

Obituaries

Hal Bruce Sager

Sept. 18, 1947 - March 26, 2014

Hal Bruce Sager was born in Colby, Kan., on Sept. 18, 1947. He died of natural causes on Wednesday March 26, 2014, at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, in Aurora, Colo.

Hal was the son of Robert (Bob) Sager and Dorothy Sager (nee McDougal). He grew up in Bird City, Kan., with his five brothers: R. Warren, Fred, Douglas, Wayne and Alan; and two sisters: Janet (Siegfried) and Janey.

He attended Bird City schools from elementary school through high school graduation in 1965. He remained very close with his high school classmates, and often shared stories of sporting events, hunting trips, and small-town teenage life with close friends.

In high school, Hal was active in football, basketball, track, science club and especially the school's band, vocal and theatre productions. Music provided great enjoyment for Hal. He played the drums in several bands during high school and the years following graduation, and was often asked to sing for weddings and memorial services.

His sons fondly remember Saturday hunting excursions during their youth, when they and their father would sing song, after song, after song as the radio played classic hits and folk favorites.

Hal was drafted into the Army on Oct. 10, 1967, in Denver, Colo., and was sent to Fort Bliss, Texas for his basic training, and then to Fort Leonardwood, Mo., with an awarded MOS of 71B30 (Clerk Typist). He was then transferred to Fort Carson, Colo., for training for deployment to Vietnam.

He left for Vietnam on July 22, 1968, as part of the only brigade sized element ever flown to Vietnam. He served 363 days in Vietnam and came back to the

United States on July 20, 1969, the day Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

He was discharged from active duty at the rank of Specialist Fifth Class (E-5 Sgt) that same day, and spent 4 1/2 years in inactive reserves. He was honorably discharged on Oct. 1, 1973, after completing his 6-year obligation.

While he was in Vietnam, Northern I-Corp, he was part of the only battalion-sized element ever given permission to run an operation into the demilitarized zone to dislodge the North Vietnamese Army from their southerly protected areas by attacking them from the north side of the zone. This operation had support from Army, Marine, Air Force, and Navy American troops, plus Vietnamese Army and Vietnamese Scouts. The Navy had the New Jersey (16-inch guns), Ranger, and Enterprise (aircraft carriers) firing and flying from the gulf of Tonkin.

The awards Hal attained while on active duty included: National Defense Service Medal, Expert M-14, Sharpshooter M-16, Combat Infantry Badge, Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star Medal, and Vietnam Combat Medal with two Overseas Bars.

Hal married his wife, Judy Sager (nee Crawford), on April 21, 1979, at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City. Two boys were added to this family, Chad on July 9, 1982, and Michael on April 21, 1985. Later, Chad and his wife Becky welcomed two daughters, Quinn and Linden, who made Hal a very proud and happy "grandpa."



Sager

When Hal came home, he went to work in the family business, McDougal-Sager Grain Company, which he and his brother Doug purchased in 1989. Interacting with customers and managing the grain elevator was a constant joy for Hal. When times were busy he could be found dumping trucks and cleaning bins along with his employees, and when the pace of work slowed he cherished his daily conversations with local farmers about crops, markets, and life in general.

Volunteer service was extremely important to Hal, though he likely viewed it as just another part of small-town life. He served as a special deputy for 24 years with sheriff Ray Lee, as fire chief for Bird City and Rural Fire District No. 1 for 26 years, as American Legion Post 352 Commander for 11 years, as a Cheyenne County emergency medical technician for 19 years, as master of ceremonies for the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show for 36 years, and as announcer and statistician with Cheylin School activities at various times for over 30 years. He served in various capacities with the local Boy Scout troop and 4-H club during his sons' involvement as well as coaching summer baseball.

Hal was also very active in the Cheyenne County Wildlife organization, serving on its board of directors and assisting with numerous club projects. He was honored by the organization as the Sportsman of the Year in 2011.

Hal served previously on the city council in Bird City as councilman and at the time of his death was currently serving as mayor. When he wasn't working or otherwise volunteering, the other hobbies Hal enjoyed at various times include gardening, hunting, fishing, and taking in arts and music performances.

Hal is survived by his wife Judy, son Chad and his wife Becky, of Atwood; son Michael, of Denver, Colo., granddaughters Quinn and Linden, also of Atwood; brother R. Warren and his wife Deloris, of Lacrosse; sister Janet (Siegfried) and her husband Danny, of St. Francis; brother Fred and his wife Pam, of Colby; brother Douglas, of Glen Haven, Colo.; sister Janey, of St. Francis; brother Wayne and his wife Peggy, of Salina; and brother Alan and his wife Tonya, of Colby, along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bob (Aug. 29, 2002) and Dorothy Sager (March 15, 2009). Memorials may be sent to the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Association, Cheyenne County Wildlife, American Legion Post 352, or a charity of choice.

A celebration of life was held at the Immanuel United Methodist Church, in Bird City on Saturday, April 5. Graveside services and military honors followed at the Bird City Cemetery.

Dorothy Faye Cook, 70, died on Thursday, March 27, 2014, in St. Francis, Kan. Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 5, in the chapel of Hampton Vaughan Funeral Home. Interment followed in the Garden of Inspiration at Crestview Memorial Park in Wichita Falls, Texas.

After her initial diagnosis with small cell lung cancer in 2013, Dorothy put up a valiant fight against the horrible disease all the way to the end of March 2014. Her strong will to live, unwavering faith in God, and the love and prayers of family, friends and many supporters carried her through those many months of grueling chemotherapy and radiation.

Dorothy was born in Ft. Worth, Texas, on March 6, 1944 before briefly moving to California, only to return to Texas a few years later. She was one of four children born to her late father, Elmer Oliver Pettigrew and her late mother, Mary Helen Fletcher.

If there is a "word" that sums up Dorothy, it would be "selfless."

Dorothy raised four sons in the small town of Florence, Texas, by herself, with very meager income. There were many nights

Dorothy Faye Cook

March 6, 1944 - March 27, 2014

and even days, she went without food in order for her children to eat. Later in her life, she was a foster parent to many children who desperately needed someone to love them and care for them as a parent should.

She, along with her husband, Jim, even adopted one of their foster children, Misty Cook.

Dorothy was never famous, glamorous, or even wealthy, but her legacy reaches far beyond those temporal things. She left an inheritance to every one of her children that teaches us to give when we have nothing left to give, to sacrifice for ones you love, and to do it all with a smile on your face and a little Dorothy Fay Cook spunk in your personality.

These are things everyone of us kids will take to the grave with us one day and maybe, just maybe, teach to our children as well.

In her final year of battling lung cancer, she made such a profound impact on so many people's lives. She handled her

ordeal with such courage and class. She somehow always managed to put a smile on her face and her infectious personality always lit up the room wherever she went.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, her loving husband of over 31 years, Jimmie Glenn Cook, her sister and best friend Judy Griffin, her brother Jimmy Pettigrew and niece Christine Griffin.

Dorothy will forever be remembered by her devoted brother, Tommy and her beloved children, Billy Wayne Bradford, Benny Dean Bradford, Donald Lee Bradford, David Alan Butler, Misty Dawn Cook and James Cook.

Along with her beloved daughters-in-law, Leigh Ann Hatice, Cheryl, Dee, Traci, Tina and Jackie. Dorothy also left a legacy of 14 grandchildren: Cansu and Ceylan Bradford, Rachel and April Bradford, Sandra Roberts, Brandi King, Elizabeth Bradford, Jonathan and Jacob Butler, Kaley Long, Matthew Head, Wendell Webb Jr., Jason and Justin Cook; five great-granddaughters, along with four foster children she loved as her own: Amanda Stalnaker, Casandra Roberts, Melissa Staggs and James Stalnaker.



Cook

Ruth Elisabeth "Betty" Jensen

Aug. 13, 1924 - April 4, 2014

Longtime Sherman County, Kan., resident Ruth Elisabeth "Betty" Jensen, 89, died Friday, April 4, 2014, in Goodland, at the Good Samaritan Society-Sherman County.

She was born on Aug. 13, 1924, at Denver, Colo., the daughter of Anna Elisabeth (Sherwin) and Luther Fredrick Notz. She attended Sherman Community High School in Goodland.

On Feb. 4, 1943, she and Peter Alexander Jensen Sr. were married at Goodland. They were lifelong farmers in Sherman County.

She had served the city of Kanorado as city clerk, and she had been an Avon representative. She attended First United Methodist Church, and her activities included Kanorado Senior Center, S & T Telephone Board, Extension Homemaker Unit (EHU), and 4-H leader.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Peter A. Jensen Sr., who died Dec. 11, 2008; son Luther F. Jensen; grandson Chris Jensen; her parents; an infant brother Luther Fredrick Notz, Jr.; and brother Miles E. "Bud" Notz.

Surviving family includes children Ruth E. Stramel and her husband Dick of Stratton, Colo.; Peter A. Jensen Jr. and his wife Kay of St. Francis; Bonny L. Walt and companion Carl Kaiser of Quinter; and Judi R. Nemechek and her husband

Greg of Goodland; 17 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were held Wednesday, April 9, at First United Methodist Church in Goodland, with



Jensen

Reverend Dustin Petz officiating. Burial followed in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to Kanorado Senior Center, and may be left at or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.

Online condolences: www.koonsfuneralhome.com

Bowling News

Wednesday Nights Mens 4/2/14

Team standing: Cheyenne Bowl, Haigler 1, The Drunks, Gillywood, Wright & Wrong, ampe Motor Sports.

High game (scratch): Wright & Wrong 682, Haigler 1 617, Gillywood 561; (handicap): Wright & Wrong 869, Haigler 1 816, Cheyenne Bowl 804.

High series (scratch): Wright & Wrong 1905, Haigler 1 1782, The Drunks 1585; (handicap): Wright & Wrong 2466, Haigler 1 2379, Cheyenne Bowl 2308.

High game men (scratch): Dave Wright 193, Alan Rose 193, JD Hawkins 188 (handicap): Dave Wright 244, Kole Moberly 237, Jerry Olsen 233.

High series men (scratch): Alan Rose 517, Dave Wright 508, Wayne Mahon 504; (handicap): Dave Wright 661, Jerry Olsen 643, Danny Brunswig 636.

Most over average game: Dave Wright 50

Most over average series: Dave Wright 79

Ladies Night Out 4/3/14

Team standing: Strikers, The Lodge, Kathy's Krafts, Dundy Ag, Wray Meat, Bier.

High game (scratch): Strikers 620, Wray Meat 551, Bier 543; (handicap): Kathy's Krafts 789, Wray Meat 789, Strikers 787.

High series (scratch): Strikers 1741, Bier 1513, Wray Meat 1503; (handicap): Kathy's Krafts 2298, Strikers 2242, Wray Meat 2217.

High game women (scratch): Terry Yost 185, Vicky Harford 177, Tammy Overlease 170; (handicap): Sarah Yardley 241, Deb George 238, Patty Cox 227.

High series women (scratch): Terry Yost 494, Tammy Drummond 458, Vicky Harford 448; (handicap): Sarah Yardley 640, Patty Cox 631, Deb George 616.

Most over average game: Sarah Yardley 62

Most over average series: Sarah Yardley 103

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