

**Richard Allan Straub, Jr.**

April 21, 1984 - Oct. 24, 2002  
Richard Allan Straub, Jr., was born April 21, 1984, in a snowstorm, to Kim and Richard Straub, St. Francis, Kan. "Ricky" was baptized on May 13, 1984, at Peace Lutheran Church. He affirmed his baptism on his day of Confirmation in Peace Lutheran Church on May 3, 1998.

Ricky always loved the outdoors. He and his friends loved building forts, playing tag, and going to the farm. He joined Boy Scouts and enjoyed the camping trips. When he got older he loved going to the river and many ponds. For his 16th birthday his mom got him his lifetime fishing license. He also loved going to the lake with his sister and his Auntie Karla. He loved going to his grandparents to play cards and games. The next thing you knew it was fast cars and loud rap music.

He was always picking on his sister and teasing her friends. He loved life, family and friends. This family knew he was going to be some kind of engineer with all the building he did with Legos. He enjoyed wrestling and playing football. He was also seen shooting pool with his friends.

Ricky graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 2002. After graduation from high school, he enrolled in classes at Colby Community College with plans to become a chemical engineer.

Ricky died Oct. 24, 2002, in the Northern Colorado Medical Center Hospital, Greeley, Colo., after a short battle due to a major car accident.

Ricky was preceded in death by his father Richard Straub, Sr., his grandfather Oscar Straub and his special friend Christa Navarro.

Ricky is survived by his mother and stepfather, Kim and Dave Ritter; his sister Heidi; his grandparents Kenneth and DeEtta Knorr and Alice Straub, all of St. Francis, and Francis and Pauline Ritter of Dresden; his great-grandfather Edwin Meyer of St. Francis; his special auntie, Karla and uncle, Pat Mills and cousin Seth of St. Francis as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends whom he loved very much.

The funeral service was held Oct. 28 at Peace Lutheran Church with Pastor David Roszbach officiating.

Honorary pallbearers were Chris Merklin, Cole Wiese, Nate Fiala, Joey Austin, Brad Carney, Enrique Navarro-Lopez, David Rose, Brad Davis, Dennis Dinkel, Ty Long, Dustin Haggerty, J.J. Dinkel.

Casket bearers were Pat Mills, Mike Straub, Sean Straub, Don Berry, Dan Knorr, Troy Meyer.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Arrangements by Knodel Funeral Home.

**Frances Strange**

July 17, 1923 - Oct. 14, 2002  
Frances Evelyn Dilgard-Strange, 79, of Independence, Kan., died Monday, Oct. 14, 2002, at Glenwood Estate Nursing Home in Independence.

Cremation has taken place and private family services will be held at a later date. Arrangements were under the direction of Potts Chapel, Independence.

Mrs. Strange was born July 17, 1923, at Auburn, Ind., the daughter of Wayne and Gladys (Soule) Dilgard. She grew up and attended schools in Auburn.

She married John Vernon Strange on Sept. 6, 1940, in Hicksville, Ohio., and he died in 1962.

Mrs. Strange is survived by a son, John Strange, El Dorado; a brother,

Charles Dilgard, Van Buren, Ohio; two sisters, Margaret Babinger, Defiance, Ohio, and Lyda Cutchin, Fort Wayne, Ind.; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Krissy Barnhart**

May 7, 1991 - Oct. 23, 2002  
Krissy Barnhart of Canon City, Colo., died Oct. 23, 2002, at The Children's Hospital in Denver, surrounded by love from her family and close friends at her side. She was born May 7, 1991, in Canon City, the daughter of Janet and Harvey Barnhart.



Barnhart

She lived all her life in Canon City, and was attending the sixth grade at Mountain View Core Knowledge School. Krissy took advantage of every day she had, and loved school and all of her friends there. She loved to listen to music and loved to shop, and supported every department store from Canon City to Denver.

She enjoyed arts and crafts and won the Children's Hospital Christmas Card competition from a cross-stitch design she had recently created.

Krissy was an Avalanche fan and belonged to YAPS, a pen pal program for youth and pet survivors. She was especially an outdoors girl, and had the most fun camping and four-wheeling with her family.

Krissy is survived by her parents of Canon City; a brother, Brandon Barnhart of Kearney, Neb.; maternal grandparents, Bill and Lee Tallent of Canon City; paternal grandparents, Jim and Mildred Barnhart of St. Francis; godparents, Ralph and Juanita Cruz of Canon City; one uncle, Dave (Jill) Tallent of Erie; three aunts: Mary Ann (Larry) Moyer of Texas, Darla (Dave) Daniels of Garden City and Cheryl (Stan) Edmundson of Colby; and numerous cousins and friends.

The funeral service was held Monday, Oct. 28, at the First United Methodist Church in Canon City. Interment followed at Lakeside Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Krissy Barnhart Memorial Fund through Holt Family Funeral Home, 806 Macon Ave., Canon City, CO 81212. Cards may be sent to Krissy's parents at 411 Glenmoore Road; Canon City, Colo., 81212.

**Olive E. Stasser**

Nov. 13, 1912 - Oct. 26, 2002  
Olive E. Stasser was born to Edna (Barnard) Rockwell and James N. Rockwell on Nov. 13, 1912, in Waldron, Kan., and died on Oct. 26, 2002, at the Hester Memorial Home in Benkelman, Neb., at the age of 89 years.

Olive graduated from St. Francis High School and taught school in Cheyenne County for several years.

On Aug. 16, 1936, she married Victor Stasser in St. Francis and they farmed near St. Francis during the dust bowl years. In late 1939, they moved to Haigler, Neb., and opened Stasser's Garage, an automobile dealership and

repair shop, which they operated until retirement in the late 1970s. After retirement they enjoyed winters in Tucson, Ariz.

Olive was a devout Christian, and a member of the Haigler United Methodist Church. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and a meticulous housekeeper and bookkeeper.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Vera Rockwell; and an infant sister.

Survivors include her loving husband of more than 66 years, Victor; son Richard Stasser and wife, Nina of New Castle, Colo.; daughter Doris and husband, Lyndell Whipps of Max, Neb.; grandchildren, Lori Reid, Lyndell Whipps, Jr., Pamela Utesch and husband, Rob, Jody Shedd and husband, Thayer, Jeffrey Stasser and wife, Melanie, and Levi Whipps; great-grandchildren Chans and Autumn Whipps, Noah, Emma and Aidan Utesch, Alexander and Zachary Whipps, Kristen Reid and Camden and Jenna Shedd; sister, Lou Stasser and husband, Marvin; brother, M.M. Rockwell and wife, Muriel; sisters-in-law Irene Cook, Margaret Stasser and Lillian Archer; brother-in-law, Harold Archer; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Funeral service was Thursday, Oct. 31, at the United Methodist Church in Haigler with Reverend Nina Stasser and Reverend Theta Dame officiating.

Casket bearers were Jeff Stasser, Lyndell Whipps, Jr., Thayer Shedd, Rob Utesch, Levi Whipps, Marlin Crouse.

Interment was in Haigler Cemetery. Memorials may be given in her name to the Dundey County Hospital Foundation, the Haigler United Methodist Church or the Haigler Ambulance.

**Lois Loundagin McFeron**

Aug. 31, 1920 - Sept. 21, 2002  
Lois Loundagin McFeron, 82, Lewiston, Idaho, died at Life Care Center, on Monday, Sept. 21, 2003.

Lois was born in Armel, Colo., on Aug. 31, 1920, to Ross May and Gladys Chase May. She moved to Viola, Idaho, when she was 10 years old. Lois attended school in Viola.

In 1941, Lois married Howard "Wiggles" Loundagin in Moscow. They made their home in Viola and in 1963 moved to the Lewis/Clark Valley where Lois worked at Safeway in Lewiston until 1970.

Howard died in 1980. Lois worked at Western Valley Seed Company in Moscow.

In 1981, she married Claud L. McFeron. They made their home in Kendrick, Idaho. Claud died in 1984. Lois returned to the valley in 1984.

She enjoyed gardening, fishing, crocheting and mostly being with her family.

She is survived by three daughters, Lorraine Ackerman, Newport, Wash., Loretta Wheeler, Clarkston, Wash., and Janet Shaw, Orofino, Idaho. Also surviving are six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Her parents, brother and a granddaughter preceded her in death.

A graveside memorial service was conducted at the Viola Cemetery Oct. 25.



AFTER YEARS OF introducing travelers to St. Francis, the two signs on the east and west sides of town are showing considerable wear and tear. Photo Courtesy of Robert Grace

**Contest begins for sign design**

By Karen Krien

There are two signs advertising St. Francis each about 6 miles on either side of town. These signs are beginning to show the wear and tear of time and the elements and it has become evident that they need to be replaced.

Sign painters say that when a sign deteriorates, the sign keeps advertising but it gives a different message.

With this in mind, the Chamber Sign Committee has decided to hold a "Highway Sign Design Contest" which will be open to young and old alike. The winner will receive \$100 in scrip money and have his or her name displayed on the sign.

The theme of the sign should promote the advantages of living and working in St. Francis or just promote St. Francis. The sign measures 10-feet high and 20-feet long and entries should have those proportions.

Advertising experts say a highway sign should contain seven words or less.

"This is not a strict rule but a sign that is too wordy to read at 65 miles per hour will probably not be selected," Robert Grace said. Mr. Grace is a member of the Sign Committee.

Members of the committee investigated the materials used on signs and it was decided to use a vinyl-type fabric which can have a photo scanned onto it along with the lettering but the photo or scan needs to be submitted either by mail or by e-mail.

"Unlike traditional signs, these signs have the ability to display photographic images. It opens up the options of the design," Mr. Grace said.

Those thinking about entering have until Jan. 31 to think about, check out other cities' signs and come up with a winning design. A sheet with the rules and regulations can be picked up at the Herald office or check the list on sheets hanging in

Chamber businesses.

Designs should be submitted to The St. Francis Herald, P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, 67756 or e-mailed to karenk@nwkansas.com before Jan. 31. The Sign Committee will then select the winner. It should be noted that alterations in the design may be necessary to make it work but this will not take away from the prize nor the honor of being a winner.

**National Finals Rodeo Hesston 2002 Belt Buckles Are Here!**

**YOST FARM SUPPLY**

**YFS**

*E. Hwy 36 • St. Francis • 785-332-3351*

**Helping as we pass**

As we pass through life's narrow way we should try to help someone every day.

We do not know what life has here for us, so we should do all we can without a fuss.

Remember, the one they pass may be your child, and this would surely drive you wild.

It could also be someone very special to you, and we know that there are only truly a few.

As you think of this and take in a

deep sigh. I know you surely wouldn't want them to die.

So you need to help others from the heart. And this way you would have done your part.

Sometimes we see things not enjoyable to see. But remember that next time it could be you or me.

Remember to do it with a heart of love. And you will be rewarded from above.

By doing this every day, you become stronger in every way!

**EARL...**

"NO, I CANT AFFORD THAT NEW TRACTOR.. BUT I COULDN'T WAIT FOR SUCCESS, SO I WENT AHEAD WITHOUT IT."

*Big Dry Syndicate*

**St. Francis Equity**

St. Francis • 785-332-2113

Haigler • 308-297-3223