

# In Memoriam

## '90s

'95 **Anita Register**, 59, BA social work, died March 18 at her home in Cheney. She worked for Spokane Mental Health-Elder Services.

'93 **Dixie Graves**, 49, BA liberal studies, died April 9 in Spokane. She worked for many years with the Spokane Sheriff's Office and in private security work.

## '80s

'89 **Karen Wells**, 57, BA liberal studies, died May 7 in Spokane. She worked in the insurance industry for 15 years and had a great love of the outdoors.

'87 & '88 **Robert George Ellis**, 41, BAB business administration and certificate-marketing education, died May 24 in Renton. He was a senior program manager at PEMCO Corp. computer services.

'87 & '88 **Mark Gehring**, 55, BA management information systems and BA business administration, died July 21 in Redmond. A former member of President Nixon's honor guard, he was manager of Underwater Sports in Bellevue and an avid scuba diver.

'83 **Charles "Chuck" Gray Jr.**, 65, BA government and BA radio-TV, died May 17. A Spokane resident, he had been an office manager for the state's Department of Social and Health Services and was passionate about playing ball.

'82 **Kathy Ledington**, 50, died June 8. A resident of Caldwell, Idaho, she had been a business technology instructor at Idaho State University School of Applied Technology and later a business and computer applications teacher in secondary schools.

## '70s

'78 **Diannia (Smith) Piercy**, 52, BA studio art, died Jan. 23. She had been coordinator of faculty development and an instructor at the Art Institute of Seattle for the past 10 years.

'78 **Cheryl Oten**, 49, BA reading, died June 18. The Grandview resident taught in the Prosser School District.

'78 **Beverley Contois**, 79, BA sociology, died June 25 in Spokane. An accomplished pianist and expert seamstress, she lived in Japan, Germany, Alaska and Cambodia before settling in Spokane 40 years ago.

'73 **Greg Pollock**, 54, BA social work, died April 8. A Spokane Valley resident, he was a union plumber and vice president of West Plains Speedway.

'73 **Fermin Nunez Garcia**, 57, BA social work, died April 28. The Spokane resident worked for Employment Security, the U.S. Forest Service and retired from Fairchild Air Force Base as a civilian personnel specialist.

'72 **Patrick Denckla**, 55, BA pre-MBA, died April 8. A life-long Seattle area resident, he worked in the insurance industry.

'71 **Frank Talarico**, 56, BA management, died April 20 in Yakima. He played four years of football at Eastern, coached AAU basketball, was an avid sports fan and worked as an estimator for Pacific Power & Light.

## '60s

'68 **Roberta "Bobbie" Mayer**, 84, BA social science, died March 25 in Mt. Vernon. She taught for many years in Spokane schools.

'66 **Cecilia 'CeCe' Thompson**, 68, BA English, died Dec. 5, 2004, in San Antonio. She had been a chartered licensed counselor for 20 years with expertise with children and families with special needs.

'66 **Carol Smith-Whitman**, 73, BA studio art, died March 12. The Plummer, Idaho, resident had taught in several Idaho communities and had operated a B&B for many years.

'65 **Ellora "Alli" Bennett**, 61, BA physical education, died July 16 at her home in Garfield. She had been a physical education teacher and athletic director at Garfield-Palouse High School and had served as floor manager at the State B Girls Basketball games in Spokane, 2004-05.

'61 **Grace Stingle**, 93, BA music, died May 28, in Spokane. She taught for 26 years.

## '50s

'59 **Lela Wogman**, 97, BA English, died June 6 in Spokane. She taught at a one-room schoolhouse in Wisconsin, taught math and science in junior high school in Spokane and was a volunteer at the Spokane Guilds' School.

'58 & '65 **Warren Scheibner**, 73, BA physical education and MA school administration, died March 14. A resident of Orting, he was

a teacher and principal for 28 years in Coulee City, Bridgeport and Auburn.

'57 **Ernest A. Boyd**, 77, BA journalism, died March 9. A long-time Edmonds resident, he founded the Pancake Haus Restaurant in 1969.

'54 & '56 **Byron Leeper**, 76, BA early childhood education and MA industrial technology, died Dec. 7, 2004, in Palm Springs, Calif. He served in the Air Force in WWII and retired as superintendent of schools in Kelso in 1984.

'51 **Lois Muse**, 75, BA elementary teaching, died May 4. A lifelong teacher whose career spanned five decades, she finished teaching her last class about 12 hours before her death. She had been a volunteer teacher with the Literacy Council of Kitsap the past seven years.

'50 **Harry Grabow**, 78, BA elementary education, died Dec. 27, 2004. He had taught school in Moses Lake and Marlin and worked for U&I Sugar and had been residing in Spokane.

## '40s

'48 **Wayne Stenson**, 83, BA early childhood education, died June 22 in Kirkland, where he lived since 1961. He had been a school principal in Colville.

'47 **Victor Carpine**, 86, BA early childhood education, died Jan 31 in Tacoma. A track and field athlete at Eastern, he flew a Flying Fortress in WWII (after which he never set foot on a plane again) and taught school and coached in Seattle for 30 years.

'46 **William Diedrick Sr.**, 87, BAE physical education, died in Spokane April 2. A member of Spokane's Rogers High School's first graduating class in 1935, he served in WWII and retired from teaching in Reardan and Spokane after 26 years. He received the Inland Empire Sports Hall of Fame Award, the 60-Year American Legion Membership Award and many other recognitions.

'46 & '53 **Elmer Kimm**, 89, BA early childhood education and MA industrial technology, died March 10. He taught in the Washington communities of Twisp, Dryden, Harrington and Latah and was principal of Harrah Grade School for 14 years.

'42 **Bernice Fahlgreen**, 86, BA education, died June 10 in Spokane. She taught for 27 years and traveled extensively.

**'41 Verlan Pinson**, 87, BA education, died May 27. He had worked for the Vancouver School District for 34 years.

**'40 Dorothy (Logsdon) Schafer**, 87, BA music, died in Spokane July 10. An active community member in Odessa, she was the first woman elected school board director.

### **'30s**

**'36 Mary Mott**, 92, BA education, died April 1. A Spokane resident, she had been a special education teacher.

**'35 & '40 Rosa Russell**, 93, BA education and third-year certificate, died Jan. 21. She taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Lantz and later in Spokane, Portland and Quito, Ecuador.

**'34 & '52 Everett Henderson**, 94, BA physical education and MA, died June 3. He was a quarterback and member of the Eastern basketball team; he taught for many years in Spokane and had been principal of Sacajawea Junior High School until retirement in 1972.

**'33 Gertrude (Ames) Salt**, 92, BA home economics education, died June 12. The Valleyford resident taught school in the Spokane Valley, retiring in 1974.

**'33, '34 & '48 Katie Wynia**, 93, third-year physical education teaching certificate, lifetime teaching certificate and BA education, died May 1 in Spokane. A member of Delta Kappa Gamma International, she taught in Idaho and Washington and was later principal of Medical Lake Elementary School.

### **'20s**

**'26 & '53 Marie Combelic**, 97, teaching certificate and BA early childhood education, died March 16. A Sunnyside resident, she began teaching at a one-room schoolhouse in the Rattlesnake Hills northeast of Prosser. A 50-year 4-H leader, she received the Washington State Distinguished 4-H Alumni Award.

### **Faculty & Staff**

**Bilal Hashmi**, 69, professor of sociology emeritus, died June 24 of leukemia. He retired from Eastern in 1998 with more than 20 years of service and had been living in Bellingham. Dale Lindekugel, Department of Sociology chair, recalls that he "was a true gentleman scholar who cared deeply about the intel-

lectual growth of his students." A native of India, Bilal Hashmi led the development of the race and ethnic relations component of the department's curriculum and taught in that area along with population studies and social stratification.

**Paulette Scott**, 63, professor of English, died June 24 in Spokane. She had been a member of the English faculty for 27 years. Dana Elder, English Department chair, notes that she "was an exceptional teacher, scholar, leader, colleague, parent and friend. She always put the needs of others and of the University ahead of her own."

**Bette Jean Colson**, 83, died March 31 in Spokane. She had been secretary in the Department of Sociology, 1977-86, and was an accomplished seamstress and quilter.