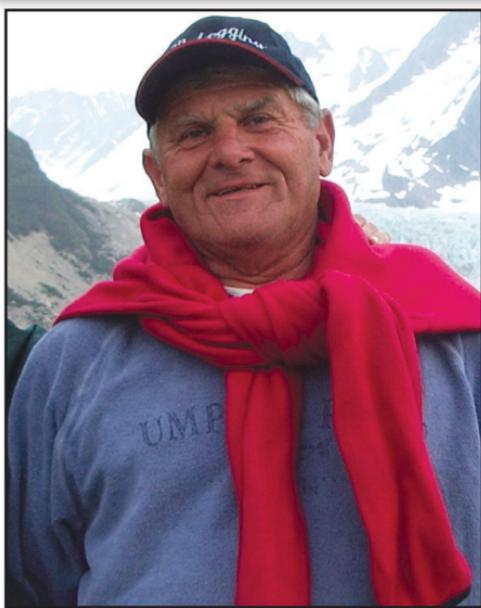


Roland Johnnie Theiss



Roland Johnnie Theiss of Myrtle Creek, Oregon, passed away peacefully on Jan. 3, 2025, surrounded by his three children, Anthony Wade Theiss, Tonya Ann Theiss Skrip and Roland Todd Theiss, as well as other close family members.

Born in Dallas, Oregon, to John and Marilyn Theiss on Oct. 10, 1938, Roland lived a full life and was an inspiring leader to his family and many citizens of Douglas County and beyond. After schooling, Roland met the love of his life, Margaret 'Margie' Sherman from Tenmile, Oregon. After a classic and joyous courtship, they wed Nov. 1, 1958, and remained married until Margie's passing in 2019.

Simultaneously, Roland worked in the logging industry for several years for his father and uncles, later joining other local operators such as M & B Logging, Teco and Conifer Douglas.

Roland started his entrepreneurial journey as his family grew by purchasing and operating two service stations, the Union 76 in Myrtle Creek and the Shell Station in Winston, Oregon. With Margie as a full-time mother of eventually three, Roland transitioned into the real estate industry and became a broker with Village Realty in Myrtle Creek. He eventually purchased the business and built it into one of the leading local real estate companies.

Roland helped many people with dreams of home ownership buy their first home with his experience and creativity, always finding solutions for his clients. During his over 40 years in the business, many people approached Roland with a warm embrace to tell him that he was the person who helped them buy the homes in which they raised their families and helped secure their dreams and their futures.

Furthering his creative ambitions and zeal, in 1977, Roland and his close friend and business partner, Bill Lebengood, recognized an opportunity to build a storage facility in south Douglas County to service the local community. After many challenging years of working toward this goal, Roland opened the Mini Mouse Warehouse in Myrtle Creek, now the U-Store Self Storage. He eventually added the Canyon Cubbyholes facility in Canyonville, Oregon, and one in Riddle, Oregon; now, both are U-Store Self

Storage. Roland ultimately built or owned over 1,000 storage units in Douglas County. Roland provided many jobs to people throughout his career. Many people who worked for him remained with him throughout his life and careers. Others started their own businesses based on their experiences and business education with Roland.

Roland was also a leader in the community and contributed to its citizens in many ways. He co-founded and was chairman and co-chair of the South Douglas Rodeo, which grew in stature and popularity over the years. He was also a founding member of Millsite Park, which has attracted travelers far and wide. Roland was an avid supporter of numerous charities in the community, including South Umpqua Food Bank, Wildlife Safari, Mercy Festival of Trees, Cobb School, South Umpqua High School, All Souls Catholic Church, Umpqua Valley Christian School, Tri-City Water and Sanitary Authority Board, and the Oregon Dog Rescue, where he built dog houses for the organization.

Roland was honored as Myrtle Creek's Man of the Year in 2006 for his achievements and positive contributions to the community. He was also a member of the Myrtle Creek Elks Lodge.

Throughout his life, Roland exhibited kindness to friends and relatives, both old and new. He often stopped by their homes to say hello and catch up on their lives. It was never too far away or too inconvenient. He made the time to keep in touch with family and friends.

In addition to his family, work and community volunteer activities, Roland embraced many recreational activities with gusto and enthusiasm. He hunted, fished, skied, camped and boated. But his true passion

was whitewater rafting. Over the years, Roland became an expert rafter, rowing many challenging rivers, including the Salmon, Middle Fork of the Salmon River, Colorado River, Snake River, Klamath River and others. He loved adventure, as exhibited by one rafting trip on the Tashshini River that started in the Yukon and concluded with a flyout point in British Columbia.

But he was most at home on the Rogue River. He loved the lower Rogue, welcomed any opportunity to raft with his friends and family and embraced the chance to introduce new rafters to his home away from home on the Rogue. He became affectionately known as 'Roland on the River.' At his request, some of his ashes will be permanently united with the wild splendor of his home away from home.

Roland and Margie also traveled extensively, visiting Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, Canada, many West Coast states and all the Pacific Northwest offers.

Roland is survived by his three children and their spouses Carol Jacob, Patrick Skrip and Serena Morgan, and four grandsons, Gentry, Rogue, Jacob and Avery.

A celebration of Roland's life is planned for the summer of 2025 at Millsite Park in Myrtle Creek. The theme will be Hawaiian Rafting Style. Roland on the River will forever live on!



In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:
South Douglas Rodeo – Memory of Roland Theiss
PO Box 266 Myrtle Creek, OR 97457

or

All Souls Catholic Church – Memory of Roland Theiss
1242 N.E. Spruce Ave. Myrtle Creek, OR 97457