

THE OBERLIN HERALD —

Obituaries

**Gregory G. Close**

Gregory G. Close, 51, Oakley, father of Melissa Marie (Milo) Lippefmann of Oberlin, died Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City. He was born on Aug. 19, 1961, in Newton, and was adopted on Oct. 27, 1961, by Glen and Ruth Marie (Gidley) Close there. He graduated from Oakley High School in 1979 and the Northwest Kansas Technical School in 1980. He worked for Close Inc. from childhood to 1994 and then farmed with his father. He was an avid race car driver and later became a tech official at Rolling Plains Motor Speedway in Hays. He was a member of the Jaycees and the Oakley United Methodist Church.

Survivors also include his father; another daughter, Nicole Marie Close, and a sister, Melinda (Mike) Moeder, both of Oakley, a granddaughter and a niece. He was preceded in death by his mother.

Funeral services were Sunday afternoon at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center in Oakley, with burial in the Monument Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to KU Medical Research, in care of the Baalmann Mortuary, Box 204 Oakley, 67748. Condolences may be sent at [www.baalmannmortuary.com](http://www.baalmannmortuary.com).

**Robert E. Finkbiner**

Former Oberlin City Administrator Robert Eugene Finkbiner, 77, Wichita, died Dec. 21, 2012, from injuries received in a vehicle accident in Wichita.

He was born Jan. 30, 1935, at Clifton, the son of Elmer and Margaret (Long) Finkbiner. After graduating from Clifton High School. He was a naval aviator, attaining the rank of lieutenant junior grade.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in business from Kansas State University and later a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Jana (Sibley) Finkbiner; brothers, Carl (Esther) and Elmer (Tanis), Clifton; and John (Mary) Salina; sisters, Carol (Frank) Dauksch, Wichita and Marjorie (Stephen) Pfister, Manhattan; a daughter, Glynnis Watson, (Scottsdale, Ariz.); a son, Robert Craig Finkbiner, Ardmore, Okla.; and four grandchildren.

Services were held at the church in Wichita on Dec. 29, 2012. Inurnment will be later at the Clifton Cemetery.

Memorials were established to the church and the Kansas Humane Society, in care of Baker Funeral Home, Valley Center, or his wife, 2514 W. Milro St., Wichita, Kan., 67204, phone (316) 838-8997.

**Michael Laird Jackson**

Michael Jackson, 48, son-in-law of Roger and Angie Wilson of Oberlin, died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013, at his home in Cedar Point.

He was born Sep. 24, 1964, in Emporia, the son of Laird "Larry" and Marjorie (McAuliffe) Jackson. He graduated from the Chase County High School in 1983, and from Kansas State University in 1988 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics.

He married Mary L. Wilson on June 10, 1989, in Oberlin. He joined his father in the family business, El Jay Cattle Co. He was a cattleman and later a district feed salesman for Vigortone Ag Products and Cargill Nutrena.

He was a member of the Elmdale United Methodist Church. He was a volunteer with the Cedar Point Fire Department and served on the Chase County Fair Board and Cedar Point City Council.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; three sons, Coleman Laird, Clayton Ralph and Garrett Michael Jackson; his mother, Marjorie Jackson; and a sister, Marsha Lynn Jackson, all of Cedar Point.

He was preceded in death by his father and his grandparents, Ralph and Flossie Jackson of Cedar Point and Joseph and Mary McAuliffe of Princeton.

A celebration of his life was held Sunday afternoon at the Chase County Elementary School in Strong City. Pastor Warren Olson of the Elmdale church officiated with assistance from the Rev. Russ Magaw. Burial was at the Cedar Point Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mike Jackson Scholarship Fund, to be awarded to graduates of Chase County High School, in care of the Brown-Bennett-Alexander Funeral Home, 201 Cherry, Cottonwood Falls, Kan., 66845. Messages for the family may be left at [www.brown-bennett-alexander.com](http://www.brown-bennett-alexander.com).

**Mabel E. McLaughlin**

Mabel Eileen McLaughlin, 85, a longtime resident of Oberlin, died Jan. 7, 2013, in Vacaville, Calif.

She was born July 27, 1927, in Hitchcock County, Neb., the daughter of Omar and Maudie Brown. She taught at the schoolhouse that is now part of the Decatur County Museum, and later worked for more than 30 years at the Oberlin Medical Clinic with several doctors, including C.M. Nelson, Ken Bickford, Ren Whitaker, Richard May and Marguerite Palmer.

She served in the U.S. Navy in the early 1950s. In the 1960s, she was active in the Decatur County Saddle Club. After her retirement, she continued to live in Oberlin until moving to Sturgeon, Mo., where she was active in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Two years before her death, she had a major stroke while vacationing in Maui, but had a complete recovery. However, it was found she had lung cancer, so she moved to California to be closer to her sons and grandsons.

Survivors include two sons: Michael McLaughlin (John Wieland), Vacaville, and George McLaughlin (New York); two grandsons, Riley Roberts and Zachary Roberts, Reno, Nev.; and a brother-in-law, Dale (Lila) Peterson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Morton (Marie, Jeannie), Elmore (Jeannie), Kenneth (Marjorie, Sara) and Harold (Gloria, Carol, Josephine); seven sisters, Frieda (Fred), Lucille (Howard, Vernon, Limon), Florence (Clayton), Mildred (Jack), Maxine (Tom) and Lila; and the father of her two sons, Robert McLaughlin.

Inurnment will be at a later date at the Oberlin Cemetery. The family requests no flowers or memorials.

**Ethel Wanda Nemeth**

Ethel Wanda Nemeth, 86, a 1945 graduate of Decatur Community High School, died Dec. 25, 2012, at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin.

She was born March 13, 1926, on a farm near Dresden, the daughter of Chris John and Mabel (Litton) Ehler. She was reared on the family farm and attended the Dresden Grade School. She then took courses at a business school in Denver for a year.

She married Joe Nemeth in Denver. They lived in Lakewood, Colo., and she was a secretary for an optometrist. She was a member of the Lutheran Church in Lakewood. Survivors include cousins, Helen Brooks, Sharon Black and Betty Heisel, all of Oberlin, and Vicky (Vivan) Heisel, Brush Colo.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and two brothers, Don and Carrol Ehler.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin with the Rev. Matt Woodard officiating. Inurnment will be in the Dresden Cemetery.

A memorial was established in her name in care of the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749. Condolences may be sent at [www.paulsfh.com](http://www.paulsfh.com).

**Ivy Emma Rolland**

Ivy Emma Bell Rolland, 99, Norton, a native of Clayton, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at the Norton County Hospital.

She was born Feb. 20, 1913, on the family farm south of Clayton, the daughter of Karsten Charlie and Nora Florence (Steele) Thiesen. Following her graduation from the old Clayton High School, she taught for four years in two rural Decatur County schools.

She married Cleo Earnest Rolland on June 1, 1935. They lived in Clayton, moving to San Diego during World War II. They returned to Kansas in 1949.

She was a member of the Norton Christian Church, Girl Scout leader and a member of the Andbe Home's board, the L.D. Club, Avon Federated Study Club and the Prairie Painters Club.

Survivors include a son, Gary (Samette) Rolland, Norton; a daughter, Julia (Mike) Quenzer, Colby; four grandchildren; and

three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband in 1984, and three sisters, Violet Frank, Lily Heany and Fern Thiesen.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. today at the Norton Christian Church, with burial in the Norton Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials to the church's youth programs or to the Andbe Home sound system fund, in care of the Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan., 67654.

**Donald E. Vessey**

Donald Eugene Vessey, 68, a 1964 graduate of Decatur Community High School, died Dec. 12, 2012, at the Olathe Medical Center.

He was born March 26, 1946, at McCook, the son of Duane and Vera (Barrett) Vessey. The family lived on a farm northeast of Oberlin until moving to Olathe. He served in the U.S. Army. His father preceded him in death.

Private family services were held Dec. 19. Arrangements were by Reflections Memorial Services.

**Gordon L. Wilson**

Gordon Leonard Wilson, 85, who owned the Highway Barber Shop and Camper Park in Oberlin for more than 50 years, died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2014, at the Schowalter Villa in Hesston.

He was born Sept. 29, 1927, in rural Oberlin, the son of Earl and Mabel (McClellan) Wilson. He grew up on a farm northwest of Oberlin, where his father was a veterinarian. He attended Mount Pleasant School and graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1945. He helped his father run a Purina feed store and build the Star Motel.

He married Louise Black on Aug. 17, 1950, at the Assembly of God Church in Oberlin, where they were lifelong members. They had three sons. After her death in 1992, he married Vivian Willard, and after her death, he married Wilma Jean Bland. He moved to Hesston in 2009 to be closer to family.

Survivors include two sons, Duane (Fayette) Wilson, Charlotte, N.C., and Evan (Phyllis) Wilson, Wichita; a brother, Floyd (Phoebe) Wilson, Mesa, Ariz.; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his three wives; a son, Royce Wilson; a brother, Merle; two sisters, Bernice Meixner and Doris Black; and a granddaughter, Kaylynn Wilson.

Services were Monday afternoon at the church in Oberlin with Pastor Royce Leitner officiating and burial in the Oberlin Cemetery.

A memorial was established in his name, in care of the Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan., 67674. Condolences may be sent at [www.enfieldfh.com](http://www.enfieldfh.com).

Corrections

A wrestling story in the Jan. 9 issue of *The Oberlin Herald* incorrectly identified Kelly Brown as a senior. Kelly is a freshman. His brother Kade Brown, a senior, was honored at ceremonies during the wrestling meet. This was a reporting error.

☆☆☆☆

The Oberlin Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 475-2206 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Markets

**Monday closing markets**  
Wheat, \$7.58 bushel.  
Corn, \$7.21 bushel.  
Milo, \$6.92 bushel.  
Soybeans, \$13.43 bushel.  
*Decatur Cooperative Association*



Weather



Forecast

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 46. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 20. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 44.  
**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 20.  
**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 47.  
**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 20.  
**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 44.  
**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 18.  
**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 39.  
**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 17.  
*From the National Weather Service*

National Weather Service

(Information below for period ending 8 a.m.; maximum temperature for previous day.)

	Hi	Low	Precip.
Jan. 7	43	9	0
Jan. 8	42	10	0
Jan. 9	46	10	0
Jan. 10	50	19	0
Jan. 11	37	33	T
Jan. 12	52	13	T
Jan. 13	22	4	0

Precipitation totals for the week: Trace  
Precipitation totals for the month: 0.15  
Precipitation totals for the year: 0.15  
One year ago: 0.13

For 24-hour weather radio broadcast, tune scanner to 162.4 mhz.

By Melvin Martin - NOAA Cooperative Weather Observer.

Obituary

Violet M. Holle



Violet Marie Anderson Holle, 89, of Atwood was born Feb. 6, 1923 at her parents' rural farm home south of Herndon, Kan., in Rawlins County. She died Dec. 19, 2012 at the Good Samaritan Society, Atwood, Kan.

Violet was the middle daughter of Oscar Melvin Anderson and Vivian Peterson Anderson. She was baptized April 8, 1923 and confirmed Jan. 24, 1937 at Enne Lutheran Church, rural Herndon.

She attended White Cloud School District #85 and graduated from Decatur Community High School in Oberlin, Kan., in 1941. Violet received her Normal Training Certificate by attending summer sessions at Fort Hays State University and Colorado State College of Education at Greeley. She was an elementary school teacher in Decatur, Rawlins and Johnson Counties in Kansas. Many of her former students still corresponded with their "favorite" teacher.

On June 20, 1948, Violet married Francis H. Holle at Enne Lutheran Church. To this union, four children were born: Larry, Kevin, Shelly and Cheryl. She was a dedicated and loving wife, mother and grandmother.

The Holles lived and worked on their family farm in Southeast Rawlins County until their retire-

ment in 1992, at which time they moved to Atwood. In 1958, their farm received the Kansas Bankers Soil Conservation Award and in 1984, the couple were named Kansas Master Farmer/Master Home-maker. Violet had been a resident of the Atwood Good Samaritan Society since August of 2007.

Violet was a former member of Enne (Bethel) Lutheran Church, which merged with Faith Lutheran Church in Oberlin. While attending Faith, she was a member of the choir and a Vacation Bible School and Sunday School teacher. After moving to Atwood, she became a member of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Violet enjoyed her flower and vegetable gardens. She canned and froze produce and made loaves and loaves of homemade bread to feed

her family. Violet also enjoyed crafting. She was a 23-year 4-H leader. She was a charter member of the Hello There Hobby Club. She and Fran helped organize the Cloverleaf 4-H Club. Violet served two terms on the Rawlins County Extension Council Executive Board, with one term as secretary. In 1979, she was honored as a Kansas Merit Mother by the Kansas Mothers Association.

Violet had a strong faith and gracious spirit, never having an unkind word to say about anyone.

Violet was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar and Vivian Anderson; husband, Fran; sisters-in-law, Ruth Collard and Kathy Holle; and brothers-in-law, Vern Holle, Delos Holle, Roger Thorson and Lowell Olson.

She is survived by sons, Larry Holle of Conifer, Colo., and Kevin Holle and wife, Mary, of rural Herndon; daughters, Shelly Holle of Chanute, Kan., and Cheryl Holle and friend, Bob Keller, of Kansas City, Mo.; grandsons, Kent Holle of Lawrence, Kan., and Orrin Holle and wife, Beth, and children, Henry, Eli, Maggie and Will Holle, of Achilles, Kan.; sisters, Eunice and husband, Glenn Martin, of Oberlin and Lila Thorson of Silverdale, Wash.; sister-in-law, Carolyn Holle of Agra, brother-

ter, noon. Everyone Welcome.

Faith Weaver Friends, multi-church program for first through sixth graders, 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. at Oberlin United Methodist Church.

SENIOR MENU

Senior lunch at the Golden Age Center, weekdays at noon:

**Today:** chicken-and-rice casserole, broccoli, fruit, bread, cookie.

**Thursday:** open-face turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, strawberries and bananas, bread, cake.

**Friday:** taco burger with tomato, Spanish rice, corn, bun, Mandarin oranges.

**Monday:** hamburger gravy, green beans, cinnamon apple slices, biscuit, crisp rice bar.

**Tuesday:** hamburger vegetable soup, gelatin with fruit, crackers, brownie.

**Next Wednesday:** baked fish, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw with carrots, bread, fruit cobbler.

Sunflower Cinema

220 N. Penn Oberlin 785-470-2200

Lincoln PG-13

Friday January 18 - 7 p.m.  
Saturday, January 19 - 7 p.m.  
Sunday, January 20 - 2 p.m.

This advertisement sponsored by:



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Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers, flowers, food and memorial donations given in honor of our mother, Violet Holle. Thanks to the staff of the Atwood Good Samaritan Society and the Rawlins County Health Center for the years of compassionate care.—The family of Violet Holle