

May 31 – June 1, 1991 Pioneer Queen and Grand Marshal

Queen Kate Pittman

Queen Kate Pittman, 79, is a great-granddaughter of Joseph Lieuallen, a member of the well-known pioneer family in Umatilla County. Her grandmother, born in Missouri in 1861, came West with the family as a child. They emigrated by wagon train. Her mother was born in Athena.

Kate was also born in Athena on July 11, 1912, to Leon and Mattie Kidder. She lived in Athena until she was about 10 then moved to Pendleton for some time. She then moved back to Athena and lived with her aunt's family, the George Bannisters, and attended school there.

She met Wayne Pittman during high school. He was a native of the area, born in Weston to Fred and Lillie Pittman. They married January 27, 1929. He is now deceased.

The couple had four sons including Dr. Donald Pittman of Dayton, Washington; Jack Pittman of Baker City; Leonard Pittman of Selah, Washington; and Dick Pittman of Athena. She has ten grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

She and her husband owned the Quality Grocery in Athena for many years, in the days when home delivery was popular. They were very active in community affairs. Kate was chosen Athena's "Woman of the Year" this year.

Grand Marshal Frank "Boug" McCorkell

Frank McCorkell was born in Weston on September 10, 1910, at his grandmother Taylor's home to Alex and Amy McCorkell. This house still stands on Broad Street. He has three sisters including Atrass Smock, who was pioneer queen in 1966, Otha Egelson and Margaret "Peggy" Tucker. Another sister, Thelma "Babe" Rayborn, is deceased.

McCorkell was raised on Reed and Hawley Mountain and attended Fairview School, a one-room school on the mountain.

He served in World War II, 2-1/2 years of which were spent in the South Pacific theater of war. He married June Robinson in 1946 and they are parents of three children: Mina Uhl of Portland; Amy Mayer and Jim McCorkell, both of Weston. They have three grandchildren.