

Obituaries

Clyde Burtrand Sexson

Aug. 23, 1917 - Sept. 7, 2002

Clyde Burtrand Sexson, 85, died Saturday evening, Sept. 7, 2002, at the Meade District Hospital in Meade, Kan.

He was born Aug. 23, 1917, at St. Francis, Kan., the son of Milton and Nellie Birkmier Sexson. He had been a resident of Meade since 1979 when he moved from St. Francis where he had been a truck driver.

In June 1938, he married Willa Mae Harris at Meade. The couple later divorced. He was a member of the National Rifle Association.

Survivors include his two daughters Joyce E. Erskin of Springdale, Ark., and Lee Beutler of Norman, Okla.; brothers Vernon Sexson of Log Lane, Colo., and Clifford Sexson of Grant, Neb.; sisters Brenda Shull of North Glen, Colo., and Gertrude Smith of Chino, Calif. Other surviving are six grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; a step-mother Maude Sexson; son-in-law Jim E. Erskin; brother Dale Richard Sexson; sister Stella Sexson and one grandson.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 13, at Fidler-Orme Mortuary Chapel, Meade, with the Rev. Chuck Mattix presiding. Mr. Sexson's body has been cremated with burial of the cremains in Graceland Cemetery, Meade.

The family would welcome memorials to the Fowler Nursing Home in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 70, Meade, KS 67864.

William Neal Burr

Aug 12, 1931-Aug 29, 2002

William Neal Burr was born Aug. 12, 1931 to Frank and Jessie (Cram) Burr on the family farm north of Bird City, Kan. He died Aug. 29, 2002 at the age of 71. He went to the country school near his home until the fourth grade and he then attended town school and graduated with the class of 1949.

On June 17, 1951 he married Darlene Joyce Amack in St. Francis at the Christian Church. To this union was born two children, Belinda Jean and Richard Craig.

On Nov. 26, 1951 he joined the Air Force and was stationed in Texas and New Mexico. After two years he returned to take over the farm. He started farming when he was 16, first working for other farmers and then he took over his father's farm and lived there until Oct. 16, 1995, when they moved to Bird City. He loved to work with cattle and work the ground

for planting. He worked some on the farm until his death.

Survivors include wife, Darlene, son, Richard, daughter, Belinda and son-in-law Michael Boyson., grandchildren; Michael Boyson, Trisha and husband Gary Taylor, Nicholas and wife Heather Boyson, Marci and husband Jason Finley. Four great-grandchildren; McKayla, McKenzie, Keigan Taylor and Jayden Boyson. One sister, Lois Combs of Larned, Kan. Three sister-in-laws and their husbands, Betty and Lyle Lukas, Phyllis and Ray Reade, Shirley and Ike Gorman. Nieces, nephews and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Jessie, one sister Melba and husband Ben Herrman and brother-in-law Lee Combs. Mother and father-in-law Chester and Vivian Amack.

Services were held at United Methodist Church in Bird City with Pastor Doug Mason officiating on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. Burial was in the Bird City Cemetery with Military honors by the Bird City American Legion Post 352.

Delores Sanford

Sept 26, 1937- July 15, 2002

Delores was born September 26, 1937 to Tony and Mildred Noffsinger in Wray, Colorado. She died July 15, 2002 in Lincoln, Nebraska at the age of 64.

Survivors include husband Jack; sons Dennis Jackie Jr, Darrell all of Lincoln; daughters, Debra Bair, Denton, Denise Hardinger, Garlan, Darla Sanford, Lincoln. Dawn Sanford, Iowa; 29 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; Sisters, Bonnie Wade, Carol Salisbury, Janice McCullough-Collamore; Brothers, Elmer Noffsinger, Don Noffsinger; nieces and nephews.

Service were held July 18, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. at Lincoln Memorial Funeral Home. Officiating Pastor was Dean H. Smidderks.

Several musical selections were sang "Love", "In The Garden", "Not A Day Goes By" and "Blessed"

The private family interment was at Lincoln Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Dave McCullough, Quinenten McCullough, Jeff Hardinger, Don J. Noffsinger, Randy Cimino and Brian Jindra.

W. Thomas Cook

Oct. 5, 1932-Sept. 9, 2002

W. Thomas Cook was born October 5, 1932 in McCook, Nebraska, the son of William Lafayette "Lafe" and Carrie M. Cook, and the brother

to Morris L.

He received his education in the McCook schools, graduating in 1950. He graduated from McCook Junior College in 1952, then received his Bachelor of Arts from Colorado State College of Education (Now the University of Northern Colorado) in 1956. In 1958 he received his Masters Degree from Colorado College of Education.

On March 15, 1953, he married Ruth Naomi League in McCook, Nebraska. Tome and Ruth were blessed with four children: Michelle, Mark, Matthew and Michael. Three daughter-in-laws also have joined the Family: Joy, Laurie and Natalie. They also have 7 grandchildren: Tommy, Keith, Carrie, Erin, Nicholas, Braden and Neil.

Over the past 50 years Tom was active in Broadcasting/Telecommunications.

Tom began his career in radio at KBRL-AM-1450, in McCook, Nebraska in 1948. Tom was a member of the Council for Public Broadcasting at KRMA-TV in Denver, Colorado starting in 1965. He served on the Board of Directors for Rocky Mountain PBS for 32 years. Tom was also the host of Denver Showcase on KOA-TV (now KCNC) from 1979 to 1991. During this time Tom interviewed leading figures in the politics, arts, sciences and sports.

With the opening of Metropolitan State College in 1965, Professor Cook became a charter member of the Faculty, and he established the first Broadcasting curriculum in the state. This led to the first Broadcasting/Telecommunications major programs leading to a baccalaureate degree in 1976. It was during this time that Tom, working with his good friend Carl Akers, started the first internship at KBTB-TV and radio in 1968. Today, Metro students are participating in 140 telecommunications internships throughout the region and the United States. Thousands of students have taken part in the internship program since 1968, many of whom are current leaders in the Broadcasting industry. Tom received several honors during his career including: the Distinguished Faculty award from Metro State College in 1983, the Distinguished Service award in 1988, for establishing the Broadcasting internship program. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences awarded him the Silver Circle award in 1999, the first educator to be so honored. And in march of 2002 The Colorado Broadcast Pioneers inducted him to their Hall of Fame.

Tom loved football, especially Nebraska football. He was never shy about his allegiance to the "Big Red". However he loved the state of Colorado and the Denver Broncos almost as much. He was on hand to watch the Broncos win their first Super Bowl and it was something he enjoyed talking about. Tom also loved the mountains of Colorado, and spending quiet evenings watching the sunset over the Rocky Mountains. Tom was a husband, father, brother, friend, teacher, and mentor. He will be missed. The good works of his life and his memory will carry on in the hearts of all who knew him.



WHAT IS IT? That was the question people were asking as this big truck box sat at the Windmill Restaurant. The truck box issued in the mines. This truck box was going to Wyoming.

Photo courtesy of Tobe Zwegardt.

Truck box heading for Wyoming

For over a week, a large piece of machinery sat on a flatbed trailer at Windmill Restaurant's parking lot. People going by wondered what it could be.

Tobe Zwegardt brought in photos this week and information. The piece of machinery was a truck box which is

used to haul coal from the mines. It had come from south of Tuscon and was headed to the mines in Gillette, Wyo.

The box measured 27.5-feet wide by 36-feet long and weighed around 90,000 pounds. (People were wondering just how big the truck must be that carries it.)

Because of the size of the machinery, the truck bed was left in St. Francis while special permits to travel the roads in the different states were obtained.

The semi truck carrying the box left St. Francis on Sept. 3.

Consolidated Freightways truck line takes out bankruptcy

On Sept. 3, Consolidated Freightways and five related companies filed their bankruptcy petition in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. The other companies are Consolidated Freightways of Delaware, CF Air Freight Corp., CF MovesU.Com, Inc., Redwood Systems, Inc. and Leland James Service Corp. The companies filed in Riverside, Calif. because of the proximity to the largest terminal, near Mira Loma.

Consolidated Freightways was based out of St. Francis in the late 60s through the early 80s. Many of the drivers and their families were friends of people throughout the county.

The union will investigate whether there is a basis to compel the bank-

ruptcy of related companies and whether other legal action will be taken regarding the non-union operations.

For obvious reasons, the ongoing investigation of the affairs of Consolidated and its related companies will be kept confidential by the union, to maintain legal privilege. Future reports will disclose information of a non-confidential nature.

Consolidated obtained an order from the court to allow to pay the two previous payrolls in a sum of approximately \$35 million.

Consolidated Freightways filed a Chapter 11 or "reorganization" case, but has stated it will not reorganize and will liquidate. Carrying out a liquidation in a reorganization case is allowed by federal bankruptcy law.

No one know how long the bankruptcy will last. This case is a very large case, and is the largest bankruptcy of a trucking company so far. Prior large cases have taken from two to three years for a short case, or 15 years or more for a long case.

The workers compensation cases in the states where Consolidated is a self-insured company, benefits are being cut off. Workers' compensation is an ordinary general unsecured debt, and has no special priority. Like all other debts in this class, it cannot be paid until the court approves a bankruptcy plan, which probably will not happen for two years.

Consolidated reported that it will cost \$89 Million to begin liquidating the company over the next two weeks.

Kansas Farm Credit Announces payout

The board of directors of Western Kansas Farm Credit, Federal Land Credit Association is pleased to announce the payment of \$500,000 in patronage to the members of the Association. This patronage represents the return of interest paid during calendar year 2001.

In announcing the patronage, Association president Larry Maxwell said, "The Association achieved its business goals for 2001 and is pleased to be able to return this patronage to Federal Land Credit Association members represent over a one-half percent reduction in effective interest paid." Over the past five years the Federal Land Credit Association, formerly the Federal Land Bank Association of Colby, has

returned two and one-half million dollars of patronage refunds to its farmer members.

Western Kansas Farm Credit, FLCA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Farm Credit of Western Kansas, ACA located in Colby, Kansas. Farm Credit makes loans for the purchase or refinancing of farm, ranch or agribusiness real estate and facilities as well as loans to finance farm operations, livestock and equipment that are made through the Production Credit Association. The farmers and ranchers who borrow from Farm Credit own the ACA. Farm Credit of Western Kansas is also affiliated with Farm Credit Leasing, the largest agricultural leasing company in the US.



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