

ECKLUND, Fern Fenter  
Ukiah Daily Journal  
3-9-1999

## **Fern Fenter Ecklund**

A private memorial service for Fern Fenter Ecklund will be held at a later date.

Mrs. Ecklund died Sunday, March 7, 1999. She was 98.

She was born May 6, 1900, in Concow and lived a large part of her life in St. Helena and Cloverdale.

Mrs. Ecklund was active in the Order of Eastern Star, having held various offices in both the St. Helena and Cloverdale chapters, and served as "Worthy Matron" at the age of 90.

She is survived by her son and his wife, Duke and Merle Fenter of Ukiah; grandsons and wives, Gilbert and Judy Sissons and Chris and Christina Sissons, all of Ukiah; granddaughters and their husbands, Linda and Brian Lawlor of San Luis Obispo and Susan and Tim Benjamin of Los Alamos, N.M.; great-grandchildren Gilbert Sissons and his wife, Melissa, of Loma Linda; Shelly Chenoweth and her husband, Taff, of San Diego; Matt and Andy Benjamin of Los Alamos, N.M.; Patrick Lawler of San Luis Obispo; and Jack Sissons of Ukiah.

# BERLINGER (CAMPBELL), Dorothy H. Modesto Bee 5-16-1999

## Mrs Dorothy Campbell Berlinger, 74

---

### OBITUARIES

Modesto Bee, The (CA) - Sunday, May 16, 1999

---

June 29, 1924 -- May 13, 1999

Dorothy Campbell Berlinger, 74, of Modesto died Thursday at Memorial Medical Center.

Mrs. Berlinger was a native of Yuba City. She lived in Modesto 48 years. She retired in 1987 after a career as a computer operator. She was employed by California State University, Stanislaus, from 1975 to 1987, and previously worked for Modesto City Schools and the Stanislaus County Office of Education. And she was a homemaker. She was a longtime member of Job's Daughters. She was a member of Bethel Church.

She is survived by her children, Arlin Berlinger of Mills-boro, Del., Sandra Michelotti of Ceres and Maxine Lozano of Modesto; sister, Charlotte Dennis of Reno; and seven grandchildren, six stepgrandchildren and three great-stepgrandchild-ren.

A funeral will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the McHenry Chapel of Franklin & Downs. Burial will be at Cherokee Cemetery, Oroville. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. today and after 9 a.m. Monday at the chapel.

ARNDT, Donald Peter  
The Los Angeles Times  
6-2-1999

**ARNDT, Donald Peter** age 82 of Yankee Hill, California passed away May 22, 1999 of natural causes in Paradise, California. He was born July 9, 1916 in Los Angeles, California to Peter and Nettie Arndt. He is preceded in death by his wife, Shirley in 1994.

He was in the Coast Guards during WWII, 1943-1945. He worked for Warner Brothers Movie Industry for 20 years as a construction electrician. A member of The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 40. He was a 32nd degree Mason-Oroville Lodge, Scottish Rite of Sacto and Ben Ali Temple in Sacto. Donald enjoyed boating on the ocean and enjoyed fishing and hunting . He was the former owner of " The Big Bend Mountain " Ranch.

Mr. Arndt was the last of 10 children. He is survived by a sister-in-law, Mary Arndt of Los Angeles, California and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be sent to Shriners Hospital for Children, 2425 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento, CA. 95817 or to Shriners Hospitals for Children in Los Angeles, CA.

# HAWORTH, Neal W. "Wally"

The Sacramento Bee

7-25-1999



## HAWORTH, NEAL W. "WALLY"

09-03-49 to 07-21-99

617 Short St West Sacramento, Ca. Born in New Market, Jefferson Co., Tenn. He died at his home. Survived by wife and friend of 29 years Sarah Haworth, also his Mother Juanita Haworth, Ray Fulton, and sister Jannette Young, all of W.S., Patricia Talley, Elverta; many nieces & nephews; also Mother-in-law Isabelle Sims, Oroville. Mr. Haworth died following a long painful battle with lung cancer. As a young boy he moved to Calif. with his family to the small mountain community of Concow in Butte Co. He attended the 2-room Concow School, graduating 8th grade and Oroville High, until his 17th birthday when he enlisted in the US Army. He was originally stationed in Germany, he volunteered to serve in Viet Nam, where he was assigned to the 1st Infantry Div., Artillery near AnLoc and Long Bien during TET. He worked commercial construction until his death, a member of Union Local 185. He thrilled at every chance to fish or swim in clean mountain water. He became a Christian in 1996, and on a cold winter day was baptized outside in a horse watering trough. Our dearest Wally, we all love you and will miss you forever.... we will never forget you. Arrangments: Manni Funeral Home, Portola (530) 832-4673. Graveside service and burial 1PM, Tues 07-27-99 Whispering Pines Cemetery.



# Campbell (Duensing), Katherine

Oroville Mercury Register

8-3-1999

## OBITUARY

### Katherine Campbell

Services for Katherine Duensing Campbell, 96, of Chico, will be held at 10 a.m. today, Aug. 3, at Newton-Bracewell Chico Funeral Home.

She died Wednesday, July 28, 1999, at a local convalescent hospital.

Mrs. Campbell was a fourth-generation Butte County resident, born outside Oroville at Oregon Gulch on Nov. 20, 1902. Her parents, George and Marie Duensing, were pioneering cattle ranchers.

After graduating from Oroville High School, she worked in the office at Richardson Springs resort for 15 years. During that time, she met and married Carroll F. Campbell, also of a pioneering Butte County family.

After leaving Richardson Springs, she worked as a bookkeeper for the contractor who built Chico Municipal Airport. Later, she became office supervisor for the office of price administration until it closed.

After her father's death in 1949, Mrs. Campbell continued and expanded the family cattle ranching business and actively directed it until the time of her death.

She served as secretary/treasurer



for the Butte County Cattlemen's Association for over 30 years. She was also a 60-year member of the Native Daughters of the Golden West and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Josephine Chapter, #104.

She is survived by her daughter, Dorothy Campbell Ringel of Chico; two sons, Carroll F. Jr. of Ukiah and John R. of Paradise; and seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Interment will follow the service at Chico Cemetery.

EVANS, Leslie Elias Sr.  
Salina Journal (Salina, KS)  
9-1-1999

**Leslie Elias Evans Sr.**

OROVILLE, Calif. — Leslie Elias Evans Sr., 82, Oroville, died Saturday, Aug. 21, 1999.

Mr. Evans was born Dec. 19, 1916, at Salina, Kan. He was a machinist mechanic for United Airlines for 50 years. He was a member of Station 38 Golden Feather Volunteer Fire Co. 37; a former Master of Grange at Concow Grange, where he was awarded a the Flora degree as a Sixth Degree Member of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. He was a 40-year member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and was an active member of the Gleaners.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eunice.

Survivors include a son, Leslie Jr. of Concord; a daughter, Louise J. Batchelor of Posen, Ill.; a brother, Elton Evans of Salina; a sister, Helen Jane Dinwiddie of Fort Collins, Colo.; and a grandchild.

The funeral was Aug. 26 at Scheer Memorial Chapel, 2410 Foothill Blvd., Oroville, Calif. 95966, the Rev. Bob Moore officiating. Burial was in Yankee Hill Cemetery, Oroville.



WAYBRIGHT, Bobby Jr.  
findagrave.com

### **Bobby Waybright Jr.**

OROVILLE — A memorial service for Bobby Clark Waybright, Jr., 20, of Oroville, will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, at Ramsey-Newton-Bracewell Funeral Directors.

He died Friday, Oct. 15, 1999, at his home of natural causes.

Waybright was born Sept. 23, 1979, to Bobby Sr. and Wanda Waybright.

He had worked for radio station KZAP, doing construction work. He played Rhino football and Oroville Little League baseball. He enjoyed fishing, camping, skiing, model building, and he loved wrestling and playing pool. He was a loyal Oakland Raiders fan.

Survivors include his mother Wanda 'Peaches' Waybright of Oroville; a brother, Jeromy Waybright of Chico; grandfather, Arthur Hall of Stockton; and grandmother Helen Hall of Oregon.

He also leaves a special friend, April Aichele Caldwell of Oroville. Burial will be in Cherokee Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Enloe Hospice.



KROEPELIN, Robert Arthur  
Santa Cruz Sentinel  
11-17-1999

**Robert Kroepelin**

Services will be Thursday for Robert Arthur Kroepelin, who died Sunday at his home in Oroville. He was 84.

Mr. Kroepelin was born and raised in Oroville. He lived for 30 years in Santa Cruz, where he owned and operated an optometry business.

He served in the U.S. Army and for several years trained police dogs.

Mr. Kroepelin was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the American Legion of Santa Cruz.

He enjoyed boating and fishing on his boat. He also enjoyed hunting, but in his later years preferred to do his hunting with a camera rather than a gun.

Mr. Kroepelin is survived by nephews Frank Shuman of Oroville, Barry Kroepelin of Santa Barbara and Stub Kroepelin of Alturas; nieces Mary Robinson of Oroville, Joni McIntire of Provo, Utah and Carolyn Bishop of Mission Viejo; and sister-in-law Betty Kroepelin of Stockton.

His wife of 22 years, Kathryn Kroepelin died in 1996.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Cherokee Cemetery in Oroville.





CLARK, George Sr.  
Legacy.com  
1-24-2000

**GEORGE CLARK SR. OBITUARY**  
**1917 - 2000**

**George Clark Sr.**, 82, of Oroville, California, a member of the Concow Maidu Tribe, who enjoyed going to pow wows, fishing and being around people, passed away of natural causes at his residence on Monday, January 24, 2000. Services will take place at a later date. Burial to follow cremation at Clark Cemetery, Yankee Hill, California. Arrangements entrusted to **Oroville Funeral Home**, Oroville.

GEREN, Tami Joan  
The Sacramento Bee  
2-16-2000

■ **Oroville**

# Husband held in wife's death

A Concow man is in jail in Butte County, accused of stabbing his wife to death in front of the couple's 7-year-old son.

Randy Geren, 41, is being held in lieu of \$1 million bail. He and his wife, Tami Joan Geren, 43, had been enrolled in a court anti-domestic violence program.

Randy Geren is accused of stabbing his wife of 20 years "multiple times" Sunday night, authorities said.

The Gerens had been participating in the Butte County HOPE Court, a program that attempts to get to the root of ongoing domestic violence by assigning a judge and a team of social workers to work closely with each couple.

Court records show that the Gerens had each been arrested previously for alleged "mutual combat" and for abusing their eldest child.

The couple's two children are in the custody of Butte County Children's Services.

— Associated Press

SMALL (BAKER), Evelyn M.  
Appeal-Democrat  
9-26-2000  
**Evelyn M. Small**

---

Obituaries

Appeal-Democrat (Marysville-Yuba City, CA) - Tuesday, September 26, 2000

---

Evelyn Marie Small, 90, of Yuba City died Sept. 21, 2000, at her residence.

Born in Pentz, she was a Yuba-Sutter resident for 13 years. She was a retired grocery store owner and operator and had managed the Durham Fountain in Chico. She and her late husband also were owners/operators of the Afton General Store from 1957 to 1972.

She was a member and past matron of the Wild Rose Chapter 326 Order of Eastern Star of Afton.

Survivors include one daughter, Marilyn Morgan of Yuba City; one sister, Marguerite Souza of Carmichael; a grandchild; and a great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Hugh B. Small, and three grandsons.

Services: No services will be conducted. Arrangements and inurnment are under the direction of Ullrey Memorial Chapel.

---

# NORTON, Grandma Bertha

## The Sacramento Bee

10-26-2000

# Grandma Norton dies at age 101 – or more

By Stephen Magagnini  
Bee Staff Writer

Grandma Bertha Norton, thought to be California's oldest Indian, died peacefully in her sleep at her Sacramento home early Wednesday. She was 101, or perhaps older.

She was known for the ever-present twinkle in her eye and her lifetime service to Indian people.

Mrs. Norton was born in Wheatland, Yuba County, on Aug. 15, 1899, or 1898, said longtime family friend Cindy La Marr, director of Capitol Area Indian Resources.

"Considering the average life span of an American Indian is 49, for Bertha to reach 101 is incredible – can you imagine the history and heartbreak and

tragedy she's seen throughout her lifetime, and through it all she maintained such a strong sense of humor and a will to live."

In recent years, when she was feeling up to it, Norton would attend the monthly meeting of Indian elders, many of whom were in their 70s and 80s. "She'd say, 'Oh, I always enjoy seeing you kids,'" La Marr recalled.

Mrs. Norton was the daughter of George Nye, a famous Maidu storyteller and dancer who, with his father, helped keep alive the Big Head ceremonial dances performed in a roundhouse. Her mother was of the Wintun tribe.

She recalled traveling through the hills of Butte County on horseback as a girl to



Bee photograph/José M. Osorio  
**Bertha Norton, believed to be California's oldest Indian, traveled through Butte County hills on horseback as a girl to Indian gatherings.**

the "Big Time," as California Indian gatherings are called.

"She knew Ishi (long considered California's last wild Indian) as a child," La Marr said. "He would be seen at the ceremonies, but he didn't talk to anyone, and Bertha's mother

See NORTON, page B7

## Norton: She spent her life in service to the Indian community

From page B1

told her to 'leave him alone, he's grieving for his people.'"

Mrs. Norton was born at a time when California's Indian population – thought to exceed 300,000 before the European Americans came – had dwindled to about 15,000. When she was a young

woman, Indians weren't U.S. citizens, had no standing in the courts, and were often punished for speaking their native tongues or practicing their religion.

She became a midwife for many Indian people. Well into her 80s, she drove from county to county in her Ford Fairlane, which she

called the "Blue Bomb," delivering food and muffins to needy families.

"She was a community person who loved people and teaching people what it was to be Indian by always being there to hand out a diploma, or she'd just smile and make you laugh," said one of her

six grandchildren, Diana Almen-dariz. "She was always there whenever anyone needed a place to stay, or if you were down, just go talk to Grandma – she'd make everything better just by being a wonderful human being. She did that unconditionally."

In recent years, she'd celebrate

her birthday at the California State Indian Museum near Sutter's Fort – an event attended by hundreds of well-wishers. At her 100th birthday party, she remarked, "I can't hear too good, I can't see too good, but just get me to a table because I sure can eat."

She had received numerous hon-

ors, and Gov. Gray Davis named her a national treasure, proclaiming her 100th birthday "Grandma Norton Day."

Mrs. Norton, who outlived her three children, is survived by six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.