

# Robert Franklin 'Bob' Nirschl

Pendleton

February 5, 1934-March 25, 2014

Robert "Bob" Franklin Nirschl of Pendleton, Ore., Gilroy, Calif., and Bermuda Dunes, Calif., died March 25th, 2014, at his home in Bermuda Dunes. Bob was born on February 5th, 1934, in Pendleton, Ore., to parents Albert and Pearl Nirschl.

He proudly served in the U.S. Navy and was a lifetime Elks member. Bob was a prominent businessman in Pendleton, where he owned A&W and Taco Time restaurants.

He is preceded in death by his first wife Ellen Nirschl; brother Bill Nirschl; and his parents, Albert and Pearl Nirschl. Bob is survived by his wife, Sandy Sorenson-Nirschl; brother Jim Nirschl; and children Steve Nirschl and his wife Robin Nirschl, Todd Nirschl, Debbie Smith, Michael Sorenson and his partner Galen Duplantis, and Debbie Sorenson-Corona;

his four grandchildren David Corona and his wife, Victoria, John Corona, Kayla Nirschl and Elli Nirschl; and his great-grandson Colton Corona.

"POPS," as he was affectionately known, loved to play golf and travel in his beloved motorhome. He was a member of Bermuda Dunes Country Club. He will be greatly missed by all of his friends and family. "Margarita Time" will never be the same again! Rest In Peace Pops!

We love you!

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The Pendleton Foundation Trust, P.O. Box 218, Pendleton, OR 97801, 541-276-3331.

A "Celebration of Life" followed by graveside services will be held in Pendleton, Oregon, on April 16th, 2014, 1 p.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton OR 97801, 541-276-1221.



**Nirschl**

# April 20 from Portland

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rector for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

The mission is multifaceted: Find out as much as they can in just a few days about the situation in Pendleton's sister city, Minamisoma, discuss the future of that relationship, determine if it is time to renew and even revamp the student exchange program and explore economic opportunities.

Minamisoma and its citizens still are recovering three years after a 9.0-magnitude earthquake generated a tsunami that wiped out parts of the coastal city and caused the nuclear disaster that irradiated the area. Houk, Hill and Sams discussed the fact-finding operation Tuesday and stressed they want to talk to as many people as they can, gather data, including information about radiation levels, and assess it all back on home turf.

The group departs April 20 from Portland, lands the next day in Japan and makes it to Minamisoma the afternoon of April 22. They will meet with city, education and

dosimeters to Minamisoma and have labs analyze the data.

But a single report from the delegation seems unlikely. The city contingent could discuss findings at a council meeting, for example and Sams will present to the CTUIR Board of Trustees.

One of the delegation's challenges could be to find someone who will not sugarcoat what is happening. The Japanese do not always reveal the reality of bad situations to outsiders, and Japanese handlers could put on a bit of show without a lot of tell. Hill said the delegation has discussed how to broach talking about radiation levels and safety, which could be sensitive topics.

Houk also said he is eager to talk to Japanese officials and entrepreneurs about remote-controlled aerial vehicles, or drones. Japan has seven primary drone companies, he said, and Pendleton's drone test site at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport could offer them benefits their homeland does not.

Sams said the Japanese also can teach lessons about dealing with a large emer-