

Obituaries

Francis (Fran) G. Hatch

June 4, 1920 - Aug. 7, 2007
Francis (Fran) Hatch died on Aug. 7, 2007. Services were held on Aug. 11, 2007, at the McDonald Federated Church. Interment was at Grace Cemetery with full military honors.

Fran was a man of great character and an unwavering source of strength — a man greatly respected and deeply loved by his family.

He arrived on June 4, 1920, weighing in at a mere 2.5 pounds, the son of Roy and Elva Hatch. With the gift of a tenacious spirit aided by his aunt's diligence and a makeshift shoe box incubator in the family oven, Fran survived this diminutive beginning to become a robust man of 6 foot 3. He was born in Blakeman, Kan., and lived in northwest Kansas most of his life. His family moved to Plainville where he entered fifth grade and attended high school. He then moved with his folks to the David place northwest of McDonald.

As a young man, Fran worked in the Denver area before being drafted to serve four years in the European Theater during World War II. As a member of the Army Canine Corp., Fran and his dog, Sadie, landed in Gibraltar then moved through North Africa, Sicily, Naples, Pistoria, up through Italy to the Po Valley and Milan. Most of the time he was at the front lines, often scouting behind the enemy lines sometimes months at a time. He was awarded two bronze stars for his exceptional service.

Just before being drafted, he and Louise Wilkens, who lived 2.5 miles from the David place, connected and fell in love. They were

married in 1941 and shared their lives for over 55 years until Louise's death in 1996.

When Fran returned from the war in 1945, he joined his ailing father-in-law in running the family farm. This temporary arrangement became permanent when Fran and Louise purchased the farm which became their home.

This union resulted in three children, eight grand-children and 21 (and counting) great-grandchildren.

Fran and Louise were active members of the McDonald community and Fran served on several boards including McDonald Federated Church, the Equity board and the school board. Fran's work ethic and respect for life was evident in his stewardship of the land and animals under his care. He became a respected stockman and wheat farmer noted for his willingness to help others.

Fran enjoyed living and valued friendship. His sense of humor and propensity for friendly teasing was known by all who were close to him.

After Louise's death, Fran became active in the Bird City Senior Center where he met and married Joan Deeds. Fran's family expanded to include three step children and nine step grand-great grandchildren. Fran and Joan remained active in Senior Center and community activities until illnesses required both to enter the Good Samaritan Home in Atwood.

Fran considered himself a man of great wealth — the true wealth that comes from a loving, vibrant family. He took pride in his children and grandchildren and expressed contentment that he could leave this

world knowing that they were leading successful lives.

Fran's influence and memories continue through his family. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Louise Wilkens Hatch, and two brothers, Sam and Virgil Hatch.

Survivors include his second wife Joan Deeds Hatch; brothers Wilbur and Therese Hatch and Robert and Shirley Hatch; children Al and Becky Hatch, Jim and Patsy (Hatch) McClurg, and Doug and Rita (Hatch) Zeman; grandchildren and great-grandchildren Tim, Marsha (Hatch), Kennedy, Mollie, Cooper and Max Reves; Mike, Melynda, Mitchel, Madison and Mason Hatch; Roger, Michele (Hatch), McKenzie, Grace and Noah Crossman; Jon, Carolyn, Audrey and Michael McClurg; Tom, Susan, Ryan, Lauren and Jackson McClurg; Bob, Karen (McClurg), Sam, Jacob and Benjamin Sheffres; Jeremy, Beth, Ashley and Kaitlyn Zeman; Brent, Angie (Zeman) and Braden Dornier; stepchildren John and Darla Deeds; Daryl and Sherry (Deeds) Donahey; Bret and Ginger (Deeds) Conley; step grandchildren and great-grandchildren Greg, Erika (Deeds), Audrey and Amelia Likens; Adam Deeds; Randy and Brenda (Donahey) Mackey; Jason, Courtney and Avery Donahey; Devin and Aidan Conley.

His family expressed that Fran's joy of life, wisdom and compassion will be missed by all of them.

Ken Wieck

Oct 22, 1947-Aug 8, 2007

Ken Wieck Sr. died at the age of 59 on Aug. 8, 2007, at Longmont United Hospital.

He was born Oct. 22, 1947, in St. Francis, Kan., to Henry D. and Faye M. (Dayton) Wieck. He graduated from St. Francis Community High school in 1964.

Ken was a painter by trade doing residential and commercial projects in the Longmont area.

He loved to play golf, was a sports enthusiast and enjoyed special times with his four grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his four grandparents; his parents Henry and Faye; one brother and two sisters.

He is survived by his two sons Kenneth D. Jr. and his wife Leslie Wieck of Mulberry, Fla., and Jeffrey S. and his wife Kati Wieck of Parker, Colo.; four grandchildren Makayla and Aidan of Mulberry, and Jordan and Mason of Parker; two brothers, Lyle Wieck and his wife Flo, Lee Wieck and his wife Joyce; five sisters Gay Walz, Donna Jensen and her husband Chris, Shyrlee Auston and her husband Charles, Ardyth Jolle and her husband Roland, and Jody Angel-Myers and her husband Roger; three aunts Leone Wieck Krien and her husband Bill, Elva Wieck, and Opal Dayton Seaman; one uncle Max Dayton.

He also leaves 30 nieces and nephews, many great nieces and nephews, and a host of cousins and friends.

A private family gathering will be held. Cremation was at Ahlberg Funeral Chapel. Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the Williams Syndrome Association, Wood Crest Office Plaza, 570 Kirts Blvd, Suite 223, Troy, MI 48084 in honor of Makayla Wieck.



BRANDI JONES practices shooting at her target at the hunter safety course. Francis O'Leary, one of the instructors, watch.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Students attend and pass 4-day hunter safety course

"It was a good class," Chet Gardner, Hunter Safety instructor said, following the four-day course given through the Kansas Wildlife and Parks.

Tim Stimbert, R. D. Rohweder, and Mr. Gardner also helping was Francis O'Leary.

"We had a good time," Mr. Gardner said.

Students attending the class and

passing the test this year were Lance Owens, Ryan Owens, Lane Hoffman, Wyatt Landenberger, Tyler Lee, Alyssa Lee, Ian Schmid, Isaac Sturgeon, Cade Bracelin, Justin Miller, Mason Schiltz, Logan Whitmore, Triston Archer, Dylan Lauer, Tony Meyer, Joe McCormick, Caleb Keltz, Joshua Keltz, Brandi Jones and Chase Krien.

According to the law, people who

are 27 years old or younger and want to hunt must carry a certification card along with their hunting license. Certification cards can be obtained only after the individual has completed a hunter education course and all hunters who were born on or after July 1, 1957, must complete the course.

The class was held on Aug. 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Zweygardt families enjoyed reunion

The Zweygardt Reunion

The 2nd annual Zweygardt reunion was held at the Senior Center at St. Francis, August 12, 2007.

The Zweygardt family according to records go back to Georg Wilhelm, born Aug. 24, 1742 in Kleinbettioar Wuttenberg, Germany. His son Wilhelm Ludwig born September 1, 1774 at Steinhelm, Germany, Son David born in 1834 at Neudorf, Russia.

The Zweygardt family emigrated to Russia in 1817. Ludwig then was born in 1862, he married Christina Knorr.

Ludwig and Christina and their four children ranging in age of 5 years to 11 months set sail on the ship "Manifest" at Hamburg Via South-hampton for the United States, landing at Ellis Island on May 4, 1894 they came to St. Francis, Kan. area, homesteading eight miles northwest of St. Francis, Kan., where August and his wife Katie lived there until 1961, when they moved to St. Francis, there son Robert and his wife Gertrude,

moved on this farm and are still living there, a Grandson of Ludwig and raised their four children, Darrel, Donita, Kay and Keith.

Those attending this year's reunion are as follows, Amelia, Clara, Jerry Meyer, Alma Beringer from Bethune, Alice Coffin, Delmer and LaVonne Zweygardt and Betty Zweygardt of Parker, Colorado. Larry Beringer of Sharon Springs.

The rest are from St. Francis; Gus and Martha Zweygardt, Tobe Zweygardt, Edna Zimbelman, LaVera Beringer, Raymond and Martha Zweygardt, Robert and Gertrude Zweygardt, Alice Lampe, Alice Isernhagen, Glenn and Lou Ann Isernhagen, Darrel Zweygardt, Keith Zweygardt, Drew, Ty and Brock Zweygardt, LeRoy, Cindy and Royce Neitzel, Violet Cramer and Otto Bandel.

The day was spent visiting and enjoying music furnished by Robert and Gertrude Zweygardt, Jerry Meyer and Lou Ann Isernhagen.

Everyone enjoyed the day and hope to come again next year.

Chat with Rosalie

By Rosalie Seemann

Hot isn't it? I have not had a chance to check this out but fans may be available for those in need. Call the Red Cross, Salvation Army or the Health Department to see if a fan is available.

As everyone probably knows, close your house up before the sun gets too warm and your house will stay cooler.

Eat at the Senior Progress Center at noon, and you will not be using your oven or stove that does heat up your kitchen and home. Television dinners are wonderful if you have a microwave!.

Readers may submit questions by writing Seemann at Chat With Rosalie c/o Rosalie Seemann, 426 Hale, Levant, KS 67743 or by emailing: rseemann@st-tel.net.

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