

DEATH NOTICE

Jo Ann Lumpkin

February 22, 2010

Jo Ann Lumpkin died on Feb. 22 at the Phillips County Retirement Center in Phillipsburg at the age of 75.

She is survived by her husband, Don of the home; son Todd, of Kirwin; daughter, Lisa Millan of Norton; brother, Dan Boswell of Vancouver, Wash.; sister-in-law Norma Brown of North Platte,

Neb.; five grandchildren and one great grandchild

Cremation is planned. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Feb. 25, at 2 p.m. in the First Christian Church in Phillipsburg, with Pastor LeRoy Herder officiating. Private family inurnment will follow the service.

Friends may sign the book

Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel, in Phillipsburg.

Memorials may be given to Hospice Services. On-line condolences may be sent to www.olliffboeve.com.

Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel in Phillipsburg is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Hays

June 9, 1922 - February 20, 2010

Kenneth Hays was born June 9, 1922, the oldest son of Floyd and Georgia (McGarity) Hays, near Edmond. He passed away at the Norton County Hospital in Norton on Feb. 20, at the age of 87.

In 1930, the family moved to a farm 11 miles southeast of Alma. Kenneth attended Timber Lake grade school and graduated from Alma Rural High School in 1940. He volunteered for the Army one year after Pearl Harbor. He was a Rifleman in the 103rd Infantry Division and was in Europe in the winter of 1944 and 1945, and took part in the Battle of the Bulge. He received a Combat Infantry badge, a Bronze Star, and other medals. He was discharged in 1945, and came home and started farming.

In 1947, Kenneth and Faith Sprigg were united in marriage in Norton. To this union three children were born, Susan, Richard, and Gale, and all the children graduated from Fort Hays State University. Susan passed away

in 1989.

Kenneth was a member of the Baker EUB church and later the First Church of God in Norton, where he was on the church board and taught Sunday School for several years. During his farming years he served on the Farm Bureau board, the Co-op board, the ASCS county committee, the FHA committee, and the country school board. He worked for ASCS over 10 years and drilled grass and built terraces for several years. He received the Bankers Award in 1965, and the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Award in 1983. In 1985, Kenneth and Faith semi-retired and moved into Alma.

Survivors include: his wife, Faith, of the home in Alma; two sons and their wives, Richard and JerriAnn Hays, Bullhead, Ariz.; Gale and Ranelle Hays, rural Alma; seven grandchildren, Sutan Mongpo and husband, Pitack, Bangkok, Thailand; Rebekah Mussman and husband, Paul, Minden, Neb.; Rachel Martin and

husband, Trevor, Marcus, Iowa; Megan Husted and husband, Steve, Hoisington; Mercedes Johnson and husband, Zachary, Hugoton; Ethan and Gunnar Hays, rural Alma; four great-grandchildren, Neena and Nanny Mongpo, Colin Mussman, and Campbell Husted; one step-great-grandchild, Donut Mongpo; two brothers, Donald Hays, Norton; Robert Hays and wife, Etta Hays, Golden, Colo.; one sister, Rose Getty and husband, Dale, Littleton, Colo.; one brother-in-law, Dean Sprigg and wife, Evelyn, Norton; numerous nieces and nephews; other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his daughter, Susan.

Funeral services were held today at the First Church of God in Norton. Burial was in the Norton Cemetery.

A memorial has been established in the name of Kenneth Hays. Arrangements were by Enfield Funeral Home, Norton.

James B. Field

August 26, 1948 - February 18, 2010

James B. Field, son of Julius Chester and Betty Lou (Hornig Chase) Field, was born Aug. 26, 1948, in Norton and passed away at the Norton County Hospital in Norton, on Feb. 18, 2010, at the age of 61.

J.B. grew up in Alma and graduated from the high school there. On Aug. 17, 1970, he married Cindy Smith in Phillipsburg. They made their home in Alma and Norton where J.B. was a farmer and rancher. He had also served in the U.S. Army

Reserves.

He was a member of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus in Norton, and the Alma American Legion.

Survivors include: two sons, Kyle and wife, Stacy Field, Alma; Kevin Field, Hays; one sister and her husband, Marlit and Wayne Thiele, West Hills, Calif.; three brothers and their wives, J.C. and Carol Field, Salina; Dan and Debbie Field, Alma; Gene and Pam Field, Linwood;

eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Julius, his mothers, Betty Lou and Alice Field, and one son, J.W. Field.

Funeral services were held today at Enfield Funeral Home. Burial was at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Alma. A memorial has been established to St. Francis Religious Educational Fund. Arrangements were by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

great-grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, four brothers, John, Tom, Joe, and Bob Thompson, and one sister, Mary Duling.

Graveside services and inurnment will be Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. in the Norton cemetery. Memorials may be made to Marjorie Drommer Memorial Fund. Arrangements are by Enfield Funeral Home in Norton.

Marjorie Emma Drommer

September 15, 1910 - February 19, 2010

Marjorie Emma Drommer, daughter of Claude Llewellyn and Hattie Frances (Bullock) Thompson, was born Sept. 15, 1910, in Glasco, and passed away at the Andbe Home in Norton, on Feb. 19, at the age of 99.

Marjorie attended the Center School and Alma Grade School and graduated from the Alma Rural High School. On Aug. 26, 1934, she married Marvin Roland Drommer in Alma. They made their home in Alma where she

was a homemaker.

Marjorie was active in the Congregational Church in Alma and later the First United Methodist Church in Norton.

Survivors include: one son, Roger Drommer, Whitewright, Texas; one daughter and her husband, Mary Ann and Terry Hager, Norton; one brother, Daniel Thompson, Wichita; one sister, Wilma Mae Weckerling, Topeka; eight grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; nine

Norton couple exchange vows

Holly Ann Poe and Luke Vincent VanSkiwe were united in marriage in a double-ring ceremony at Norton Christian Church on Jan. 2 with Pastor Jason Schmidt and Pastor Michael Sander officiating.

Parents of the couple are Ed and Debbie Poe, Oakley and Keith and Karen VanSkiwe, Norton. Grandparents of the bride are Jim and Shirley Hundley, Muscotah and Marvin and Ruby Poe, Oberlin. The groom's grandparents are Bill and Grace VanSkiwe, Great Bend and the late Charles and Dorothy Thomas.

Diane Poe, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Elizabeth Dyche, Amy Hoff, Maleen Michel, friends of the bride and Laura Wolters, cousin of the bride.

Christopher Maddy, friend of the groom, served as best man. Groomsmen were Joshua VanSkiwe and Jacob VanSkiwe, brothers of the groom and Zach Bainter and Jason Dinkel, friends of the groom. Serving as ushers were Craig Poe and David Poe, brothers of the bride and Aaron Traffas, friend of the couple. Gabriella Poe, niece of the bride, was the flower girl and Lincoln Sander, friend of the groom, was the ring bearer. The candle lighters were Marissa



Holly and Luke VanSkiwe

and Molly Maddy, friends of the groom.

The reception, dinner and dance were held at the Norton County 4-H Building, Norton. After a honeymoon in Florida, Holly and Luke will make their home in Manhattan.

Holly is a 2007 graduate of

Oakley High School and a 2009 graduate of Butler Community College. She is majoring in secondary math education at Kansas State University. Luke is a 2008 graduate of Norton Community High School and is majoring in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology at Kansas State University.

Bears go marching into Mexico

The ways in which good deeds move through unexpected channels never cease to amaze me. Last summer, while at a family reunion, I learned that one of LeRoy's "little girl" cousins and her husband planned to spend their retirement as missionaries in Mexico. Now how could that little brown-eyed skamp that I remembered from picnics and Christmas dinners possibly be old enough to retire? But sure enough, Lori and Clint were headed to the border before we blinked twice.

Clint paused to re-shingle a sponsoring church in El Paso and Lori became part of a group making love gifts for children in a local cancer center. Many were Hispanic children from families so poor they literally had nothing but their illness. The group was looking for small stuffed bears to refurbish, wrap in little quilts and give to sick children with the "cast your burdens upon the Lord" scripture verse attached. Lori sent out an email asking for gently used bears. Selecting a few of my fellow prayer warriors, I forwarded the request. An ursine avalanche resulted.

A dear Christian friend from Norton spread the word via radio, her church group, down at the thrift shop and over the shopping carts. Within hours she found herself running a bear renovation project far beyond our wildest

Pieces of life's puzzle

Liza Deines



to look fierce and bearish. We were raising funds to ship a big box when the Lord provided in a different way. Clint had a medical problem that required their return for a month of treatment and recuperation. When they set forth for the border last week they had a carload of excited bears bouncing up and down in the backseat.

We are all praying that our bears are allowed to cross the border intact so some may be taken south into Chapala where the mission is located. Drug searches are always a possibility at the Mexican border, but I hold firm in the belief that if the Lord got us this far, He'll bring the bears through. I also trust that wherever these tokens of God's love land, some child will be comforted to know that somewhere, somehow, someone does care.

Now I'm not going to name names here, for I would be certain to forget someone. You all know who you are and how you helped. That little golden glow in your heart is your only reward. What I would like to do is thank every single one of you who contributed to this project in any way. You have no idea how beary, beary grateful I am and how surprised I was at such wholehearted participation. God's blessings to all as your bears go marching into Mexico this week.

NOTE: If you would like to know more about this mission, Clint and Lori have established a blog. Go to <http://clhendersonshot.cc/blog/> for updates.

dreams. Furry beasts flocked to her home, stuffed in big black garbage bags, cuddled in baskets or under arms, tucked in the mailbox, left on the porch. Volunteers gathered to sew on loose ears or tails, repair noses and eyes, to spot clean fur, to manufacture fleecy blankets from thrift shop finds and to stitch pieced quilts. Some quilts even arrived with the scripture verse printed on them via scanner technology.

Daily email reports showed pictures of clotheslines full of bears neatly pegged out to dry, paws waving gaily as they hung by their ears. Folks even came out of Norton's woodwork to transport a carload of bears to Clint and Lori's home in Hutchinson where her sister was bear sitting. Meanwhile, mail bundles were also arriving in Hutchinson full of Beanie Baby bears, Dollar Tree bears, handmade bears, birthday bears and even a bride bear. They came from apartments in Michigan, homes in Texas, from Leavenworth, (although not from the prison), from a retirement village in Arizona, sometimes by ones or twos, sometimes by the dozen. The living room filled clear up with teddies plus a monkey and a couple of bunnies trying their best

FYI

There will be no school for students on Wed., Feb. 24. The high school and junior high have the MCEL music festival and elementary students have parent teacher conferences.

There is no school on Friday, Feb. 26. There is the State Wrestling Tournament at Fort Hays State University.

BIRTHS



Zander Merriman

Xander Daniel, 6 pounds, 9 ounces, 20 inches long and Zoe Ann, 6 pounds, 8 ounces, 17 1/2 inches long were born to Arthur and Jenna Merriman of Prairie Village on Jan. 28. Grandparents are Dan and Priscilla Merriman, Lenora and Bob and Susan Hirsch, Wetmore. Great grandparents are Francis Mosier and the late Arthur Mosier, Norton and late John and Ethel Merriman, Minneapolis and Robert and Barb Hirsch, Sr. Horton and late Milton and Betty Thieme of Wetmore.



Zoe Ann Merriman

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