

OBITUARIES

Ray D. "R. D." Thornton

Nov. 13, 1937 - Feb. 12, 2010

Ray D. "R.D." Thornton, was born to Orval E. and Hazel L. (McDonald) Thornton on Nov. 13, 1937 at Nampa, Idaho and died on Feb. 12 at Decatur County Good Samaritan in Oberlin, at the age of 72.

Ray grew up on a farm near Norcat. and graduated from Norcat High School in 1955. He served in the United States Navy Amphibious Squadron.

Ray and Eunice Castle were married on July 22, 1960 in Norton. They made their home in Norcat. where he was the fertilizer manager at Morrison-Gregg-Mitchell. Ray was a member of United Methodist Church, United Methodist Board of Trustees and Norcat. Commerical Club.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, wife Eunice, daughter Lori Towery; sister Mary Jane Miller; nephew, Randall Mullins;

nieces, Barbara J. Miller and Sandra Kennis; great nephew, Joel Miller and great niece, Heather Keltner.

Survivors include son Ray Thornton, Jr. and wife Jennifer of Hays; daughters Lisa Leichter and husband Rod of Seibert, Colo.; Lynette Streit and husband Ralph of Larned; Chris Dempewolf and husband Doug of Norcat.; brother Dean Thornton and wife Eloise of Rush Center; sister Lavergne Allmer and husband Don of Madera, Calif.; and 9 grand children.

Funeral services were held today at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin with Reverend Doug Hasty officiating. Burial was in Norcat. Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established in Ray D. Thorton's name. Arrangements were by Pauls Funeral Home of Oberlin.



Don and Betty Brooks, 1950



Don and Betty Brooks, 2010

Norton couple celebrates 60th anniversary

Don and Betty (Riemann) Brooks will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 18. In their honor, the family requests a

card shower for the couple. Cards may reach them at 1005 Eisenhower Drive, Norton, KS, 67654.

Bertha Loretta Atkinson

Oct. 23, 1907 - Feb. 10, 2010

Bertha Loretta Atkinson, died on Feb. 10 at the Phelps Memorial Health Center in Holdrege at the age of 102.

Bertha was born on the family farm near Orleans in Harlan County, Neb. on Oct. 23, 1907 to Chancy and Minnie I. Hopkins. Her early life was spent in the Orleans and Stamford area in Harlan County. She attended Rural School District #30 and Stamford High School.

On April 25, 1928, she married Raymond E. Atkinson of Almena and to this union four daughters were born. Their farm was on the Nebraska and Kansas state line in Furnas County, Neb. In August 1948, Bertha and her family moved to Holdrege.

Bertha was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Holdrege and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Post #3132 of Holdrege for many years, where she served as president.

Bertha was preceded in death by her parents, husband Ray, two daughters; Shirley Atkinson and Iris Delimont and her husband, LaVerne; infant sister and brother;

two brothers; Kenny Hopkins and his wife, Beulah and Darrell Hopkins and his wife, Goldie; two sisters; Vera Willey and Allie Dankers.

Survivors include her two daughters; Phyllis Wagner of Santa Clara, Calif. and Lois Weber of Kearney, Neb.; one brother, Gail Hopkins and his wife, Cecila of Des Moines, Wash.; two sisters Elva Lillroth of Roseville, Calif. and Erma Wheeler of Los Angeles, Calif.; 9 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at the Holdrege Memorial Homes Chapel in Holdrege, Neb. on Feb. 15, with Reverend Jean Clayton, officiating. Burial was at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Almena, Kan.

A memorial has been established in her memory and will be designated at a later date. Expressions of caring and kindness can be sent to the family at www.nelsonbauerfh.com. The Nelson-Bauer Funeral Home in Holdrege was in charge of the arrangements.



Bertha Atkinson

FYI

The family of Margie Applegate is requesting a card shower for her 90th birthday. Cards can be sent to 304 N. Brown, Norton, KS, 67654.

Club News

By DUSTIN HARTING
The Busy Beavers 4-H club had 23 members, two leaders, 11 parents and one visitor present. In February, we donated cookies for the Red Cross blood drive. On March 6, we will be holding the steer weigh in. County club day will be held on March 16. The next meeting will be held on March 14, at 3 p.m. at the 4-H building.

Student News

Hutchinson Community College has announced the honor rolls for the Fall 2009 semester, including grades through the end of the interterm session. Amanda Delimont, daughter of Jeff and Melissa Delimont, was selected for the Dean's Honor Roll. Students selected have a grade point 3.5 to 3.999.

Hearts to you



Students in Mrs. Burge's first grade class participated in their Valentine's Day party Friday. Students handed out Valentines to their classmates while loading up on sugar. -Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Clocks do more than pass time

It sat on a sun-faded purple velvet backdrop behind a window that sadly needed polishing. Surrounding it were various pocket watches, fobs and chains, shopworn black boxes holding rhinestone clips and earrings, their luster lost under a coating of dust. In the corner a yellowing cardboard poster announced "Emporia Clock and Watch Repair, Fine Jewelry." Not a very auspicious beginning for something that came to mean so much to me in the next 40 years.

Still, I went in. A little spring bell above the door jangled, rousing a slender old gentleman in a suit that matched the window display. "Yes?" he asked. Even his voice sounded old and faded. "How much for the Seth Thomas mantel clock in the window?" I inquired. A little wheeling and dealing and I carried the clock home, wrapped in brown paper and tied up with string. LeRoy and I were delighted to find a faint penciled inscription inside the little wooden door at the back that indicated it had been a wedding gift in 1921.

At the end of summer school the clock rode home from Emporia with us, wrapped in a quilt. Charlie Worden spent six weeks putting and polishing, replacing main springs, gidgets and doobiddies.. Arriving at our home just one week before the twins were born, the comfortably audible ticking and chiming of our "new" clock quickly became an integral presence in the household.

In the first year, the striking of the clock alerted us to the changes in our heretofore carefree life. It marked time to feed the babies every three hours, time to bathe the babies, time for the babies to nap, time to try to get a meal together, time to collapse. It also marked weary hours walking the floor with

Table for five
Liza Deines



screaming babies, cuddling with babies wide awake at midnight, hustling to feed hungry babies at the crack of dawn.

As the years passed, the babies magically became children. They learned to count and to tell time from the mantel clock, which sat on our bookshelves since we had no mantel. Every Saturday night LeRoy got the big key, wound the seven-day mechanism and the chimes. The children's major ambition in life was to be strong enough to wind the clock. He let them try each week but I never saw one of them wind it until many years later when LeRoy could no longer stand up to do so.

School days came along and the clock chimed a lot of empty hours when I was alone in the house. Then a new little fellow arrived to fill my days with sunshine once again. He learned early to count to four when "his kids" would reappear. Seldom did we notice the clock strike after four, the chiming lost in the happy hubbub of a family at home. The clock counted many, many happy hours in those early years.

High school days, however, brought anxious hours when I sometimes hated to hear the clock strike. Meals, always our time together, were now served in shifts to accommodate jobs and school activities. Children out, away too late at night to suit me and LeRoy traveling to Rotary speaking engagements many evenings. I listened to the hours pass, unable to sleep until all my chicks were

under the brooder, as my mother used to say. How my heart ached for the days when everyone was home, safe and secure by ten o'clock. The clock struck on, unperturbed, unworried, never losing a minute.

One night, however, our faithful old timepiece slipped a cog and struck fifteen o'clock, necessitating another trip to Dr. Charlie down at Worden's. Within a day or two he had it back on track and it was still running, once again marking lonely hours in an empty house when I left home in 2006. Too bad there was no Dr. Charlie to fix me when my innards went bad.

So now the clock and I are both retired. The mantel clock sits quietly in a closet at David's house, dusty, springs unwound and chimes silent. Sometimes I wonder if it, too, remembers and longs for those days when it was needed and useful, when a family depended on its voice to guide each day. How foolish I am to endow a manmade mechanism of cogs and springs with emotions and feelings. And yet . . . somehow . . .

Police Log

February 6
11:22 a.m. Request for traffic control, Highway 36 and Highway 283 junction
1:09 p.m. Activated alarm, Mof-fet Drug
3:50 p.m. Request to speak to officer concerning individual tried to run them down, Total
7:29 p.m. Welfare check, 300 block S. First
9:30 p.m. Report of kids pushing shopping carts wrapped in blankets
February 7
11:38 a.m. Report of dog running loose, Wabash
2:21 p.m. Report of dog following individual home
2:34 p.m. Report of dog running loose, Kennedy
8:30 p.m. Individual arrested for domestic battery
12:24 p.m. Report of suspicious vehicle, Crane
February 8
12:30 a.m. Barking dog complaint, Indiana
10:30 a.m. Barking dog complaint, Indiana

11:57 a.m. Activated alarm, Norton Manor
12:04 p.m. Two vehicle accident, Jones and Holme
1:06 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle, Jamboree
3:45 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle, Courthouse
4:30 p.m. Citation for dog at large, Wabash
February 9
9:50 a.m. Request to speak to officer concerning curfew violation
2:00 p.m. Transport inmate to municipal court
2:14 p.m. Request to pick up cats, 800 block Grant
2:40 p.m. Request to speak to officer concerning civil matter

Bring Your Sweetheart!
You're Invited to Our February Coffee

Thursday, February 18
2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
"WHO CAN WEAR THE MOST RED?"
Coffee, Cookies and Chocolate
Come enjoy with us at
Whispering Pines Retirement
1001 W. Hwy. 36
NORTON, KANSAS
Medicaid - HCBS Approved

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Feb 12- Feb. 17 Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
The Lovely Bones
2 Hrs, 29 Minutes (PG-13)
(Presented in Digital Surround Sound)
Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
Sunday: 2:00 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed. 7 p.m.

It's Complicated
2 Hrs, 8 Minutes (R)

Let's Go to the Movie

Since both movies are non-premieres, all passes accepted

General Admission: \$6.00 and \$5.00 for The Lovely Bones, \$3.00/Ticket Sunday \$6.00 for Adults, No Children's Tickets for It's Complicated, \$3.00/Ticket Sunday

Check the Theatre website for Upcoming Events
nortontheatre.com

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