

Max Muller
March 11, 1923 -
May 28, 2007



Muller

Max Muller was born March 11, 1923, in Bern, Switzerland, to Ernst and Anna (Riniker) Muller and was the youngest of five children. He died May 28, 2007, at the Wray Community Hospital at the age of 84. He grew up in Schinznach (Dorf) which is a small village in Switzerland. He attended schools and earned a degree in agriculture. While growing up, Max worked for many dairy farmers and at other odd jobs. He served in the Swiss Army.

In 1949, Max came to Yuma County and lived in Yuma, Colo., with his aunt, Mary Wenger and her husband, William, for a year. After that he worked for a number of farmers around the area and also started his own swine production.

In 1952, he met Irene Sanderson, and in 1953 they were married and moved to the Carl Peterson farm northwest of Wray where they lived for a year. In 1954, they purchased a home in Wray.

By this time Max had a good-sized swine group and had also started doing custom baling. He started out with an old Case baler, and soon upgraded with new balers.

In the wintertime he picked corn and helped put up all kinds of feed. Max also had started a small herd of dairy heifers, and started a cage-laying business. He skinned rabbits and sold the hides to Lester Shaw. In 1956, Max and Irene purchased a small acreage west of Wray, where they kept their dairy herd. He set out many evergreen trees and moved a barn

on the location.

In 1982, Max received his citizenship and was so proud that he only missed one question and was top in the group. Max, Irene and their youngest daughter, Chrissie went back to Switzerland to visit Max's family. This was the only vacation the couple had, and the only time Max had been back there.

Max was a hard worker and always took pride in what he did. He retired from baling due to illness and arthritis and devoted full time to being a licensed cattle dealer and went to a sale/auction everyday of the week. He loved to buy the one that needed lots of care and usually saved them. Max was also a 4-H leader.

Max will be remembered by many for his beautiful Christmas display he put up every Christmas. Max was a very kind and loving husband, father, as well as a wonderful grandpa and great-grandpa. Above all, he loved his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Max was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, two sisters, father-and mother-in-law, three sisters-in-law and their husbands, and two special grandsons.

He is survived by his wife, Irene of 54 years; daughters, Charlotte Hankins of Goodland, Sheila Schwartz and husband, Dan of Wray, Chrissie Hankins and husband, John of St. Francis; grandsons, Brent Like of Hays, Scott and Aaron Schwartz of Wray, Marvin Hankins of Goodland and Jon Hankins of St. Francis; three great-grandchildren; sister, Freida, sister-in-law, Anna and many nieces, nephews and family and friends both in the United States and Switzerland. He is also survived by Ron Brown who he thought of as a son.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Friday, June 1, at the Spellman-Schmidt Funeral Home in Wray with Rev. Norman Stott officiating.

Interment was made in the

Grandview Cemetery in Wray, Colo. Memorials may be made to the Max Muller Memorial Fund.

Albert L. Gilliland

Feb. 22, 1943 - May 25, 2007

Albert L. Gilliland was born at St. Francis, Kan., on Feb. 22, 1943, (on his parent's wedding anniversary). He died at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., on May 25, 2007, at the age of 64 years. He was the youngest son of LaLe and Viola (Gutzman) Gilliland. He has been a lifetime resident of Bird City.

Albert graduated from Bird City Rural High School in 1961, he married Eilene Bengtson on Nov. 27, 1964. They started their life together on the farm west of Bird City. To add joy to their world a son, Michael was adopted in 1968, and a daughter, Michelle was adopted in 1970. LaMont (Monte) was born in 1973.

The family moved to Albert's home place in 1980. For 26 years Albert and Eilene considered it a great privilege to share their farm place for the annual gathering with the church family for the annual four-day fellowship convention gathering. Albert was happiest when he was mingling and visiting with his many friends, making them welcome and comfortable. They moved into Bird City in May 2006.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Neil, and his daughter, Michelle.

He is survived by Eilene, his wife of 43 years; his son, Michael and wife, Tamara, and their children: Todd, Tye, Tanner and Megan, and great-granddaughter, Mika, all of St. Francis; his son, LaMont and wife, Leah, and their children: Madison and Mallory, of Branson, Mo.; his sisters: Luella and husband, Morris Resco of Clyde, and Norma Jean (Jeannie) and husband, Leslie Watson of Odessa, Mo.; a sister-in-law Irene (Gilliland) Smith; his mother-in-law, Lucille Bengtson of Wichita, two brothers-in-law, Dennis (Jane) Bengtson of

Wichita, and Kenneth (Deborah) Bengtson of North Newton; nephews: Gary Arlin and Royce Resco; Douglas, Dwayne and Darrell Watson and Clayton Gilliland, nieces: Kim Nation, Karla Thompson, Rosie Riley, Catherine Gray and Diane Harper.

He will be missed by numerous other relatives and a host of friends.

The funeral service was held June 1 at the American Legion Hall in Bird City with LeRoy Lerwick and Olan Morrison as speakers.

Honorary pallbearers were Tye Gilliland, Tanner Gilliland, Megan Gilliland, Madison Gilliland, Mallory Gilliland and Mika Killingsworth.

Casket bearers were Todd Gilliland, Gary Resco, Dwayne Watson, Clayton Gilliland, Dave Riley and Chris Thompson.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Willard Dale Peter

Jan. 2, 1932 - May 24, 2007.

Willard Dale Peter was born in St. Francis, Kan., on Jan. 2, 1932, the eldest child of Emil and Emma Eikenberg Peter. The family lived on a farm south of St. Francis, just across the line in Sherman County. He died in St. Francis on May 24, 2007.

Willard attended Sherman County rural schools through the eighth grade and graduated as the top honor student. He went to Goodland his freshman year, then graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1950. While in high school, he participated in football and wrestling.

Willard and Constance Blacker were married and had one daughter, Michal Dawn.

After two years as a pre-med student at Phillips University in Enid, Okla., Willard was drafted into the U.S. Army. After Basic Training at Fort Carson, Colo., where he was a platoon leader and "Expert Rifleman," he was trans-

ferred to Fort Knox, Ky. He graduated from clerk/typist school only .1 away from the top of the class.

At Fort Lewis, Wash., he served under Gary Crosby, son of Bing Crosby, for two weeks. Willard shipped out on the "General Mitchell" bound for Inchon, Korea, by way of Yokohama, Japan. Enroute, they passed through the remains of two typhoons. Because of his farm and pre-med background, he was chosen to work as a vet tech, including anesthesia, in the Veterinarian Corps, where they gave medical and surgical care to 95 sentry dogs. He also served as a food inspector for two months with the 7th and 24th divisions. He was stationed in Korea for 18 months, about 12 miles south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Willard and Rose Mary Schultz were married in 1960 and had one son, Geoffrey Dale.

Willard was the owner of Willard Furniture in St. Francis for over 20 years and returned to farming after semi-retirement. He got his private pilot's license and purchased his own airplane in 1967.

In 1984, Willard and Ruth DeGood Heaton were married and they enjoyed traveling, golf and fishing as well as spending time with family and friends. Ruth died in 2000.

Over the years, Willard was active in the United Methodist Church, Lions Club, Riverside Recreation, Gun Club and Chamber of Commerce.

Willard was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Royce, wife, Ruth and her granddaughter, Kellie Crane.

He is survived by his daughter, Michal (Bill) Kitzmiller of Aurora, Colo.; son, Geoffrey of Dallas, Texas; brother, Dallas Peter (Norma Jean) of Aurora, Colo.; sisters, Lavonne Zwegardt (Delmer) of Parker, Colo., and

Sherry Schultz (Eddy) of St. Francis; grandchildren, Rachel (Matt) Porter and Morgan (Andrea) Kitzmiller; great-grandchildren, Eliza and Greer Porter and Haven Kitzmiller and aunts, Helen Peter and Mildred Burr of St. Francis; also by Ruth's daughters, Melody Crane and Rhonda Novacek; her granddaughters, Lisa (Bill) Klinger and Addison; Kristin Russell and Ericka (Jason) Dunn, Alexis and Caleb.

He was loved and will be missed by his nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 6, at the St. Francis United Methodist Church. Family inurnment service will be at the St. Francis Cemetery.

Memorials will be given to the St. Francis United Methodist Church or to the Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and may be sent to the family or to Knodel Funeral Home.

Club Clip



Classy Classic Red Hatters

Seventeen attended the Red Hat Social of the Classic Classics at the Bird City Heritage Corner in Bird City on May 9.

Ice cream specialties such as Green Rivers, Raspberry Sodas and Apple Cinnamon Caramel Sundaes were ordered from the lavish menu.

A special three-generation photo of Ruth Reynolds, Colleen Gardner and special guest Julianna Gardner was taken.

Hostesses were Connie Miller, Ruth Reynolds, Laura Pugh and Donna Zimbelman.

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1979 John Deere 7720 Combine, diesel, 224 header
1980 John Deere 4440 Tractor, 3-hydraulic, duals, power shift
1978 GMC 6500 Truck, V8, auto trans., single axle, 16" steel box, engine & trans. overhaul, 84K mi.

TRACTORS, COMBINES, TRUCKS & TRAILERS
80 Ford F250 Custom Pick-up, 4x4, 351 engine; IHC 1600 Truck, 16' Omaha box, V8, 4x2, tag axle, 156K mi.; '73 WW Stock Trailer, 16x6; '74 Sooner Trailer, 6x24; '69 JD 4020 Tractor, 2-hyd., 3-pt., power shift; '69 AC190 XT Series III Tractor, duals, 2-hyd., 3-pt.; IHC Farmall M w/Farmhand Loader, 3-pt., pto; Murray Lawn Tractor, 18.5 HP, 46" deck; (2) JD 55 Combines.

IMPLEMENTS, MACHINERY & AUGERS
3-pt. Blade; Graham Hoeme 16" chisel; JD Lister, 4-row; '70 IHC Pick-up, 2-wheel drive (not running); JD Van Brunt 14" drill, 10"; (2) 12' JD Rod Weeder, w/hitch; Flex King Sweep, 15'; Noble 15' Sweep (parts); Flex King 25' Rod; JD 10' Drill, 8"; (2) '75 IHC 150 12" Hoe Drills, 10"; Noble 18' 3-section Drill w/hitch, 14"; Early 1900's Well Drilling Rig; Hesston 300 Draper Swath; Big Ox 5-shank Ripper; IHC 120 20' One-way; Flex King 36" Rod Weeder; Noble 25' Sweep w/ Pickers; KMC 8-row Cultivator; NH 320 Hayliner Baler; Schaffer 12' Disc; Krause 1293 18' Tandem Disc; JD 12' Disc; IHC 21' Chisel w/tines; 12' Springtooth; IH McCormick Rake, side delivery; 9 HP Clinton Engine; JD H50 Manure Spreader, pull-type; IHC 500 Cyclo Planter, 8-row; Phares & Wilkins Grain Cart, 400 bu.; Century 10' Fert. Spreader; NH 357 Grinder/Mixer; 25 Gal. Fimco Sprayer, 6-ft. boom; Homemade 6" Auger, 9 HP B&S eng.; My-D Han-D Drill Fill Auger; Westfield W80-61 Auger, 8' 61", PTO.

LIVESTOCK & MISC: (6) Metal Feed Bunks, 12'; (2) Round Bale Feeders; (2) Calf Creep Feeders; (2) Feed Bunks; (7) 10' Feed Bunks, plastic bottoms; 8' Portable Feeder, w/creep attachment; WW Cattle Squeeze Chute; Antique JW Kirwan Saddle; (2) Ranch Saddles; Brand Z7E & Irons; 15 Portable Cattle Panels; (2) 8' Livestock Water Tanks; 125 Gallon PU Fuel Tank w/transfer pump; (2) 500 gal. fuel tanks w/stands; Winco Generator, PTO, 25Kwatt, single phase; Hesston Head Hunters; Stuker 501 Bale Stacker; Dansuer Posthole Digger, PTO, 3-pt., 3-pt. Boom; JD 609 6' Mower, 3-pt.; Knipco F-50 Portable Heater; Push Mowers; Misc. Small gas Engines; Torch on cart, w/gauges, leads & bottles; Coleman Air Compressor; Forney Electric Welder; MW Roto-tiller; Upright Shop Tool Box; Lg Bench Vice; Elec. Grinder on stand; Anvil & Stand; Many Antique Tools; Homemade Drill Press; Table Saw; Solar Battery Charger; Comet Cross-cut Saw, 1.5 HP; Chicago 14" Metal Chop Saw; Old License Plates; Lg. Pipe Thread Cutters; Antique Grinding Wheel; Wood Wagon Wheels; Misc. Shop Items.

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