

## Obituary

Robert "Bob" Hardenburger passed away Friday. He was 99.

Bob was born in Kimball, Neb. He moved to Oregon with his parents and older sister when he was 2 years old.

After graduating from Corvallis High School, Bob attended what was then Oregon State College. He was a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity. But when his father became ill, he quit school to take care of his family. This was something he did for the rest of his life, forfeiting his own needs for the needs of his family.

As a young man, he worked at his future father-in-law's service station. It was there that he met the love of his life, Claranell DeMoss. Later, he drove a truck for Shell Oil Company.

Soon after getting married, Bob and Nell moved west of Corvallis, where they owned and operated a turkey ranch. They had more than 25,000 turkeys to care for, and were for a time the leading suppliers of turkeys in the country.

When an opportunity presented itself to find a better way to support his family, Bob gave up ranching to start a sporting goods store with his brother-in-law, Les Gault. Les & Bob's Sporting Goods became one of the premier businesses in Corvallis.

Bob could fix any outboard motor or shotgun brought into the store for repairs. To this day, people remember the service they got whenever they entered Les & Bob's.

At one time, Bob was a member of the Corvallis Country Club, the Oregon State University Beaver Club, the Tillicums, and the Corvallis Elks Lodge. He was one of the outstanding trap shooters on the Elks' team. He had a trophy case full of first-place finishes from both in Oregon and out of the state.

Hunting was his passion. The duck pond he owned with three others was truly a place he enjoyed from the minute he bought the property until it was sold. The new owner respected Bob so much he officially named it Burger Pond.

Bob took great pride in keeping his yard and garden well tended into his 90s. He was the most honest man you would ever meet, hardworking and dedicated to all who knew him. He was the quiet strength of his family, never saying a lot, but showing his family how to live their lives by his own character and example.

He will be greatly missed by all who had the honor of knowing him.

Bob leaves behind Claranell, his wife of 71 years; son Ray Hardenburger; daughter Phyllis Peterson and her husband, Robert; grandchildren Kim Moreland, Derron Moreland (and wife Melanie), David Hardenburger (and wife Andrea), Katie Dolby (and husband Michael), and Rob Peterson (and wife Janelle); 15 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law Grace Zwahlen; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Mary Ann Moreland, grandson Mike Hardenburger, and sister Bessie Lund.

Respecting his wishes to forego a formal funeral service, his family will hold a private celebration of his life at a later date.

Arrangements were made with DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home and Crematory, [www.demossdurdan.com](http://www.demossdurdan.com).

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