



THIS FAN SECTION of a giant earth mover that works in the mines in Montana spent the weekend at Majestic Service and Truck Stop.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Obituaries

Margaret Mary Alsup

March 1, 1921 - May 6, 2010

Margaret Mary (Slattery) Alsup, 89, died in Scottsdale, Ariz., on Thursday, May 6, 2010. Margaret was born March 1, 1921, in Dunlap, Iowa, to Joseph and Anna (McAleer) Slattery.



Alsup

After graduating high school, Margaret attended Duchesne College of the Sacred Heart in Omaha, Neb., and graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Creighton University. She served in the United States Navy Reserve during World War II as a lieutenant in the Nursing Corps.

On June 20, 1946 she married Robert E. (Bob) Alsup in Omaha, Neb. The couple lived in St. Francis, Kan., for many years where Margaret worked part-time as a registered nurse at the Cheyenne County Hospital, part-time as a member of the board of directors of the Cheyenne County State Bank and full-time as a wonderful mother to six children.

The couple retired to Estes Park, Colo., in 1994. Bob died in Estes Park Nov. 4, 2002, and Margaret moved to Scottsdale permanently in 2003.

She was active in the parish of St. Francis Catholic Church in St. Francis, and attended Mass at Our Lady of the Mountains Church in Estes Park and Our Lady of Joy Church in Carefree, Ariz.

Margaret was always a member of local garden clubs wherever she lived and had a life-long love of growing roses and African violets. Her talent for producing gorgeous roses was well known wherever she lived and has been passed along to many of her children and their spouses.

She was initiated into Chapter U of PEO in St. Francis and remained active in the organization through local Chapters during her years in Estes Park and Scottsdale.

Margaret and Bob loved to travel and visited her ancestral home

in Ireland many times. She was extremely proud of her Irish heritage and celebrated it always taking everyone within range along on the joyous ride with her. After retiring to their "paradise" in Estes Park she loved enjoying the beautiful view of Longs Peak from their front windows and taking walks around Estes Lake.

During her later years in Scottsdale she delighted in the birds and small animals always visiting her outside the casita and apartment at Classic Residence. She loved reading and being read to by Bob and all of her children.

Margaret was always a very caring person who loved to learn about people.

She leaves behind many deep friendships from all the people and communities she touched along her journey.

Mrs. Alsup is survived by her sons, Kevin and wife, Victoria of Phoenix, Ariz.; Shawn and wife, Dalaina of Sterling, Colo.; Eric and wife Christina of Baldwin City; Brendan and wife, Elizabeth of Scottsdale and daughters, Pamela Oster and husband, Henry of Ventura, Calif.; and Melanie Bandel and husband, Darrell of Overland Park. She is also survived by 14 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Mrs. Alsup was preceded in death by her husband, Bob, her parents and all four siblings (three brothers and one sister).

Visitation will take place at Allnutt Funeral Service 1302 Graves Ave Estes Park, Colo., on Friday May 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. An evening rosary service followed by a time of remembrance with the family will be held beginning at 7 p.m. also at the Allnut Chapel.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday May 15, at 10 a.m. Burial will take place at Estes Valley Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the Valley (Phoenix) or Cheyenne County Hospital (St. Francis) in care of Allnutt.

To send a message to Margaret's family visit www.allnutt.com.

William "Bill" Overton Fuller

March 27, 1920 - May 4, 2010

William Overton Fuller was born March 27, 1920, in Sherman County, Kan., and died on May 4, 2010, in Goodland. He was the second son of John Howard Fuller and Amy Merle Waters. This marriage was unable to survive the rigors of life in the 1920s and in 1925, Bill's mother married Wallace W. Gardner in Cheyenne County. Mr. Gardner was a fine father to Bill and his brother, Waters, and eventually sister, Joyce, and brother, Terry, joined the Gardner household. In 1932, Bill's brother, Waters, died from a ruptured appendix and Terry died in 1978.

Bill attended schools in Cheyenne County and graduated with the class of 1939. In September of 1940, influenced by growing patriotism and continued poor job prospects at home, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Army at Fort Logan, Colo., and he progressed rather quickly to the rank of Master Sergeant. In addition to training at Fort Logan, he was stationed also at Camp Roberts in California, as well as Army camps in San Clemente, where he took amphibious training; in Spokane, Wash., at the Army air base; and at Mountain Home, Idaho, where he was Sergeant Major in the station hospital located there.

On Sept. 5, 1943, Bill married Belva June Anderson from St. Francis, at a ceremony conducted in Boise, Idaho, since he was stationed at Mountain Home at the time. Belva returned to Denver to live near relatives.

In February 1945, the same month that Bill and Belva's first daughter, Linda, was born, Bill and other members of the 386th Infantry Regiment shipped out to LaHarve, France. While in Europe, Bill supervised the care and maintenance of vehicles assigned to the 386th Infantry Regiment. Bill was honorably discharged from the Army on Oct. 9, 1945, at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and he brought home the Europe, Africa, Middle Eastern campaign medal (EAMET) with one bronze service star, a good conduct medal, as well as the combat infantry badge.

Back at home in St. Francis, Bill went to work for Rudy Rieb at Rieb Motor Company as a mechanic, and in 1949, the Fuller's middle daughter, Peggy, was born.

The family moved to Denver for a short time after that and Bill worked as a block man for Minneapolis Moline. Too much time away from family caused Bill to leave that job and they moved back to the family farm in Kansas in 1953. Two years later Bill and Belva's third daughter, Rita, was born.

Bill farmed for 40-some years, retiring in the early 1990s. During the busy years on the farm, Bill found time to serve on hospital and school boards as well as the Farm Management Association North West board.

After retirement, he and Belva moved into St. Francis and enjoyed town life together until Belva died in 2002. Bill continued living there until June of 2009, when failing health caused him to move to the Good Samaritan Sherman County.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Belva; his brother, John Waters Fuller, infant half brother, Wallace Gardner, Jr., and half brother, Terry Gardner.

Survivors include daughters, Linda Carmichael of Lakewood, Colo., Peggy (Bob) Smith of Thornton, Colo., and Rita (Dan) Stephens of St. Francis; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a half sister Joyce (Alan) Kyman of Phoenix, Ariz., and sisters-in-law, Barbara Ewing of St. Francis and JoAnn (Earl) Newmyer of Meade, Colo.

Services, arranged by Knodel Funeral Home, were held Friday, May 7, at the United Methodist Church in St. Francis with Pastor Morita Truman officiating.

Interment was in the Lawn Ridge Cemetery, rural St. Francis. Casket bearers were Tom Bandel, Matt Bandel, Greg Wolters, Dave Roberson, Tom Smull, Matt Smull and Kelly Frewen.

Memorials may be directed to the Cheyenne County Hospital, the United Methodist Church in St. Francis, or Good Samaritan Sherman County in Goodland.

Lewis Carl Sowers was born Aug. 27, 1925, in Thomas County, Kan. He was the third of eight children of James Orville and Ruby Ida (Nahrung) Sowers. He died Friday, April 30, 2010, at his son's home near Bird City, at the age of 84.

Lewis was raised on the home-steed farm south of Colby. He attended Pleasant Hill School and graduated from Colby High School in 1943. He joined the Army and was stationed in Korea for 14 months before being honorably discharged in 1947.

Upon returning, he married his childhood sweetheart, Audrey M. Sims, on her 19th birthday, April 10, 1948. They were married for 52 years before she died on May 5, 2000.

To this union five children were born: Marene, Daniel, David, Sara and Stephen. They lived in Thomas County until 1966, when they moved to the farm south of Bird City.

Lewis was an avid gardener. He planted over 10 acres of fruit trees and always had a garden. He shared the bounty with his family and friends and encouraged them to grow their own gardens. His family will remember him with his trusty hoe in his hand working the soil. He also raised Shorthorn cattle, sheep, turkeys, chickens and even had honey bees for a time.

When he was 13 his father died leaving his widowed mother to raise eight children. His mother did not have any money for seed wheat and God caused the volunteer wheat to make over 50 bushels to the acre to provide for the family. This was part of the foundation of the faith that was very important to him. The Lord saw him through many hardships including his wife's sickness and the death of their 3-year-old daughter. From these hardships he learned to trust in God as his healer and provider. He encouraged his children to place their trust in Jesus Christ.

Scripture memorization was very important to him and he taught his grandchildren many verses and loved to hear them recite them back to him. One example of putting his

faith into action was when he picked up a homeless man with little hope left.

Lewis took him into his home for several years until the man was able to find a place of his own. Lewis was looking forward to heaven and many times he would end the evening conversations saying "Maybe we'll get to go to heaven tonight."

He is survived by his children: Daniel and wife, Lori, Bird City, David and wife, Teresa, St. Francis, Sara and husband, Larry Schield, Austin, Texas, and Stephen of Imperial, Neb.; 12 grandchildren: Joshua and wife, Sara Sowers, Jordan and wife, Paige Sowers, Nathan Sowers, Rachel Sowers, Heather Sowers, Jared and wife, Brook Sowers, Hannah Sowers, Samuel Sowers; Joseph Schield, Christina Schield, Melissa (Schield) Antuna and husband, Jeffrey, and Jesse Schield; seven great-grandchildren: Eliana, Adrianna and Kalia Sowers, Evangelyn Sowers, Aaron, Nathan and Ryan Antuna; four brothers: Dwight and wife, Jeanette Sowers, Colby, Frank Sowers, Benkelman, Neb.; Ralph and wife, Nancy Sowers, Fort Bragg, Calif., Robert and wife, Frances Sowers of Gallup, N.M.; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Lewis was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Audrey; daughter, Marene; sister, Grace Bastin; brothers, Lon Sowers and Byron Sowers.

Funeral services were held May 3 at the Wesleyan Community Church, Bird City, with Pastor Dan Carson and Pastor Allen Coons officiating.

"Blessed Assurance" was sung by granddaughters, Christina Schield, Melissa Antuna, Heather Sowers, Hannah Sowers and Rachel Sowers.

Casket bearers were grandsons, Joseph Schield, Jesse Schield, Joshua Sowers, Jordan Sowers, Nathan Sowers, Jared Sowers and Samuel Sowers.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery, Bird City.

Arrangements were made by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

WANTED Part-time Office Help

Applicants will need computer and office skills. Will be required to answer phones, wait on customers, proof read, type, take photos and make pages.



The Saint Francis Herald

To apply or for more information, contact Karen Krien at the Saint Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

The Bird City Quasiquicentennial Committee is trying to finalize plans for the celebration on June 11th, 12th and 13th. A full weekend of activities is being planned. The committee is seeking monetary donations to help cover the cost. We estimate that we are approximately \$10,000 short of our goal. All contributions up to \$20,000 are being matched by Bird City Century II Development Foundation. The Bird City 125th committee would appreciate any support you can provide. Financial donations can be made payable to "Bird City 125th Celebration" and mailed to Sherry Carmichael, P.O. Box 190, Bird City, Ks. 67731.

Events being planned are a Cajun Boil dinner, and street dance with Beer Garden on Friday evening. A triathlon, a grand parade, an antique car show, craft and food vendors on main street, kid's events all day, historical play, rodeo clown, races and other games as well as a free barbecue and dance at the park with Beer Garden on Saturday. Also a community church service and pot luck dinner on Sunday.

Please check out <http://www.birdcityhistory.com> for a full schedule and more information. You can also go to the website to register the number of adults and children in your family for the free barbecue on June 12th, or call Wanda Dowdy at 785-734-2383.



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