

# OBITUARIES

## Thomas Mulkey 'Tom' Heaton

Sept. 5, 1941 - Jan. 5, 2013

Thomas Mulkey "Tom" Heaton passed away Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013 at the Norton County Hospital in Norton, at the age of 71. He had been in poor health for several years.

Tom was born Sept. 5, 1941, in Norton, where he lived all of his life. He grew up in a loving home with his parents, two brothers, and two sisters, all members of the Norton Christian Church. Tom graduated from Norton Community High School and attended Kansas State University.

As a young man, Tom worked at the Norton Coca-Cola Bottling Company, a family-owned business. Later he worked around Norton as a residential plumber, was employed by a mobile home manufacturer in Oberlin, worked at the honey farm west of town, and was last employed by Love's Country Store in Norton.

Tom enjoyed bowling, gardening, hunting, and fishing. He was an avid fisherman and did most of his fishing at Keith Sebelius Reservoir. He was always delighted when he could join his nephews from Texas on a hunting trip. On his outings, Tom liked to pick wild berries for homemade jams and

jellies. He was an excellent gardener and supplied family and friends with an abundance of fresh vegetables during the summer months.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Elmon Graves Heaton and Nancy Elizabeth (Mulkey) Heaton, and a brother, David Warren Heaton.

He is survived by a brother, Donald and Wanda Heaton, of Richardson, Texas; two sisters, Mary and David Stamey, of Murphy, Texas, and JoAnn and Steve Taylor, of Show Low, Ariz.; nine nephews and nieces; 22 great nephews and nieces; and one great-great nephew.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at 2 p.m. at the Norton Christian Church in Norton, Kansas. Inurnment will take place in the Norton Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given in his name and left at the church or sent to Pauls Funeral Home, 121 N. Penn Ave., Oberlin, Kansas 67749.

Visit [www.paulsfh.com](http://www.paulsfh.com) to leave condolences for the family.

## Wanda Marie Breiner

Sept. 7, 1929 - Jan. 3, 2013

Wanda Marie Breiner, age 83, of York, Neb., died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013 in York. She was born Sept. 7, 1929 in Oronoque, Kansas to Orval and Helen (Hager) Poage.

Wanda attended school in Clayton and Jennings. She graduated from Jennings High School in 1947. Wanda and Eldon Breiner were united in marriage on Nov. 29, 1952 in Norton. The union was blessed with four children, Reba, Rodney, Randy, and Ron.

Wanda worked for Stanal Sound Inc. in Kearney, for 20 years, in the bookkeeping department. She worked in the family business, Village Landscape and Nursery, in Bella Vista, Ark., for 15 years. Wanda also worked at the Trading Post in York for five years. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in York. She loved spending time with her family, dancing, playing cards, and working in her yard. Wanda was also a big Nebraska Cornhusker fan.



Left to cherish her memory are daughter, Reba Ann Breiner, Lincoln, Neb.; three sons: Rodney Breiner, Wichita, Randy (Jennifer Manire), York, Neb., and Ron Breiner (Michelle Appleton), York, Neb.; eight grandchildren: Tara (Jay) Meyer, Lindsey Bellows, Beth Bellows, Lincoln, Melissa Warkentine and John Breiner, Wichita, Tyler (Jessica) Breiner, Grand Island, Neb., Jessie Breiner, Denver, Colo., and Paige Breiner,

Springfield, Mo. Also surviving are seven great-grandchildren: Avery and Ashton Meyer, Lincoln, Cole and Bailey Warkentine, Wichita, Lexee Breiner and Maddalaine Esquitin of Grand Island, Neb., and Cooper Melichar of Lincoln, Neb. Wanda also leaves behind a very special friend, Julie (Mark) Powers.

Preceding her in death were her parents; granddaughter Cameron Meyer; grandson Landon Breiner; brothers, Phillip and Donald Poage.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 11, 2013 at the Metz Chapel in York. Private family inurnment will be at a later date.

There will be no viewing or visitation as it was Wanda's wish to be cremated.

Memorials may be directed to Tabitha Hospice or Cancer Research.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.metzmortuary.com](http://www.metzmortuary.com).

Metz Mortuary, York, Neb., is handling arrangements.

## Gladys Irene Hackney

June 4, 1918 - Jan. 4, 2013

Gladys Irene Hackney, daughter of Charles Henry and Laura NettaBell (Perrill) McClelland, was born June 4, 1918, in rural Norton County, and passed away at her home in Norton, on Jan. 4, 2013, at the age of 94.

Gladys grew up in the Good Hope neighborhood and attended the county schools. When her family moved to Norton she did housework for many families for many years. On Sept. 2, 1961, Gladys and Harold W. Hackney were united in marriage. They made their home in Norton. Her husband, Harold, passed away Feb. 18, 1981.

Survivors include many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews, and great-great-nieces and nephews. Her nieces and nephews were very precious to her.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, three sisters, Margaret Wilson, Blanche Heller, and Madge Heller, two brothers,

Herbert and Clifford McClelland, four brothers-in-law, Argo and Elda Heller, Johnnie Wilson, and Harold Curran, three sisters-in-law, Josephine McClelland, Audrey Curran, and Naomi Richard, five nephews, Bob Wilson, Chuck, Don, and Charles Heller, and Herb Sadder, one great-great-nephew, Seth Carlson, two nieces, Barbara Jean Carathuron and Dorothy Heller, and one great-great-niece, Olivia McClelland.

A funeral service will be held on Jan. 10, at 10:30 a.m. at Enfield Funeral Home. Burial will be at the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials in her name can be sent to Second Chance Homeless Pet Shelter.

Friends may call at Enfield Funeral Home on Wednesday, Jan. 9 from 3 to 8 p.m.

Condolences can be sent to [www.enfieldfh.com](http://www.enfieldfh.com).

Arrangements are by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

# A dozen boxes for the New Year

Christmas letters sure perk up my mailbox visits. Two people this year asked me about "the boxes" for New Year's. One read, "I loved your idea but life got in the way and I didn't do those boxes you wrote about once. Could you run that one again? I'm really going to do it this year, I promise." Always happy to fill a reader's request, I looked back and found "the boxes", so here it is, slightly altered but pretty much the same. If any of you have favorite columns you would like to see again, just let me know. My filing system is a bit mysterious to anyone else, but I will do my best to locate the one you remember.

So here are your new boxes for 2013. Use them well.

On January 1 you will be given twelve boxes, neither large nor small but flexible and stretchy. Each is labeled with the name of a month. Set these twelve imaginary boxes side by side in your heart, in your mind, in the very depths of your being.

On the bottom of each box gently pat a thick layer of soft golden memories. Perhaps your wedding day, the day a loved one went home to our Maker, a delight from your childhood, or an unexpected gift that filled you with joy. These will provide a cozy blanket to keep each box warm. Valentines, May baskets, your first kiss and other such happy occasions fit into this layer in their appropriate months. Don't forget the rainbows you've seen. Add as many as you please for your box will stretch to hold them, have no fear.

Pieces of life's puzzle  
**Liza Deines**



Into the appropriate box drop the birthdays and anniversaries of your family and dearest friends. Notice how the joys float to the top of the box! Add smiles, laughter, a hearty sense of goofiness and generous dollops of loving kindness sweetened with forgiveness. These will invariably bubble and ooze out of the boxes but that's okay, just slather them everywhere. Try to keep a hug in each box. They tend to multiply, creep out and run about loose but that's okay, too. Who ever had too many hugs?

Now into each box place a few small goals. Small, I said, small! If you want to lose weight, set a goal for three pounds in a month. If you want to stop smoking, delete three cigarettes each day. Just three pounds, three cigarettes. You can do that. Do you want to exercise more? Walk just three blocks each day. Only three. Should you be reading more? One book a month. You can do that. Tuck these goals in corners and check daily to watch them float to the top as they are accomplished. Remember, your boxes are stretchy so if you should happen to lose four pounds or walk six blocks, the goals will still fit in.

In the May, July and November boxes place American flags

and patriotic moments, respect for our troops and remembrances of fallen soldiers. Gratitude for our American freedoms will not bulge the sides of any box no matter how much you cram in. No political problems will fit into these boxes; being gnarly and nasty and generally ugly, they will be instantly ejected. Instead, sprinkle in optimism and confidence in America. November and December boxes may be stuffed to hold holiday joys from years and years and years, past, present and future.

Ah, but these magical boxes are not just for the past. Into every single box pack a huge heaping helping of hope enriched with faith. Did you notice there are no tops on your boxes? You can never fill them too full of dreams, ambitions, or random good deeds. You are welcome to try, however. Pour prayers over every box every day, without fail. There is plenty of room and no saturation point.

WARNING: Your boxes are not designed to retain worry, sadness, depression, anxiety, spite or any unworthy emotions. These may be indulged in on the 32nd of each month and discarded immediately. Tears will simply evaporate.

MY MAMA SAID: Every day is a fresh, clean sheet of paper. Sharpen your pencil before you begin writing on it.

Liza Deines  
1098 NE Independence Ave. #230  
Lee's Summit, MO 64086  
[childofthe40s@gmail.com](mailto:childofthe40s@gmail.com)  
816-554-0398

## Area playwright's Tom Sawyer published

Hailed as "one of our best new children's authors," Kansas playwright Everett Robert has had his children's one-act play, *The Absolutely True Story of Tom Sawyer* as told by Becky Thatcher, published by Heartland Plays, Inc.

Everett Robert is a Hays resident and Colby native who graduated from Colby High School in 1995 and from Colby Community College in 1999 where he studied Radio and Television Communications in addition to English and Drama. He is currently a student at Fort Hays University. Everett is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, the Playwright's Center, the Kansas Writer's Association, and the Oklahoma Writer's Federation, Fringe Theater Company of Fort Hays State, and Hays Community Theater.

Everett has written and performed in Colby, Hoxie, Hill City, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Davao City, Philippines. *Tom Sawyer* is his second published play. His previous play, *Allie In Wonder-*

land, was published by Heartland Play Publishers in 2012. In addition, Everett will be published in April 2013 by High Hill Press in their *Cactus Country III* anthology and has won numerous awards from the Kansas Writers Association (KWA) and the Oklahoma Writer's Federation, Inc (OWFI). Everett can be found at [www.emergencyroomproductions.net](http://www.emergencyroomproductions.net) and [www.facebook.com/emergencyroomproductions](http://www.facebook.com/emergencyroomproductions).

*Tom Sawyer* was produced and performed in Hill City in July of 2011 and featured students from Hill City and McPherson College. It was directed by Bill Goodwin and Everett Robert.

Heartland Plays, Inc. publishes and licenses the performance rights and other authorized uses of quality plays, musicals and drama products through the convenience of online services. It is their mission to promote exceptional works for the benefit of theaters and playwrights alike. They are located at [www.heartlandplays.com](http://www.heartlandplays.com).

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361 email: [dpaxton@nwkansas.com](mailto:dpaxton@nwkansas.com)

**Geraldine Packer** is having her 90th Birthday on Tuesday, January 15, and a Card Shower is being requested to mark the event. Geraldine and her family will celebrate her birthday in Oklahoma City later this month. Cards will reach her at: 306 West Wilberforce, Norton, KS 67654

# DEATH NOTICE

Jessie L. Halbert, formerly of Norton, Kansas, passed away at the McAllen Medical Center in McAllen, Texas, on January 7, 2013, at the age of 84. Services will be at a later date. Mrs. Halbert had been the manager at the

United Northwest Federal Credit Union in Norton and Oberlin for many years. Arrangements are with the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton. Condolences may be sent to [www.enfieldfh.com](http://www.enfieldfh.com).

# MEALS ON WHEELS

The schedule for Meals on Wheels for Jan. 7 through March 3 is as follows:

Jan. 7-13 Norton County Hospital, contact Alice Hawks (877-3351)

Jan. 14-25 Community volunteers, contact Alice Hawks (877-3351)

Jan. 26-27 20th Century Federated Club, contact Lottie Wiltfong (877-5286)

Jan. 28-Feb. 3 St. Francis Altar Society, contact Jan Volgare (877-5653)

Feb. 4-10 Redeemer Lutheran Church, contact Cynthia Wash-

burn (877-3004)

Feb. 11-17 Knights of Columbus, contact Cris McDuffett (877-2216)

Feb. 18-24 Immanuel Lutheran Church, contact Fonda Lawrence (877-3145)

Feb. 25-March 3 Community volunteers, contact Alice Hawks (877-3351)

Call Mike with all your social news. 877-3361

Come Celebrate Vendla Tacha's 90th Birthday on Saturday, January 12 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Norton Senior Center NO GIFTS PLEASE

Showing at the **NORTON THEATRE** **Jack Reacher** (PG-13) - 2 Hours, 20 Minutes Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m. Sunday: 5:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. **Parental Guidance** (PG) 1 Hr., 55 Min. Parental Guidance is a premiere movie. NO Sunday discount. Jack Reacher is a non-premiere movie \$7 and \$6. \$3/tx on Sunday Parental Guidance is Premiere Price of \$7 and \$6 - No Sunday Discount. **Coming soon to the Norton Theatre:** Lincoln (PG-13) and Les Miserables (PG-13) Playing Sun. Jan. 20 and Jan. 27 at 1:00 p.m. and sponsored by local area churches: For Greater Glory (R)