

Obituaries

Janet Zimbelman Roberson

Oct. 4, 1924 - March 13, 2012

Janet Jean Zimbelman Roberson was born on Oct. 4, 1924, to Minerva Burchett Zimbelman and Christian Zimbelman in a sod house northwest of St. Francis on Highway 27. She died peacefully on March 13, 2012, in Wray, Colo., with her husband and daughter by her side. She was 87 years old.

Janet was the youngest of five children. When she was ready to attend first grade, the family moved into St. Francis where she attended St. Francis Grade School and graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1942. During her high school years, she was a twirler for the high school band.

During her sophomore year, she and Kenneth Roberson began dating. After high school, she worked for a short time for an attorney in St. Francis and then for Cheyenne County State Bank.

On June 10, 1944, on a Saturday night, Kenneth and Janet put on their Sunday best, drove to Colby, Kan., and eloped. They told their parents six weeks later.

In October of 1944, Kenneth enlisted in the Merchant Marines and was sent to Catalina Island for training and deployment. Janet followed him to California. She worked at Compton National Bank in Compton, Calif.

In June of 1945, Kenneth and Janet came back to St. Francis to help with wheat harvest. Shortly after that time, Kenneth was drafted by the Army so Janet returned to her parents' home and resumed working at Cheyenne County State Bank. In March 1947, Kenneth returned from serving his country and they moved to a farm southeast of St. Francis. They lived there

Alvin Jacob Cox

Dec. 22, 1913 - March 17, 2012

Alvin Jacob Cox was born Dec. 22, 1913, to John Cox and Carrie Loman Cox near Beecher Island, Colo. Alvin was a twin and had four brothers. His brothers were Earnest, his twin brother Alfred, Wes and Frank. On Feb. 12, 1934, Alvin married Beulah Raue and they were able to live together for over 76 years.

To this union two sons were born. They were Arvie and Arrie. Alvin and Beulah moved from living with his parents in the Beecher Island area to their own home in the Beecher Island area. Eventually, they moved to a large two-story house near Idalia.

In all of Alvin's life, he farmed. He made the transition from farming with horses to farming with tractors and finally farming with four-wheel drive tractors. Many of those years were hard years for almost everyone on the farm.

The Coxes milked cows and sold cream to help make a living. Also, when the crop work was done, Alvin and his brother Frank worked on their neighbors' vehicles. Their business was known as the "Cox Brother's Repair."

Alvin and Beulah were lifelong Seventh-Day Adventists and practiced that faith all their lives. Alvin was always seen wearing his bibbed overalls except for Saturday when he wore his suit.

Walk/run to kick off heath fair

There will be a 5K run and two mile walk in St. Francis on Saturday, April 14, beginning at the High School at 9 a.m. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Registration forms are available by writing St. Francis UMC at Box 805 or by dropping by the church office at 104 W. Webster. The cost of the run/walk will be \$15 if you are registered by April 6. Medals will be awarded for first through third place in each age division in the run and for the first 15 walkers to finish. All registrants will receive a T shirt. There will be drawings for door prizes. Refreshments will also be provided.

As the spring weather approaches this is a great time to get back into the swing of things with regular outdoor exercise. Running and walking are great cardiovascular exercises to help control blood pressure, diabetes and other problems. This run provides area competitors an

until 1989 when they moved into St. Francis.

During their time in the country, Kenneth and Janet farmed. They raised two children. Jerry Lynn was born Aug. 8, 1948, and Darci Kay was born March 1, 1962.

Janet enjoyed working outside in the yard and taking care of her home. She kept them both meticulously clean and organized. Her greatest joy was caring for and spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren. She followed and supported them in all of their activities.

Janet is survived by her husband of 69 years, Kenneth, daughter and son-in-law, Darci and Ryan Unger, granddaughter and grandson-in-law, LeeAnn Roberson and Steve Abele, grandson and granddaughter-in-law, Dillan and Christi Zwegardt, grandsons Drew Zwegardt, Ty Zwegardt and Brock Zwegardt, brothers and sisters-in-law, Ervin and Edith Rogers, and Clarence and Madeleine Roberson and a host of nieces and nephews.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents, Minerva and Christian Zimbelman, her sisters, Opal Seavey, Norma Crabtree, an infant sister, her brother, Lyle Zimbelman and her son, Jerry Roberson.

Funeral service was held March 22, 2012, at the First Christian Church in St. Francis. Officiant was Pastor Jeff Landers. Pallbearers were Steve Abele, Dillan Zwegardt, Drew Zwegardt, Ty Zwegardt, Brock Zwegardt and Dave Roberson.

Interment was Cheyenne County Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the St. Francis Public Library.

In 2003, Alvin and Beulah moved into St. Francis to their home on Fourth and Adams streets. Both would later move into the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis where they shared a room until Beulah's death July 5, 2010. Alvin kept on going but with a very heavy heart.

After the 2010 fire at the Good Samaritan Village, Alvin moved to Atwood. He moved back into the St. Francis Village in the month of March and died on March 17, 2012, while living in one of the new rooms at the Village. Alvin was 98 years old.

Alvin was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and three of his brothers.

He is survived by his two sons; Arvie and Thelma Cox of Wray and Arrie and Vicki Cox of St. Francis; his brother Frank of Oregon; grandchildren Mike, Shaun, Connie and Lisa; and five great-grandchildren.

Alvin's funeral service was held at Knodel Chapel in St. Francis with Norman Morrow officiating. Casket bearers were Mike Cox, Steve Deland, Don Deland, Gary Leach, Rick Windell and Troy McQue.

Burial was in the St. Francis Cemetery. Memorial donations can be sent to Hospice.

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

Robert (Bob) Irwin Morrell

Nov. 29, 1924 - March 15, 2012

Funeral services for Robert (Bob) Irwin Morrell, long-time resident of St. Francis, were held March 20, 2012, at St. Francis Church of Christ with Norman Morrow officiating. Robert died on March 15, 2012, at the Good Samaritan Village nursing home at the age of 87 years.

Robert was born Nov. 29, 1924, at the family home south of Laird in Yuma County, Colo., the son of Thomas E. Morrell and Ivy Brown Morrell. The family moved to Idalia in 1935 and to St. Francis in 1941.

For a time, he worked with his father and brothers in their blacksmith and welding shop. After graduation from St. Francis Community High School, he worked for the railroad, Cheyenne County and Wheeler Grain Elevator where he was employed until his retirement.

He was a willing worker and had the ability to accept whatever came his way and to make the best of it. After having a stroke, he spent the last years of his life living at Good Samaritan Village where he helped in any way he could and enjoyed helping in the

garden there as long as he was able. Robert was a member of the Church of Christ in St. Francis.

On March 10, 1946, he was married to Eunice Marie Breninger and to this union one son, George Edward Morrell, was born.

Robert is survived by his son, George, of Goodland; three grandchildren, Shanna, Casey and Rachel; great-grandchildren; two brothers, Richard, North Platte, Neb., and Philip and his wife, Rosemary, Mesa, Ariz.; two sisters, Ruby Case of Independence, Mo., and Margaret Thompson and her husband, Laurel, West Plains, Mo.; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eunice, Sept. 3, 1993, his parents Thomas E. and Ivy Morrell, a brother, E.E. (Bud) Morrell and a sister, Dorothy Whomble.

He was buried beside his wife in the Armel Cemetery, Armel, Colo., under the direction of Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis. Casket bearers were George Morrell, Casey Morrell, Jon Villalobos, Phillip Morrell Jr., Lynn Morrell and Larry Flemming.

Elizabeth Banowetz

March 3, 1924 - March 13, 2012

Elizabeth Banowetz, 88, of Edna, died Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at St. Francis.

She was born March 3, 1924 at Snyder, Colo., to Joseph and Anna (Burkey) Rademacher. Elizabeth grew up and attended schools in Mead, Colo.

On Feb. 14, 1950, she married Frank Banowetz at Mead. Following their marriage they made their home in rural Angola, where they raised their family. The last five months she lived with her daughter and husband, Joan and Tony, in St. Francis.

Elizabeth was a member of the Holy Name Catholic Church, Holy Name Altar Society and EHU. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, quilting, reading and traveling.

She is survived by one sister Bertha Becker of Loveland, Colo., three sons; Ray Banowetz and wife Jan of Edna, James Banowetz and wife Marie of Edna and David Banowetz and wife Linda of Allen, Texas, six daughters; Dian

Wullenschneider and husband Bill of Independence, Karen Bell and husband Gary of Coffeyville, Joan Gienger and husband Tony of St. Francis, Susann Piaszynski and husband Jim of Webster City Iowa, Jane Johnson and husband Scott of Garden City Mo., and Donna Szemer and husband Joe of Gulfport, Fla., 22 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and eight brothers.

Mass of Christian Burial was on Monday, March 19, at Holy Name Catholic Church in Coffeyville with Father Stephen Thapwa officiating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Coffeyville.

The family suggests memorials to Holy Name Catholic School and Good Samaritan Home Healthcare. Contributions may be left with the funeral home or mailed c/o David W. Barnes Funeral Home, 306 North Cline Road, Coffeyville, KS 67337.

Roy F. Kruger

Dec. 28, 1926 - March 19, 2012

Roy G. Kruger, 85, Salina, died Monday, March 19, 2012. He was born Dec. 28, 1926 in Cheyenne County, Kan., to William and Anna (Rose) Kruger.

During World War II, he served as a sergeant in the U.S. Army in the Asiatic Pacific campaigns. He then moved to Salina and attended the Brown-Mackie School of Business.

On Jan. 23, 1949, he married Colleen McCabe. For many years, he worked for Sellers Equipment Company, advancing to the title of comptroller.

He was preceded in death by

his parents; his son Jay Kruger; his wife Colleen Kruger; a granddaughter Jessica Kruger; two brothers Harry Kruger and Elden Kruger; and a sister Jane Fulker.

He is survived by a sister Vera Crabb of Lakewood, Colo.; and nieces and nephews.

Services were at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 23, at Ryan Mortuary, 137 N. 8th, Salina. Burial was in Roselawn Memorial Park, Salina.

Memorials may be made to the Salina Symphony or the donor's choice.



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