

HAGEN, Earle H. Hagen

(Abstracted from the Loveland, CO Daily Reporter-Herald, Wednesday, May 28, 2008)

'Andy Griffith' whistler was 88

Earle H. Hagen, the Emmy Award-winning television composer who wrote the theme music for "The Andy Griffith Show," "The Dick Van Dyke Show," "I Spy" and other classic TV programs, has died. He was 88. Hagen, who composed the jazz standard "Harlem Nocturne" and was a former big-band trombonist for Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman and Ray Noble, died Monday night at his home in Rancho Mirage, CA, said his wife, Laura. He had been ill for several months. After spending seven years at 20th Century Fox as an arranger and orchestrator, Hagen moved into television in 1953 after the studio cut back on its music department. Over the next 33 years, he composed music for more than 3,000 TV-series episodes, pilots and TV movies — as well as composing the themes for "That Girl," "The Mod Squad," "Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.," and "Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer." Hagen also wrote a jazz arrangement of the traditional Irish tune "Londonderry Air," which served as the theme for Danny Thomas' "Make Room for Daddy" situation comedy. The Thomas show, which debuted in 1953, launched Hagen's longtime professional relationship with director-producer Sheldon Leonard. "There is no question in my mind that Earle Hagen is one of the most important composers in the history of television, if not the most important," said Jon Burlingame. When Hagen started his television career, Burlingame said, "there was very little original music being composed for television. He was one of the very few people who took the leap and saw the potential of music for television in terms of what could be accomplished dramatically and comedically." The happy-go-lucky theme for "The Andy Griffith Show" might be Hagen's most recognizable tune. It's certainly the most beloved. In his autobiography, "Memoirs of a Famous Composer Nobody Ever Heard Of," Hagen wrote that while sitting at home "wracking my brain for an idea for a theme for the Griffith show, it finally occurred to me that it should be something simple, something you could whistle. With that in mind, it took me about an hour to write the Andy Griffith theme." That night, he and several musicians recorded a demo of the theme for the opening of the show, with Hagen doing the whistling and his 11-year-old son Deane doing the finger-snapping. The next morning, Hagen took a copy of the demo to executive producer Leonard's home. As Hagen recalled: "He listened and said, 'Great! I'll do (the show's opening) at Franklin Canyon Lake with Andy and Ronny (Howard) walking along the bank with a couple of fishing poles over their shoulders." Hagen wrote music for as many as five weekly shows simultaneously, putting in "16-hour workdays, seven days a week, for 40 weeks a year," he told the online magazine Film Score Monthly in 2001. Hagen, who retired from television in 1986, taught the BMI workshop for film and TV composers for many years. Hagen's wife of 59 years, former big-band singer Elouise "Lou" Sidwell, died in 2002. In addition to his wife Laura, whom he married in 2005, Hagen is survived by his two sons, Deane and James; three stepchildren, Rebecca Roberts, Richard Roberts and Rachael Roberts; and four grandchildren.

HEALD, Benjamin Wilson Heald

(Abstracted from The Orlando Sentinel. January 21, 1995)

Mr. Benjamin Wilson Heald, 38038 Crystal Lane, Umatilla, died Friday, January 20, 1995. He was a retired attorney. Born in Berlin, WI, he moved to Central Florida in 1981. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Eustis. He was a Mason. Survivors: wife, Evelyn; daughters, Marilyn Tatum, Tavares, Ruth Frank, Tomah, Wis.; stepson, Jim Sewell, Orlando; half-sister, Marj Fease, Rhinelander, Wis.; six grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren. Beyers Funeral Home, Umatilla.

HEIL, Susan Hunsche Heil

(Abstracted from Elmer's friend - Miriam Robbins brought this to his attention.)

Susan Hunsche Heil died on April 24th surrounded by those who loved her so very much. She is survived by her beloved husband, Lt. Col. (Ret.) James R Heil of Spokane, their children Nick Heil, Kayte Heil Gentry (Jon), granddaughters Taylor and Tannis Gentry, and her sister, Virginia Hunsche Randermann. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on December 21, 1937 to Charles and Miriam (Heinz) Hunsche. Susan grew up in Mount Healthy, Ohio, and in 1963 married her kindergarten sweetheart. With the arrival of their two children, Susan became a full-time and devoted mother raising her children to have open hearts and compassion. During her life, she resided with her family in New Jersey, the Philippines, Annandale, VA, and Spokane, WA. As a three-time survivor of breast cancer, she showed the world that nothing could stop her from living a life of passion and determination. Those who knew her describe her as a quiet but glowing ray of sunshine. Susan graduated from the Duke University College of Nursing in 1959. Her career accomplishments are numerous and include Staff and Surgical Recovery Nurse in Cincinnati, OH, New York City, NY, and Browns-Mills, NJ. She believed in, and was always, a patient advocate. Her nursing career led her to an interest in clinical research, a field in which she worked for 15 years and from which she eventually retired. Susan had a lifelong interest in history and genealogy. She served as a Docent Trainer at The Smithsonian Institution/National Museum of American History, a volunteer at Eastern Washington Genealogical Society and a Program Director for the American Red Cross. She was a gardener, quilter, knitter, and dog-lover. Susan's energy and charisma touched so many; she will forever live in the hearts of others. A celebration of her life will be held on Sunday, July 14th at 3pm in the Fireside Lounge at Center Place (2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane, WA 99216). In her memory, we encourage donations to the Eastern Washington Genealogy Society, the Spokane Humane Society, Holy Family Hospital, National Public Radio, or the charity of your choice.

HOEKENGA, Earl Hoekenga

(Abstracted by courtesy of the Jacksonville Florida Times-Union, July 2, 1997)

Earl Hoekenga, who converted the financially ailing Ryder Truck Lines into the nation's third largest trucking company, died Monday. He was 81. Mr. Hoekenga spent 35 years in the trucking industry, 16 as president and chief executive officer of Jacksonville based Ryder. When he moved to Jacksonville to take over Ryder in 1966, the struggling company's annual revenues were \$60 million. When he retired in 1981, its revenues had grown to \$650 million. "He turned it around," said his daughter, Trena Nesler. "He was very fair, very honest and treated everyone the same, from the truck driver to the mail room clerk to the executive vice president." Mr. Hoekenga was a financial whiz who could go down a list of numbers and spot mistakes within seconds, she said. In the trucking industry, he earned a reputation for improved cost accounting methods and implementing incentive and profitsharing systems. After retirement, he formed Universal Select Inc., a company specializing in driver leasing, and Bridgestar Inc., a consulting firm specializing in truck lines. He remained active until his health declined a year ago. A native of Muskegon, Mich., Mr. Hoekenga graduated from Michigan State University in 1939. He served as a captain in the Air Force. He was a supporter of numerous religious, educational and charitable organizations. He served on the board of the United Way, Junior Achievement, Jacksonville University, Edward Waters College, Methodist Medical Center, Lakewood United Methodist Church and the Atlantic National Bank. Mr. Hoekenga also was a YMCA trustee, a member of the board of governors of the Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce and once served on the transportation committee of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his daughter, survivors include his wife of 56 years, Helen Beattie Hoekenga; two sons, David and Christian Hoekenga; three other daughters, Ann Trebilcock, Linda Swanson and Gretchen Hoekenga; 19 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Services will be at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 6133 San Jose Blvd. Burial will follow at Oaklawn Cemetery, 4801 San Jose Blvd.

HORN, Gilbert Horn Sr.

(Abstracted from information received from June Spear)

GREAT FALLS, Mont. — Gilbert Horn Sr., a Native American code talker who returned from World War II to spend decades serving the Fort Belknap Assiniboine Tribe as a judge and council member, has died of natural causes. He was 92. Horn died Sunday at Northern Montana Care Center in Havre, Kirkwood Funeral Home said. His memorial service was scheduled Wednesday. Horn was born on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in 1923. He joined the U.S. National Guard at age 15 as a way to escape the poverty of the reservation. He enlisted in the Army at 17 after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Horn was initially trained as a sharpshooter and later received some training in communications and encryption and joined other Indians who used their native languages to send coded messages during World War II. The work of the code talkers remained classified until 1968. Horn volunteered for service as a member of Merrill's Marauders, a special operations unit of 2,750 men whose mission was to cut Japanese communications and supply lines in the Burmese jungle. "It was a fighting unit, ready for action any time," Horn said during an interview for a story published in January 2014. "I wanted to go see the war. I didn't want to be in Montana all my life. I wanted to see what's across that big waters called the oceans." The unit made an 800-mile trek over the Himalaya Mountains into the jungle with only the weapons and supplies they could carry on the 720 mules and horses they brought with them. The Marauders fought through monsoon season. Troops suffered from malaria, dysentery and typhus. Horn was wounded four times. "There was no support. We didn't have any artillery. They just kept on knocking us down, whittling us down," he said in 2014. "It is hard to believe what we had to go through." Horn — one of 1,200 soldiers who survived the Marauders' campaign — was awarded a Purple Heart. Each soldier also received a Bronze Star. Despite his military heroics, when Horn returned to the reservation in June 1945, he said he was "treated like dirt." Veterans were supposed to be given preferential treatment when applying for certain jobs and qualify for low-interest federal housing loans, but he said that almost never happened. He worked on his grandparents' farm and received schooling in business management, psychology and legal work. Horn served on the Assiniboine Treaty Committee for 68 years. He was a member of the Fort Belknap Community Council for 19 years and was a tribal judge for eight years, during which time he wrote the first regulations for the tribe's juvenile court. He was a member of the health board that lobbied for a new clinic and also helped get the Head Start program established on the reservation. One of its buildings was named after Horn, whose Indian name is "Shunk Ta Oba Kni," or "Returns With Prisoner Horse." In 2013, he received an honorary doctorate in humanitarian services from Montana State University-Northern. In May 2014, he was named the chief of the Fort Belknap Assiniboine Tribe, the first tribal chief in more than 125 years. Horn is survived by 10 of his 11 children, 37 grandchildren, 71 great-grandchildren and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

HUNT, Earl H. Hunt

(Abstracted from the Fort Wayne, IN Journal Gazette, July 30, 2003)

Earl H. Hunt, 95, died Tuesday, July 29, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne. Born in Earlville, Iowa, he was Secretary / Treasurer with Duff Truck Lines in Lima, Ohio, for 30 years, retiring in 1981. Survivors include daughters, Judith A. Potosky and Nancy L. Cerney, both of Fort Wayne; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean H., Oct. 26, 1992. Service is 10:30 a.m. Friday, with calling one hour prior, at St. Charles Borromeo

Catholic Church, 4916 Trier Road. Calling is also from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave. Entombment in Catholic Cemetery. Memorials to Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne, Earlville United Parish, Earlville, Iowa, Visiting Nurse Service's Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or Shriners Children's Hospital in Chicago, Ill.

HUNT, Johnnie B. Hunt

(Abstracted from a New York Times article of December 8, 2006)

Johnnie B. Hunt, who built a nationwide freight-hauling empire after calculating that driving a single transport truck was rather less profitable than owning and managing thousands of them, died Thursday. He was 79. His company announced his death. A family spokesman said Mr. Hunt had been in critical condition at a hospital since Saturday, when he slipped on ice at his home in Goshen, AR, and fell, striking his head. The son of a sharecropper, Mr. Hunt had little formal education, having dropped out of school in the sixth grade to help support his family. But he had a keen entrepreneurial sense. In 1961, after nine years behind the wheel of his own truck, he founded the cargo hauling enterprise that grew to become J. B. Hunt Transport Services. Today, it is the nation's largest publicly traded trucking company. The fleet of five trucks and seven trailers he purchased to start the company has grown to 11,000 and 47,000, respectively, all of them electronically tracked from the company's sprawling headquarters in Lowell, near Fayetteville, in northwest Arkansas. In 1989, in partnership with Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railway, the company created an intermodal division in which freight containers could be hauled interchangeably by truck or rail. The venture proved enormously profitable -- "the envy of the industry," Thom S. Albrecht, a transportation analyst for Stephens Inc., said Thursday. In the quarter that ended Sept. 30, J. B. Hunt reported earnings of \$58 million on revenues of \$858 million. It employs more than 16,000 people. "The uniqueness of his vision was to standardize the company's fleet, its services and even its drivers' uniforms," Mr. Albrecht said of Mr. Hunt. "He positioned his company beautifully to take advantage of trucking deregulation in the 1980s." Mr. Hunt retired as chairman in 1995 and as "senior chairman" in 2004. He cut a colorful figure in Arkansas. Unfailingly polite, he stood more than six feet tall and almost always wore a Stetson hat and cowboy boots. Gold dollar signs secured his French cuffs, and from a gold money clip he dispensed \$100 bills to the needy, explaining that his memories of childhood as a poor sharecropper's son were still vivid. Johnnie Bryan Hunt was born on Feb. 28, 1927, in rural Heber Springs, in north-central Arkansas. He was not yet a teenager when he began gathering up wood shavings from his uncle's sawmill, where he worked, and selling them to chicken farmers for use in their coops. In 1952, he married the former Johnelle DeBusk, who survives him, as do a son, Bryan, and a daughter, Jane. His wife and son are directors of the company. Though officially retired, Mr. Hunt took up real estate development in recent years, building a million-square-foot office and retail complex near his home, among other ventures. All have been profitable.

HURD, Gene Hurd

(Abstracted from our son, Audy Payne who was one of his friends)

Gene "Tony" Hurd, was called home by the Lord from his residence surrounded by his loved ones on April 12, 2013. He was born in Warrenton, VA on July 7, 1948 to parents Gene and Betty (McCorder) Hurd. He was a retired union lather. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, four-wheeling, and playing pool. He took pride and much joy in teaching his children all of these. He was married to the love of his life, Connie for 34 years. He is preceded in death by his father, Gene and his mother, Betty. He is survived by his loving wife, Connie (Mock) Hurd of the home, sons: David Hurd and wife Racheal of Mountain View, AR, Paul Wallace of Florida, Anthony Hurd of Florida, and Charles Hurd of Florida, daughter, Lissa Zajac and husband Billy of Mountain View, AR, brothers: Freddy Hurd and wife Debbie of Florida, Billy Shafer and wife Viola of Texas, and Johnny Saharski and wife Charlene of Oregon, sisters: Joanie Chesser and husband Billy of Florida, and Janet Lipinski and husband Dan of Connecticut, ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Tuesday April 16, 2013 at Roller Crouch Funeral Home with burial in Sunnyland Cemetery. The family would like to thank Hospice for the care and compassion she gave Tony and our family. Roller Crouch Funeral Home, Batesville, AR is in charge of the arrangements.