



Osmond Jed Merrill

June 3, 1921 - August 12, 2013

Osmond Jed Merrill of Corvallis, known as “OJ” or “Jed” to his friends, peacefully passed on Aug. 12, 2013, at home.

Jed was born to Ralph Douglas and Lucile Stoddard Merrill on a beautiful sunny day, June 3, 1921, in Richmond, Cache County, Utah. He was named by his grandfather, William I. Stoddard. The family also lived in Clifton in the Blue Creek area of Utah before moving to Moreland, Idaho. Jed was the fifth son in the family of 13 children.

As a young boy in the 1930s, Jed was awarded the Life Scout designation to attend the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Washington, D.C. He was an accomplished state athlete, lettering in baseball and basketball, and the district champion in horseshoes. He graduated from Moreland High School as class and student body president.

Jed married Maria Monserrat in 1946 and moved to Portland to attend Vanport College after service in the U.S. Army’s 126th Field Artillery Battalion. Later, Jed settled in Eugene, where he developed skills as a building contractor, landlord and teacher at Lane Community College. Jed remained active as a young adult, bowling in a league, singing in the Eugene Gleeman, and as a member of the Eugene Elks Lodge.

Whether creating a landscape design, managing and repairing apartments, or broadening a mind with a challenging question, Jed kept busy.

He raised four children, Victoria Channer of Siletz, Debra Jones of South Beach, O. Jay Merrill of Bend and Michel (Cindy) Merrill, also of Bend. He has five granddaughters, Michelle Channer, Ivy Jones, Deena Bahr-Merrill, Natalie Merrill and Eva Merrill. He had settled in the peaceful Alsea Valley, gardening with his wife, Alvanita Stouder Merrill.

Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at McHenry Funeral Home, 206 N.W. Fifth St., Corvallis. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Lane Community College Foundation "in memory of Osmond Jed Merrill," 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene, OR 97405, or online at www.lanecc.edu/foundation.