

Obituaries

Obituary policy

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- ◆ If you want to purchase space for a funeral notice or personalized obituary advertisement, call retail advertising at 503-221-8334.

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Sybil Ellen Ascher

A service will be at 1 p.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, in Willamette National Cemetery for Sybil Ellen Ascher, who died June 12 at age 72.

Mr. Conte was born Nov. 24, 1924, in Belmont, Mass. He served in the Air Force for more than 20 years. He was a lockmaster for the Army Corps of Engineers and lived in the Portland area most of his life.

'Epitome of a civil rights leader' dead at 63

Tyree Scott led efforts to open construction trade unions and contracting to racial minorities

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — Tyree Scott, an electrician who led campaigns to break the color barrier in construction trade unions and contracting in Washington and other states, is dead at age 63.

Scott, who also worked to restore stability in Mozambique following a bloody civil war, died Thursday morning after a long

battle with prostate cancer.

"He was the epitome of a civil rights leader," said Oscar Eason, former president of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Born in Wharton County, Texas, Scott served with the U.S. Marines in Vietnam, then arrived in Seattle in the mid-1960s and got involved in labor and civil rights work when he saw the discrimination facing his father, also an electrician.

He helped lead work stoppages at Harborview Medical Center and other prominent sites, won entry for racial minorities in previously all-white unions and helped gain a

fair chance for minority builders and construction trades workers to win local government contracts.

Scott later did much of the same in dozens of cities in the Southwest.

In 1972, he joined with Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes to form the Northwest Labor and Employment Law Office to fight racial discrimination in Alaska canneries and the corrupt regime of Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines.

Domingo and Viernes were assassinated in 1981 by agents of Marcos.

Scott began working for labor

and civil rights causes abroad in the 1980s by organizing international labor conferences and worker-to-worker relief groups to help laborers in developing countries.

In 1990, Scott and his family moved to Mozambique for two years, working on relief, small business development and irrigation projects. He was an international observer in the country's first post-civil war election in 1994.

Survivors include his wife, Beverly Sims; six children; and eight grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending.