



## Thomas Vernon Russel

October 2, 1922 - April 18, 2015

Was born October 2, 1922, in Midvale Idaho. He and his family moved to Central Oregon in 1928 where his father was employed as a timber faller with the Shevlin Hixon Logging Company. They lived in the movable logging camp in a one room company owned house and Tom spent his summers working on the high desert as a cowboy. He graduated in 1940 from Lapine High School. After graduation he worked as a chocker setter for Shevlin Hixon until the onset of World War II joining the Navy in December 1941. He served four years in the South Pacific Theater (both sons later wore his uniform during the Vietnam War). After receiving an honorable discharge from the service in November 1945, he met and married his lifelong partner Jerrine in Bend, Oregon on May 7, 1947. Together they moved to the logging community of Bates, Oregon where he worked for the Oregon Lumber Company and raised their three children. Moving back to Bend, he was hired by the Bend City Police Department in August 1958. Known as the "smiling policeman" he took great pride in serving the community until his retirement in December 1979. Tom was always a cowboy. He rode his favorite appaloosa every day with lifetime friends well into his eighties. He loved the outdoors and his family most of all. He was an active member of the LDS church. Tom was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Jerrine; and his brother Veril. He is survived by his three children, Jerry, Sharon and Tom; his sister Babe; seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him and the lives he touched. His greatest accomplishment in life is

in his final destination to be eternally with his wife Jerrine. Graveside services will be Monday, April 27, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Pilot Butte cemetery.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home New

105 NW Irving Ave

Bend, OR

US 97701

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



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**Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery** - May 18, 2023 at 02:28 PM

FO

“ *Thomas Vernon Russel*

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**Funeral Home Owner** - August 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Very nice tribute, Sharon. We were all fortunate to have your Dad as a family member and friend. Just a terrific, hard working, honest man who raised three wonderful kids with his beautiful wife. We are all better for having known your Dad and he will be missed by all of us.*

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**Mike Galvin** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I would like to thank everyone who sent their support, prayers and kind wishes to myself and my family. We were honored to have dad as our father. He was a man that we were proud to call dad. He was a man with great character. He stood by his word and made us proud to have the Russell name. He taught us by example. He was honest and responsible for his actions. He taught us that making a good excuses for doing what is wrong is NEVER right. He said he learned early that following the worlds standards led to unhappiness. He had a strong moral compass that he followed. He loved God, my mother and each of his three children equally. The world has lost a great man, but I am sure heaven is rejoicing at his arrival, as God says, Well done my faithful servant. Dad will always be my hero!. Very nice tribute, Sharon. We were all fortunate to have your Dad as a family member and friend. Just a terrific, hard working, honest man who raised three wonderful kids with his beautiful wife. We are all better for having known your Dad and he will be missed by all of us.

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**Sharon tedsen** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Im so happy for Tom and Jerrine to be together again. I was Jerrines visiting teacher for many years in Bend, and grew to love both of them so much. They were always so cute together. I miss them. I hope your family will be blessed in this time of missing your folks. They are the best! Sandra Cooke Santaquin, Utah formerly of Bend, Oregon

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**Sandra P Cooke** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Wonderful man and a great friend to our family. Very sad to hear of his passing. We all have many wonderful memories of trips to Bend for Galvin-Russell family visits. Part of the greatest generation that saved the nation and the world in WWII. Our prayers and condolences are with the Russell family. Mike Galvin

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**Mike Galvin** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ My dad, Timer Galvin, and Vernon were great lifelong friends. They joined the navy together the day after Pearl Harbor and went to boot camp in San Diego together. I have a picture of their boot camp company with their two smiling, 19 year old faces. Such gentlemen and wonderful role models. I hunted with my dad and Vernon many times in the Bend area before joining the navy myself in 1962. Vernon was always smiling and seemed such a gentle man. I liked him a lot and I am sorry he is gone. What a marvelous generation Vernon and my dad were a part of. The stories they both told from living and working in LaPine were so much fun to hear and imagine that people actually lived in one room, portable houses! What a time .

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**Bill Galvin** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM