

Helen Verlee Housden

Vancouver, Wash.

July 15, 1923-February 9, 2015

Helen Verlee Housden, a former area resident, died Monday, February 9, 2015, in a care facility in Vancouver, Wash. She was 91 years old. Helen was born on July 15, 1923, on the upper north fork of McKay Creek, near Pendleton, Oregon, to Oscar and Cora Alice Corwin. She attended Pendleton schools.

Helen married Charles (Chuck) Claude Edwards in 1942. They had four children, John, Gary, Verlee and Viola. They lived in Hermiston where Charles worked on the building of the Umatilla Army Depot. They later divorced. In June of 1957 Helen married Eugene Edward Housden in College Place, Washington. They lived in Hermiston where Gene worked for the Oregon State Game Farm on Buttercreek Road, where he farmed and worked with the birds that were raised there. Helen worked as a housekeeper for several families in the area and was more like a member of the family to them. In 1964 Gene was transferred to Klamath Falls, Ore., to the Oregon Game Farm there. They remained there until Gene's retirement after 29 years of service. They moved to Midland, Ore. There they managed the local grange hall and received an Oregon Volunteer of the Year Award for all of their service. Upon

Gene's death in February of 2001 Helen moved to Vancouver, Washington to live with her daughter, Verlee (Helen). She remained there until moving into Hospice Care where she passed away. She was loved much and will be greatly missed by her family and all who knew her.



Housden

She is survived by her sons John Edwards, Klamath Falls, Ore., and Gary Edwards (Cindy), Hermiston, Ore.; daughters Helen Sagendorf, Vancouver, Wash., and Viola Christy (Del), Pendleton, Ore.; stepchildren Bob Housden, Cheney, Wash., Jack Housden, Laguna, Calif., Sam Housden, Phoenix, Ariz., and Alice Cesarona, Phoenix, Ariz.; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Gene Housden; her parents; brothers Harold, Ray, Lester, Carl and Walter Corwin; and sister Naomi Biggerstaff.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at Olney Cemetery, Pendleton, Oregon.

Please sign the condolence book at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

first fish taken off endangered list

GRANTS PASS (AP) — It's official. A tiny minnow that lives only in backwaters in Oregon's Willamette Valley is the first fish to be formally removed from Endangered Species Act protection because it is no longer in danger of extinction.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe was to make the announcement Tuesday afternoon at a wildlife refuge outside Corvallis.

The action comes 22 years after the 3-inch-long fish was first listed as an endangered species, and five years after it was upgraded to threatened.

Paul Henson, Oregon director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife, said the Oregon chub demonstrates that a lot of species can be brought back from the brink of extinction, if key needs are met, such as a safe place to live, even in an urban landscape.

The Oregon chub had practically disappeared from the Willamette Valley as the swampy backwaters and beaver ponds it depends on were drained to control flooding and create farms and cities over the past century and a half. Those that

survived became easy prey for non-native predators such as bass and bullfrogs.

Restoring the chub has focused on working with private, tribal and public landowners to protect and restore ponds and backwaters the fish needs to thrive, transplanting fish to expand its range and population, protecting them from predators, and altering dam releases to resemble natural river flows. A range of state and federal agencies, tribes, conservation groups and private landowners joined in the work.

Saving the chub faced fewer major obstacles than higher-profile species, such as salmon, which have been harmed by major economic forces, such as logging, hydroelectric dams, and urban development.

The agency proposed the delisting a year ago after establishing 80 different populations around the Willamette Valley.

Formal notice the Oregon chub will be removed from Endangered Species protection is to appear in the Federal Register on Wednesday, Fish and Wildlife spokeswoman Elizabeth Materna said.

WORLD BRIEFLY

Danish sources name gunman, say he got out of jail about 2 weeks ago

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — The Danish