

Carl Leroy Williams Nov. 4, 1938 - July 12, 2011

Carl Leroy Williams was born Nov. 4, 1938, in Cheyenne County, Kansas, the son of Jesse Arlie and Dora (Arrants) Williams. Along with his brothers Lyle F. and Gene and sisters Ruth and Doris, he was raised on the family farm southwest of St. Francis in the Lawn Ridge area.

He attended the Highland Country School through the fourth grade, which is the school building now located on the grounds of the Tri-State Antique Engine and Threshers Show in Bird City. He finished his elementary education in town and graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1957. He lived his entire life in the St. Francis area except for a short time when he was in the Army Reserves at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

On June 2, 1957, he married Constance "Connie" Jean Schleppe and just last month they celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. They were blessed with three children; Kevin Carl, Paul Steven and Theresa Michelle.

In his early years Carl was employed at the St. Francis Equity and, along with his mother and wife, owned and operated the Empire Motel. He later was employed by Bob Zimbelman as the parts department man at Zimbelman's Motor. It didn't take long before Uncle Bob had converted Carl into being a "Chevy" man...the only vehicle to own and drive. When Bob decided to retire and sell the business, Carl was presented with a gold watch for 20 years of working for them. He then worked at the Cheyenne County Courthouse. A few years before Carl retired, he was proud to receive the first employee of the month award.

He was a charter member of the Solid Rock Baptist Church and a member of the St. Francis Lions Club.

For many years he had a lawn service business doing numerous

yards around town. When Go Karting started in St. Francis, Carl decided to give it a try and soon found out how much fun it was. It didn't take long before his son, Paul, brother-in-law, Jack and nephew, Terry were hooked. After a few years Carl and Jack became the "oldies" in the bunch and for many, the real fun was watching the two of them race against each other.

Carl was an avid Denver Bronco fan and on game days, he was always dressed in one of his many orange and blue Bronco shirts and caps, with his Bronco flag flying proudly in the front yard. It was the last year that the Bronco's played in the old Mile High Stadium that he went to his first and only live game with his brother-in-law, Jack. Not only did they go a few hours early so he could walk around and see everything, when the game was over he wasn't ready to leave. He just sat there with a big smile on his face. Finally when there were only a few people left in the stadium, Jack said we better get out of here before they throw us out.

No matter what job he worked, Carl took great pride in what he did. From maintaining a neat and organized parts department at Zimbelman's Motor, to keeping the courthouse floors and the many windows shiny at all times. He worked very hard for his church, as he was a devout Christian.

Carl was always seen with a smile on his face, enjoyed life to the fullest and took time every day to stop and smell the roses. It gave him great joy to spend time with his family and friends, supporting his church and community activities and humbly gave of himself unselfishly for the good of things and people around him.

Even though he had a few sad and difficult times in his life, he never let it get the best of him. Because of his faith and belief in God, he always came out a stronger man.

Although he enjoyed retirement he soon found out he could only watch so much television or read so many newspapers. About 8 months ago, when the opportunity to work for John Knodel came about he was happy to help him out. It turned out to be a part-time job that he really enjoyed.

Surrounded by his family and friends, Carl died early Tuesday morning, July 12, 2011, in the Cheyenne County Hospital at the age of 72 years 8 months.

Preceding him in death were his son, Kevin; parents, Jessie and Dora; parents-in-law, Rudy and Erna Schleppe, sister, Ruth and her husband, Louie Gipe and sister-in-law, Almena Williams.

Carl will be greatly missed by his wife Connie; children, Paul and wife, Dolly, Theresa and husband, Ralph Hogue; grandchildren; Cassie and husband, Bryan Lum, Dreu Halligan, and Skylar Williams; brothers, Lyle, Gene and wife, Sheryl, and sister, Doris Meyeres; sisters-in-law, Marlene and husband, Ernie Lebfrom and Sheila and husband, Jack Davis, plus a host of relatives and friends.

Services were held at the Church of Christ in St. Francis on Friday, July 15, with Pastors Alan Coon and Marvin Zimbelman officiating. The Fort Riley Honor Guard performed graveside services. Interment was in the Cheyenne County Cemetery next to his son Kevin.

Casket bearers were Corey Davis, Ronnie Zimbelman, Eldon Zimbelman, Jay Zimbelman, Terry Miller, Mike Day and Roger Jensen.

Honorary pallbearers were Terry and Wendy Davis, Melvin Schleppe, Brent Henderson, Jerry Bier, Theron Culwell, Roy Pywell, Ben Leibbrandt and Dan Schlittenhardt.

In his honor, memorials may be given to the Solid Rock Baptist Church. Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home.



AUDREY MEYER (left) and Cassie Cooks were selling pie to harvesters waiting in line at St. Francis Equity.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Obituary

Max A. Dayton

Nov. 22, 1922 - July 13, 2011

Max A. Dayton, Valparaiso, Ind., age 88, died on Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at the Visiting Nurse Association Horton Hospice Center in Valparaiso. He was born on Nov. 22, 1922, in St. Francis, Kan., to the late Newton and Alma (Nicodemus) Dayton.

Max was a resident of Valparaiso, since 1943. He worked for Northern Indiana Public Service Company for 12 years, was electrician for Paul Saylor Homes, employed at Valparaiso University, and owned Dayton Standard Station from 1956 to 1962. He was a veteran of the

U.S. Army Air Force serving from 1942 to 1946.

Max was a former member of the St. Francis Christian Church, member of the Porter Masonic Lodge F&AM 137, Valley of South Bend Scottish Rite, and Orak Shrine, Michigan City, Ind.

Survivors include daughters: Sheila (Russell) Pierson of Denver, Colo., and Maureen (Joseph) Ellis of Valparaiso; grandchildren: Alphonso (Cheryl) Marquez, Christina Ellis, Jennifer (Rick Holton) Ellis and Joseph Ellis II; great-grandchildren: Lorenzo Marquez, and Dillon Ellis; and

sister: Opal Seaman of Goodland. He was preceded in death by wife, Florence Dayton in 1990; sisters: Faye Wieck Covington and Pearle Ellsworth.

A memorial service was held Monday, July 18, at the Dykes Funeral Home, Valparaiso, with Pastor Dean Christian officiating. Burial of cremains was at Graceland Cemetery, Valparaiso.

Friends could meet the family from 2 to 3 p.m. on the 18th at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children or the Pines Village Foundation.

DeWayne J. Woerpel Nov. 18, 1934 - Feb. 13, 2010

DeWayne J. Woerpel was born Nov. 18, 1934, and died Feb. 13, 2010.

DeWayne, the first child of Homer Woerpel and Katherine Schleppe, was born in St. Francis, Kan. He had one brother and one sister, both of whom died before DeWayne.

The Woerpel's moved from their farm in St. Francis to Bennett, Colo., in 1948, and purchased a larger farm where they grew wheat and raised livestock. DeWayne was an accomplished basketball player and helped take the Bennett High School "Tigers" to a Colorado State Basketball championship in 1951.

After his high school graduation, DeWayne attended Trinidad State College in Trinidad, Colo., and graduated with an associate degree in electronics. He soon joined several friends from school and enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1954. After basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, DeWayne was assigned to his first assignment, Yokota Air Force Base, Japan, where he began his military career that would take him worldwide.

His next assignment was stateside at Homestead Air Force Base, Fla., where he met his future wife, Margaret, during a blind date. After a courtship that lasted only three months,

DeWayne and Margaret were married in Miami, Fla., on June 7, 1958.

DeWayne was an administrative specialist in the Air Force and achieved the rank of Master Sergeant after a career that spanned 26 years. He received numerous awards and citations during his career. These include the Air Force Commendation Medal with 3 Oak Leaf clusters, Air Force Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Battle Service Star, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Device, Air Force Longevity Service Award with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Thailand).

His final assignment prior to his retirement was at Cheyenne Mountain with the Air Defense Command in Colorado. DeWayne and Margaret loved the city so much they decided to permanently retire in Colorado Springs.

DeWayne then began a second career with the United States Postal Service where he worked 19 years before his retirement. DeWayne had over 45 years of loyal U.S. Government service after his postal career.

He was a loyal member of The Retired Enlisted Association where he enjoyed the friendship of many retired friends and coworkers.

DeWayne was an avid gardener and always had a lovely arrangement of flowers in his garden which the entire family and those who visited enjoyed.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Margaret; sons, Ronald, Robert and William; grandchildren, Andrew and Shannon, daughter-in-law, Yema Kouefati-Woerpel and stepgrandchild, Elizabeth Tokatli of Miami, Fla.; his aunt, Alice Pixler of Englewood, Colo.; and cousins, Charline Wells of Albuquerque, N.M., and Josie Lackland of Milton, Fla.

DeWayne was cremated and his ashes interred at Fort Logan Cemetery in Denver, Colo. He was given a tribute with a military funeral with honors. Services were on March 4, 2010.

Donations may be made in his name to the Disabled Veterans of America.



FOUR GENERATIONS of the Banister family recently got together with baby Avery Nicole Winter as the center of attention. Pictured are: (l to r) Amelia Banister, great-grandmother; George Banister, grandfather; Amanda Winter, mother. Amanda and Avery are from Andale.

Poetry Winners

Wyatt Landenberger and Taylor Lee were among the poetry winners in the freshman class. Both will have their poems published.

Freedom Wyatt Landenberger

Freedom is when you
Realize that
Everything you've ever wanted
could
Easily be yours with a little
work and responsibility.
Don't ever think your life is
Over if you fail because
Mistakes happen; everyone
learns to live with them.

Fall Tyler Lee

I see the trees wave in the wind
I laugh as the leaves dance to

the ground
All their green color gone
Replaced by vibrant shades of
yellow and red
But all through the year one tree
will stand
The same bright green color all
year round



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