

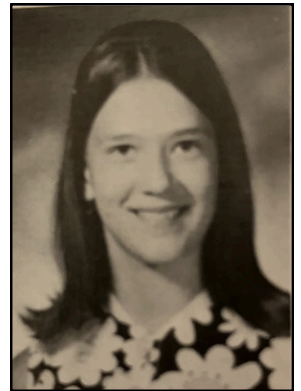
Alumni: Jim and Andrea Officer

Jim and Andrea Officer have spent their lives striving to work hard, get along with the people around them, and make their community a better place.

Born and raised in Grant County, Jim is the son of Wade and Janice Officer and brother to Patti Deist and Karen Boethin Officer. Jim attended both the Izee Schoolhouse and the Seneca School before graduating from Grant Union High School in 1973. His favorite teachers were Mrs. Joanne Rickman at Izee Schoolhouse, Mrs. Dorothy Klabo at Seneca School, and Mr. Gene Winnett at Grant Union High School. He enjoyed playing football, basketball, golf, and participating in the Lettermen's Club with his friends. His favorite school memories include athletic events and meeting the love of his life during his junior year of high school. The couple still laughs about attending Grant Union together for two years before officially meeting. "I know it's a small school, but we didn't have a class together until History in our junior year," Jim stated. He laughed and shared a story about the first time he went to ask Andrea out, finding her at work at the A&W. "I ordered a banana split, and she got flustered. For whatever reason, when she delivered it, there wasn't a banana in the banana split!"



Andrea is the daughter of John and Diane Aasness and sister to Billie Moore, Matt Aasness, and Wes Aasness. Her family moved to Grant County when she was young, and she attended school at Humbolt Elementary and Blue Mountain Junior High before graduating from Grant Union High School in 1973. Her favorite teacher at Humbolt Elementary was Mrs. Elizabeth Davis, whom she describes as "a very classy and elegant southern lady who made a great impression on me." She also shared that, "Mrs. Joyce Nodine was a teacher who inspired me to feel confident in my abilities, and Mr. Don Jones at Grant Union gave me a love for history and discourse of current events in life."



After high school, Jim attended Blue Mountain Community College while Andrea attended Mount Hood Community College. The pair returned home so Jim could start his ranching career with his family, and they were married in May 1975. They spent their time ranching and raising their children, Lisa Galbreath, Heather Desmond, and Justin Officer, in Grant County.



Along with ranching, Jim and Andrea have served the community in many capacities, including boards and councils, 4-H clubs, and both have spent time on the Grant School District 3 School Board.

Jim and Andrea celebrated their 51st Anniversary on May 24, 2026, and remain very active in the community. Although they consider themselves retired, Jim is a seasonal employee mowing the golf course at Silvies Valley Ranch, and Andrea substitutes in the Grant County School District 3 and serves as the mayor of Seneca. Andrea said, "We have been blessed by every life experience, whether good or bad, and we feel that serving in our community is a privilege which has given us so many opportunities for growing and trusting in a God who truly loves us."

When it comes to advice for students, Jim said, "If you know what you want to do, go forward and get a degree, but if you are unsure, get a job and work hard to create a strong and honorable work ethic. That will never fail you." Andrea added, "Put down your electronics, talk to people in person, embrace life. Anything is possible."

