

OBITUARIES

Richard Baker

March 20, 1927 - April 13, 2006

Richard "Dick" Baker, 79, Alma, died Thursday at the Kansas Soldier's Home in Ft. Dodge.

Mr. Baker was born March 20, 1927, in St. Helena, Calif., the son of Ervin and Tressie (Scott) Baker. He attended school in California and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II from 1943 until 1945.

On Nov. 27, 1982, he and Betty Murphy were married in Reno, Nev. They made their home in Covina, Calif., before 1985, when they moved to Alma. He was an auto mechanic by trade.

He was a member of the Paul D. Linnell American Legion in Alma, a past member of the Alma Chamber of Commerce. He was also one of the founders of the Senior Center in Alma.

He was preceded in death by his parents' one son, Billy; one brother, Jim; and one sister, Betty.

Survivors include: his wife, Betty, of Alma; three sons, John Baker, Reno, Nev.; Richard Baker, Jr., Indianapolis, Ind.; and James Baker, Athens, Tenn.; a daughter, Bobbie O'Dell, Beatty, W. Va.; one sister, Laverne Clark, Reno; and 15 grandchildren.

Graveside services and burial were held yesterday at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Alma. Kirk Kasson conducted the services.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Alma American Legion or the Kansas Soldiers Home.

Memorials may be sent in care of Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan. 67654.

David H. Wille

Sept. 5, 1953 - April 11, 2006

David H. Wille, 52, Manhattan, a former Norton City employee, died April 11 at Via Christi St. Francis Hospital, Wichita.

He was born Sept. 5, 1953, in Wamego, the son of Emery Louis and LoRene Marie (Straub) Wille.

Mr. Wille graduated from Manhattan High School in 1972, and then from Northwest Kansas Technical School in Goodland in auto body and paint restoration.

In his childhood he was a paper carrier for the Manhattan Mercury and later worked for Klepper Oil Company. Following his graduation in auto body and paint restoration he worked for Doonan Truck Sales in Great Bend, for Bolger Cadillac in Wichita, for the Norton City Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants, for Alan Clark Body Shop in Manhattan, and then returned to Bolger's in Wichita.

He was a member of Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Manhattan. He earned his Eagle Scout from Troop 72 at Seven Dolors, and was awarded The Order of the Arrow. He had earned both the Cub and Boy Scout Religious Awards from the Catholic Church. His Eagle Project was gathering information and presenting it to the City Council to get a stop light at Kimball Avenue and Tuttle Creek Blvd.

He played baseball for the trav-

eling Elks, enjoyed fishing, bow hunting for deer, mushroom hunting, searching for arrowheads, house plants, and attending the Bluegrass Festival in Winfield every year. His hobby was restoring a 1957 Harley Davidson police motorcycle.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Michael Louis Wille in 1951.

Survivors include his parents of Manhattan; two children: Tristina Herl of Hutchinson, and Trinten Wille of Muskego, Wisc.; three brothers: Brad Wille of Manhattan, Jeffrey Wille of Wamego, and Joseph Wille of Manhattan; five sisters: BeLinda Cutright of Manhattan, Jennifer Eickhoff of Kansas City, Kan., Cristina Mabe of Onaga, Mary Lynn Dooley of Manhattan, and Marlene Phillips of Green City, Mo.; two grandchildren; and a special friend Diana.

Mass of the Christian Burial was held Monday at Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Manhattan with Father Joseph S. Popelka as Celebrant. Cremation followed the services.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Joseph Village or Manhattan Catholic Schools. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kan. 66502.

Easter evokes misty memories

For 130 miles we had endured two lively twins rollicking around in the back seat. It was long before the days of seat belts, much less car seats.

That many miles had used up our repertoire of games from the alphabet on signs to naming every car model we saw. We were headed to Grandma Freidenberger's house in Otis for an Easter dinner, all dressed up and hurrying to get there in time for church. In addition to preparing a huge dinner, Grandma would have already attended the 8:30 a.m. German service and she had little patience for those that didn't arrive in time for the "lazy bone" service, which she would attend also along with the faithful family.

The Easter service was beautiful despite dealing with a couple of fractious toddlers. The age-old message of Salvation, glorious lilies and a choir of ladies in amazing Easter bonnets and men in festive ties singing "The Holy City". Lots and lots of people to cuddle and fuss over all the grandchildren and compare facial features to generations long past.

Finally we arrived at the little pink house. We found Grandma ahead of us, still in her pink polyester Easter dress, well-aproned, stirring an enormous pan of gravy and drinking a beer out of a can. I was unused to German customs and that almost stopped me in my blue-nose, teetotaler tracks.

Within moments Uncle George arrived with bottles of wine. Uncle Alec and Aunt Alberta showed up with big roasters steaming and smelling delicious, closely followed by Aunt Helen with an enormous pot of mashed potatoes. Various other family flocked in bearing jelled salads, relish plates, cakes under covers, pies and desserts of all kinds. Uncle Herb stood at the kitchen table slicing loaf after loaf of Grandma's homemade rye bread while he directed the opening of pickles and jams. Watermelon pickles proved irresistible to David while his cousin Todd stuck black olives on all his fingers and ate them off one by one.

Chairs and tables were all over the small house plus an entire rank of high chairs. There were bitty babies, lap babies, toddler babies, and on up to the oldest who were, at that time, junior high schoolers. They were recruited to hold, mind,

Child of the 40s

Liza Deines



mop and run after the little ones and keep them out of trouble. Quite a task. In the meantime every flat surface in the kitchen and dining room was covered with food. Aunt Alice and her covey of girls rushed in late and at last we were all called to hold hands and pray.

The prayer was long and comprehensive but after all, it was Easter Sunday. And, what a feast there was to follow. Rejoicing and toasts and reminiscences of Easters past kept us laughing and eating. Grandma told the story how the Resurrection was celebrated in Russia when she was a girl. We paused for a prayer for her younger sister. She had chosen to remain behind and was eventually sent to work at the coal mines in Siberia. She was never heard from again.

It was a sobering moment until Grandma said confidently, "But, I shall see her in Heaven one day."

Easter egg hunting took place on the east lawn after dinner amidst kittens and a few baby chicks, with children of all ages and stages squealing and laughing and running to show Grandma their finds.

The aunts cleaned up the kitchen while gossiping and giggling through the soapsuds. Grandma sat in an old rocker under a shade tree, smiling from ear to ear and rocking babies. It was a day of unbounded joy.

One more prayer before we all headed home brought the tears. Grandma looked around at the group of us and said, "Dear Father, when I came to America I was all alone. And now see, you have given me all of these people to be mine."

We sniffled and smiled all the way home.

Delores M. Barrett

May 24, 1923 - March 14, 2006

Delores Mae Barrett, 83, Olympia, Wash., mother of Michael Barrett, Alma, died Friday in Olympia, Wash.

Mrs. Barrett was born May 24, 1923, in David City, Neb., the daughter of Charles and Clara Drozda.

She graduated from high school in Lincoln, Neb.

After marrying Harold (Jim) Barrett, she moved to Littleton, Colo. She was a homemaker and a mother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and two brothers, Dick Drozda and Al

Drozda.

Survivors include: a son, Michael and Tina Barrett, Alma; a daughter, Suzie and Bill Schulte, Chehalis, Wash.; a brother, Don Drozda, Lincoln; two sisters, Geraldine Perkinson and Norma Shipperling, Lincoln; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at noon, Saturday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Havlock, Neb.

Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m., April 25 at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, Colo.

READERS

— **Benefit potluck supper to help Lyle Community Building, 6 p.m., Sat., April 22. Everyone welcome, especially from the "old" community. Bring a friend and food. Homegrown entertainment. Call Carolyn Plotts, 877-3361 or 693-4544 for details.** 4/14

Chad Husted, who is a senior at

Northern Valley High School, was awarded a \$200 Departmental Scholarship to attend the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland. He will be studying all aspects of automotive repair. He will be starting the 16 month Automotive Technology program in August. Randy and Brenda Husted, Alma, are his parents.

Carol Ritts

Aug. 23, 1932 - April 3, 2006

Carol Ritts, 73, Cheyenne, Wyo., a former Norton County Hospital technician, died April 3 at United Medical Center-West, Cheyenne.



Carol Ritts

Mrs. Ritts was born Aug. 23, 1932, in Clayton, the daughter of Jack and Dorothy (Hix) Rist.

On Oct. 6, 1957, she married John Ritts in Sidney, Neb.

Mrs. Ritts was a lab technician, doing her internship in Chicago. She worked as a technician in Hutchinson, Norton and Russell.

She retired from Blue Cross and Blue Shield as a case worker after 20 years.

She was a member of Cowboy Country Cat Fanciers Club and was an honorary member of the Wyoming Auto Racing Club.

Preceding her in death were her parents and a brother, Gerald Rist.

She is survived by her husband, John, of the home; two sons, Dennis Ritts and Brian Ritts, both of Cheyenne; and one grandchild.

Memorial services were held April 7 at Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel of the Chimes, Cheyenne.

Cremation took place at Cheyenne Memorial Gardens.

Friends may make contributions to: Best Friends of Kanab, Utah or the Cheyenne Animal Shelter in care of her husband at 1960 E. Pershing Blvd., Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001-4107.

Learn how to be a better buyer at workshop

"Being a Better Consumer for Horticulture" is the topic for the next Family Consumer Sciences lesson. It will be held at 1:30 p.m., Friday at the Norton County 4-H Building. Jessica Beebe, Sheridan County agent will be on hand to review the best materials to look for in selecting retail, garden center or nursery materials. Ms. Beebe will also cover how to care

for materials after they are purchased.

Those interested in this lesson should call the Norton County Extension office at 877-5755 by Thursday, to ensure that enough materials will be on hand for the workshop.

There will be a small fee for this workshop of \$3.50.

Tour of Norton retirement facility highlight of women's meeting

Whispering Pines was the meeting place for Mid-Century Club for the April 6 meeting. Special guests were Priscilla Johnson, Lucille Stackhouse, Doris Stump, Lois Hildebrand, Marie Ritter, Hazel Bates, Carrie Malcolm, Mabel Malcolm, Dorothy Bernard and Alice Vogt, residents of the center.

Cynthia Collins, director, conducted a tour of the facility. Ms. Collins pointed out many of the outstanding features of Whispering Pines and showed the Memorial Quilt Rack made in memory of Ione Jordan, a former member of

Mid-Century.

It was learned the annual pie sale will be held April 20, starting at 9 a.m. at the Norton Senior Center.

Hostesses for the meeting were Miss Kindler and Rosetta McFarland.

The next meeting will be the Spring Tea, 6:30 p.m., April 27, at Attitudes.

Quilters set date for auction of hand-crafted, quilted projects

"Sharing the Love of Quilting" is the theme for the 2006 Quilters Auction sponsored by the Heritage Quilt Club.

Quilters from Prairie View, Long Island, Alma, Norton, Lenora and Colby have created a variety of quilted items to be sold at the auction on Sunday. Items include baby quilts, wall hangings, table runners, table toppers, pillows and quilts.

Some of the items will be displayed at The Sewing Box, Norton, this week. All items will be on display at the 4-H Building in Norton starting at 1:30 p.m., Sunday.

Jerris McMullen and Pam

Cuthbertson, co-chairs, invite the public to view the quilted items and enjoy dessert at the 4-H Building. Admission is \$2 per person.

The auction, conducted by Don McMullen, will start at 2:30 p.m. Door prizes will be awarded during the afternoon.

Proceeds from the auction are used for community service projects and to sponsor quilting workshops.

Heritage Quilt Club
—Sharing the Love of Quilting—

Quilters Auction

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

4-H BUILDING, 126 PARK ST., NORTON, KS

1:30-2:30 Viewing; 2:30 Auction Begins

Admission \$2.00-
Includes Booklet and Dessert

We're Doing It Again!

PIE SALE

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

9:30 A.M.-
????

Located in the Senior Citizen Center, Norton

\$1.25 Per Serving

FREE COFFEE

SPONSORED BY

Mid-Century Federated Club

Showing at the

NORTON THEATRE

Larry The Cable Guy

Lion's Gate PG-13 85 Minutes DHL (2nd Week)

Show Times: Friday and Saturday: 8 p.m.
Sunday: 5 p.m.; Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7 p.m.

Benchwarmers

Sony 85 Minutes - PG-13 ETS

Adult-\$6.00; Child-\$5.00 (12 and Under)

No Discounted Tickets
Movie Passes Accepted

POPcorn

Join Us!

Enjoy an entertaining and informative event with your cooperative members and employees.

Friday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m.
for Rural Telephone's Annual Meeting.

The meeting will be held at the High School Auditorium in Quinter.

Registration from 6:15-6:45 p.m.

Enjoy live music performed by local artist, Natalie Metcalf during registration!

RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE CO., INC.

145 N Main • Lenora, KS 67645 • Toll Free 877.567.7872