

# OBITUARY

## Montra E. Jones, Jr.

Nov. 20, 1951 - June 17, 2005

Montra Eugene Jones, Jr., 53, formerly of Edmond, died Friday at the St. John's Nursing Home in Hays.

Born Nov. 20, 1951, in Norton, Mr. Jones was the son of Montra Eugene and Mary Opal (Berney) Jones.

He attended Edmond Grade School and Norton Community High School. He lived in the Colby area, where he worked in the oil fields and had attended the Christian Church.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Joe Jones.

Survivors include his parents, Montra Sr. and Mary Jones,

Kensington; four children, Paul Jones, Salina; Lana Jones, Colorado; and Jason and Amanda Jones, Colby; a brother, George Jones, Ellsworth; two sisters, Opal Urbanek, Ellsworth; and Betty Gitchell, Phillipsburg; and three grandchildren.

Graveside services and burial was today at Edmond Cemetery, with Pastor Lew Van Der Wege officiating.

A memorial in his name has been established. Contributions to the Montra E. Jones, Jr., Memorial Fund may be sent in care of Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan. 67654.



Jason Hardy and Heather Kaus

## Norton to be site of nuptials

Heather Kaus and Jason Hardy, Hays, are planning to be married July 23 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Norton.

The bride's parents are Don and Cheryl Kaus, Norton.

Parents of the groom are Lee and Kathy Hardy, Norton, and Cheri and George Griffith, Tonganoxie.

Grandparents of the couple are Verl and Noreen Crabil, Norton; Bernie and JoAnn Bowen, Norton; JoAnn and Lloyd Fruhling, Hildreth, Neb.; and Carol Hrabe, Almena.

Great-grandfather of the bride is Harlan Snuggerud, Elkton, Fla.

Miss Kaus is a 2003 graduate of Norton Community High School. She is in nursing school at North Central Kansas Technical College, Hays.

The groom graduated from Northern Valley High School in 2000. He is working towards his master's degree in business administration from Fort Hays State University.

Both work at Hays Medical Center. She is a graduate practical nurse and he is the safety and security manager.

Following the wedding, the couple will continue to live in Hays.

## Safety class to be held

There will be a two-day safe driving class for people of all ages from 6-10 p.m. next week in the basement of the Norton County Hospital.

State Farm Insurance will sponsor an American Association of Retired Persons 55 Alive Safe Driving Class on Wednesday and Friday, June 28 and June 30.

This is an eight-hour class and participants must attend both sessions to receive the certificate of completion that will entitle them to a discount on vehicle insurance for the next three years. It is Kansas state law that a driver who takes a defensive driving class get a discount. Discounts may range from three to ten percent.

The class will be taught by Anise Gill and cost \$10. Call her at 877-5170 to pre-register. Walk-ins are welcome, but the classes are limited to 30.

Classes will have videos, workbook exercises and group discussions. There is no driving or tests.

Refreshments will be served courtesy of the hospital and the insurance company.

Those attending the reunion were: John and Becky (Wynn) Saddler, and grandsons, John, Noah and Evan Hoffman of Agra; Dorothy (Roeder) Bernard, Norton; Ardie (Bernard) Grimes, Baldwin City; Dennis and Bonnie Sue Roeder, Grandview, Mo.; Bob and Lola (Roeder) Abram, Jewell; Leonard, Carolyn and Betty Bivens, Almena; Tharran and Barb (Wynn) Gaines of Savannah, Mo., and their grandson Johnathan Gaines of Kansas City, Mo.; Merle Hawks, Almena; LeRoy and Mary Ellen Roeder, Richard W. Roeder and Zella Roeder, all of Prairie View; Zella's granddaughter, Joann Yoxall of Kensington; Beth Bernard, Hays and her fiancé, Jerry Metcalf, Liberal; Darlene (Roeder) McClelland and her son, Kennis McClelland of Beaver City; and grandson, Kaine McClelland of Kearney.

Shhhh...

It's a surprise!!

**80th Birthday**

FOR

**KENNETH BEST**

**Saturday, June 25**

1:00-3:00 p.m.

at the

**Lenora Senior Center**

# Oddities of twister tale are still hard to believe

The afternoon of June 26 was threatening, with dark thunderheads rolling in from the north and looming overhead for hours.

Thunder rumbled and little flashes of lightning lit the western horizon as the sky boiled and percolated all afternoon.

Dad stood on the back porch and watched anxiously, muttering about hail.

Mama recruited me and we ran to the garden to pick anything that was ripe.

Our supper, eaten in the darkening kitchen, was interrupted repeatedly by ever escalating fireworks in the northwest as the storm mumbled and moved closer.

Sound asleep by 10 p.m. in the innocent assumption that whatever happened, Mama and Dad would take care of it, I awoke, startled and confused to find myself being dragged down the basement stairs.

At least we were where the stairs had been. Now there was a treacherous slope of plaster chunks, glass and clothespins soaked with pouring rain and hailstones which had come through. Well, where was that roof that had always been there? Realization hit me that this filthy, muddy, naked woman who clutched me fiercely was my mother.

In later telling, my parents filled me in on the two hours I had slept. They watched until midnight, pacing and fretting. Finally deciding to retire they were just getting settled when a noise, Mama described as that of a freight train, as tornadoes are often characterized, thundered through the house.

My dad said, "There's our hail," and started to get out of bed on the wall side. At that moment the brick chimney collapsed directly onto the bed where the two had been lying just moments before, effectively pinning him both under and behind the iron bedstead and into

## Child of the 40s

Liza Deines



a corner.

Mama remembers only being in my bedroom, dragging me out from under a timber, and hauling my unconscious body to the basement. She said it was the first time she truly understood maternal instinct.

She and I were downstairs shrieking for Dad; he was struggling to escape from under the collapsed bed and yelling for us. Our cries were drowned by swirling wind, pounding hail and buckets of rain, plus the crash of walls coming down.

Dad finally made it to the basement and to both his and our surprise, he was fully dressed in his work clothes with socks and his high boots laced and tied, although his customary necktie was missing. He even had a bandanna in his pocket.

Where did he get his clothes? We found later that every stitch from their closet was missing and he could never account for his well-dressed condition.

Water began to rise perilously near the gas hookups for the water heater.

Outside the howls of the wind were dying down so Dad decided we'd better get out of the basement while we could. I still had my pajamas and found some old shoes to wear.

Dad, in his fully dressed state, looked at Mama, one of the world's most modest women, and laughed even under the circumstances.

"Edith, perhaps we could find something down here for you to wear?"

You truly should have seen her face when she realized her nightgown had blown away and she was completely uncovered.

We made our way, robbed in whatever we could find, to a neighbor's home about two blocks east and south, a newer home that had not been hit and was the only home for blocks around that had a roof.

Other bewildered and bedraggled neighbors began to straggle in and I remember the owners grudgingly allowed our motley crew to shelter in the basement but no one was allowed upstairs. No one knew where to go or what to do as we compared notes and tried to account for everyone without much success.

Morning was a long time coming.

The stories of the tornado that took the northwest corner of WaKeeney in 1952, could continue for pages and pages. Suffice to say we learned who were our true friends, as always happens with a tragedy.

We all survived and lived to tell the tale. Only six people died in that storm although many were seriously injured and many homes, as ours, were completely demolished.

The trees in WaKeeney have never looked the same and many houses that were not hit directly suffered cracked plaster and a slight twist on their foundations as well as losing outbuildings.

We lost it all — house, possessions and our innocent faith in the inherent rightness of things.

We regained our faith eventually and we learned to laugh about our misfortune.

For many years when Dad asked Mama where something was, she'd say, "Well, Arthur, I believe that is gone with the wind."

## Couple to celebrate 50 years

Bob and Bernita Jessup of Phillipsburg will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday.

Bob Jessup and Bernita Ross were married June 26, 1955, at Almena.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessup live at 316 West "G" Street, Phillipsburg, Kan. 67661.



Bob and Bernita Jessup



## MARKETS

At close of business June 20

Wheat (New Crop).....	\$3.00
Milo .....	\$3.24
Corn .....	\$2.06

*Wedding Dance and Reception*

for

*Carla Derauf and Flint Griffin*

*Saturday, June 25, 2005*

*7:00 p.m.*

*Eagles Club*

*Norton, Kansas*

*Members and Guests Welcome*

Have a story idea? Call 877-3361 and let us know ... we'd love to hear about it!

## Keep the flavor. Kick the carbs.

Introducing over 20 new Low Net Carb\* Toasty™ Flatbreads!

MMMM...TOASTY!

## \$1 OFF ANY LOW NET CARB\* TOASTY™ FLATBREAD

411 W. Holme - W. Hwy 36 Norton, KS 67654 P: 785-877-2808 F: 785-877-2055 Expires: 07/15/05

**Quiznos Sub**

# Roeder descendants gather in Almena

Descendants of the Norton County pioneer Roeder family met Sunday, June 13, at the Almena Community Center for a potluck and reminiscing. Items on display included a kerosene lamp, said to have come with the family from Germany in 1867; a quilt pieced and quilted by Frieda Roeder and her daughter Emma between 1890-1900; and photos and scrapbooks.

The next reunion will be held Sunday, June 11, 2006, in Almena. Frederick F. Roeder, his wife Christina, and their three sons, William (with wife Augusta, and three children), August and Herman homesteaded in Section 11, Grant Township, Norton County. Family history says the families spent the first winter in Stuttgart, while readying the homesteads.

Confirming evidence includes the December 1879 burial of Henry, the young son of William and Augusta, in the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery near Stuttgart.

Sometime after 1880, they were joined by Wilhelmina (Roeder) Birkholz, her husband, John, and their four children. In addition to the homesteads, the Roeder boys also filed timber claims in Section 10, Grant Township. Some of the land remains in the family today.

Recent additions to the family include: Born in 2005 — Goodwin Everett Hawks, June 9, in Madison, Wisc., son of John and Gretchen Hawks, grandson of Jerry and Kay Hawks, great-grandson of Merle Hawks.

Born in 2004 — Joshua Aaron Bivens, May 14, son of Katie Bivens, grandson of Aaron Bivens, great-grandson of Kenneth Bivens; Caleb Jeremiah Hurley, May 22, son of Jason and Amanda Hurley, grandson of Susan Powell Hurley, great-grandson of Delores Bivens Powell; McKinley Eickbush, June, in Utah, daughter of Daniel and Jennifer Eickbush, granddaughter of Frances and Pauline Eickbush;

Born in 2001 — Dalton Gene Delzeit, July 13, at Gainesville, Fla., son of Don and Stacey Delzeit, grandson of Bob and Lola (Roeder) Abrams;

Born in 2000 — Jordyn Alexa,

Born in 2000 — Jordyn Alexa,

Born in 2000 — Jordyn Alexa,