

Clell Lamont Cunnington

Pendleton

July 7, 1926-December 2, 2013

Clell Lamont Cunnington, 87, died Monday, December 2, 2013, at St. Anthony Hospital. Visitation will be on Sunday, December 8, 2013 from 2 until 4 and Monday, Dec. 9 from 9 until 11:30 at the Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m., Monday, December 9, at the First Church of God in Pendleton. Interment will immediately follow the service at Olney Cemetery.

Mr. Cunnington was born July 7, 1926, in Walla Walla, Washington, to Lamont and Essie Mae (Hufford) Cunnington. He attended school in Walla Walla and later attended Caterpillar trade school. On June 15, 1944, he joined the Navy, serving as Seaman II Class during WWII. He was honorably discharged in June 1946.

On October 20, 1946, he married Corleen Mae Fulkerson in Walla Walla. They lived in Walla Walla until 1959, moved to Arlington for

one year then moved back to Walla Walla. He worked as a mechanic for Stone Machinery, Inland Machinery, Riverbend, and Rogers Construction. In 1963, they moved to Pendleton. He worked for Western States Caterpillar where he managed the shop until his retirement. He was also the owner and operator of Pendleton Air-brake.

He was a member of the Elks Club and liked to go hunting and al-

ways had time to take his family fishing.

Survivors include his daughter, Karlene Smith (Bob) of Pendleton; son Gary Cunnington (Cris) of Pendleton; daughter Kathy Baker (Ernie) of Elgin; nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife of 47 years Corleen (Corky) and four infant children.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.pioneerchapel.com



Cunnington

Crivellone, parents of a premature b

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aloud during a candle lighting ceremony that includes music and a short speech.

Kligel funnels all proceeds directly into a local cause. For the first 10 years, St. Anthony Hospital's hospice program received more than \$32,000 from the project. In the last decade, about \$16,000 went to parents of terminally ill children, families of soldiers who died in combat, as well as a National Guard support group and other recipients. This year, proceeds go to Hannah and Vito Crivellone, parents of a premature baby who weighed one pound at birth.

Kligel is tired now, though, and her volunteer help is waning. It all takes energy, she said, selling the lights, approaching merchants for donations, hauling out and packing up the tree, finding entertainment and a speaker for the candlelight ceremony.

"It's time," she said. "I can feel it in my body."

Dean Muilenburg, of Pilot Rock, has attended the ceremony all 20 years of its existence. That first



Mary Kligel has been organizing the tree for the past 20 years.

said, "nobody laughs at you."

Kligel understands this monster called grief. She ran a grief support group and visited families stunned by suicide until she couldn't do it anymore.

"It was dredging up too much of my pain," she said. "I couldn't move forward."

The memory tree was