

Obituaries

Ruth Irene Elliott

Oct. 26, 1918 - Feb. 3, 2003

Ruth Irene Wilkens, daughter of Anthony G. and Katherine E. (Bockhold) Wilkens was born Oct. 26, 1918, in a sod house in Cheyenne County, Kan. She died on Feb. 3, 2003, at St. Francis at the age 84.

Ruth was baptized on Jan. 19, 1919, at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Benkelman, Neb. She attended Walnut Grove School graduating from the eighth grade. Ruth spent much of her early life working on the farm with her dad and brother, Leo. She prided herself in raising sheep, Hereford cattle, and riding horses. She belonged to the Bird City Saddle Club.

On Nov. 4, 1957, Ruth was united in marriage to William H. Elliott at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood. To this union were born three daughters, Kathy, Karolyn and Lori Jean.

Ruth was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed music, baking, gardening and sewing and spent much of her life doing for others, cooking, cleaning, making quilts, afghans and lap robes, wrapping bandages for the veterans, baking rolls and making noodles. No one ever left her home hungry or empty handed.

Ruth belonged to the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Christian Mother's Altar Society and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Preceding Ruth in death were her parents; husband, Bill; brother, Leo Wilkens; sister, Dolores Queen; granddaughter, Kinsey Rietcheck; and great-grandson, Lyndon Olson.

Surviving are her daughters, Kathy and husband, Robert Sanders, Kay and husband, Dan McFee, Holcomb, Lori and husband, David Rietcheck, Goodland; six grandchildren, Christina and Adam Olson, Ray and Meghan McFee, Kali and Kayler Rietcheck; sister, Marie Hardwick, Tempe, Ariz.; sisters-in-law, Ruby Mueller, Bird City and Helen Wilkens, Phoenix, Ariz.

A parish wake and rosary were held on Feb. 6 and the Mass of Christian Burial on Feb. 7 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bird City with Father Beryl Gibson as celebrant. Burial followed in the Bird City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the St. Joseph Catholic Church or to the Cheyenne County Hospital.

Cynthia (Cindy) Rae Herdt

May 4, 1951 - Feb. 4, 2003

Cynthia Rae Herdt, 51, an Oakley (Kan.) bookkeeper, formerly of Bird City, died Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003, at the Great Plains Regional Medical Center in North Platte, Neb.

She was born May 4, 1951, at Oakley, the daughter of Charles "Chuck" and Irene (Teague) Cunningham. She married Wesley Dean Herdt on July 29, 1990 in Bird City.

Mrs. Herdt lived in Oakley most of her life and was a bookkeeper for Genes OK Tire. She lived in Topeka for four years and in Bird City for nine years and worked at the Cheylin schools in Bird City.

She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the Tri-State Antique Auto Club and the Tri-State Antique Engine Association.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents, William and Flossie Teague and John and Anna Cunningham; a son, Baby Herdt in 1992; and a step-son, Raydean Lloyd Herdt.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Christopher Shane Westbrook of Oakley; a step-daughter, Gina Sue Yost of Apache Junction, Ariz.; her parents of Oakley; a brother, Ramon "Pete" Cunningham of Schyler, Neb.; and two grandchildren.

Services were at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10, at Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home in Oakley with Pastor Ron Roberts and the Rev. Bill Leach officiating. Burial followed in the Oakley Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Cindy Herdt Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home at 217 Freeman, Box 221, Oakley, Kan. 67748.

Lloyd (Ken) Ballinger

March 29, 1925 Jan. 27, 2003

Lloyd (Ken) Ballinger, 77, Centennial, Colo., died on Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, at his home. He was born on March 29, 1925, in Denver, Colo.

He grew up in Denver and graduated in 1942 from Williams Smith High School in Aurora, Colo. He was an all-state football player and had earned a scholarship to attend the University of Greeley but because of the draft he didn't attend. He married Dorothy Speaks on June 28, 1943, in Raton, N.M., before going overseas in July of 1943. He served in World War II in the European Theater. He was honorable discharged as a sergeant in January of 1946.

In 1950, he joined the Denver Police force and retired as a Lieutenant in 1975. They then moved to Bird City and ran the Dairy King for 3 1/2 years. After that Ken was an insurance adjuster for catastrophe losses. He also enjoyed helping George on the farm running the tractor and driving truck during harvest. Due to Ken's health problem they moved back to Denver in 1998.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a son Kenneth Richard.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, of the home; two daughters, Debra Zienter of Shreveport, La., Susan Brubaker and her husband, Fred of Hutchinson; two sons, George and his wife, Deb of Bird City and David and his wife, Carolyn of Dallas, Texas, and 11 grandchildren.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at Fairmount Little Ivy Chapel with Reverend Richard Chambers officiating. Burial was in the Fairmount Cemetery in Denver.

Memorials may be given to hospice, Odyssey Health Care, 1460 W 26th Ave. Suite 250-C, Denver, CO 80211.

Ruth E. Price

Oct. 2, 1914 - Feb. 7, 2003

Ruth E. Price, 88, Kansas City, Mo., died Feb. 3, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital.

A celebration of her life was held at 3 p.m. Feb. 7 at Park Lawn Funeral Home, Kansas City, with burial at Memorial Park.

Ruth was born Oct. 2, 1914, in McCook, Neb., to Adam and Mary Baker. She married A.L. Price, of St. Francis, Kan., in 1937, and moved to Kansas City. Ruth was a member of Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church.

Ruth was preceded in death by her beloved husband, A.L. of 51 years; brothers, Don, Bobby and Adam Baker and sister Lillian Baker.

Her survivors include two children, Ron Price and wife, Cheryl of Kansas City and Sheree Oldham and husband, Bob of Raytown, Mo.; four grandchildren, Hayley Price, Adam Price, Jackie Oldham and Christi Myers and husband, Jeff; one great-granddaughter, Courtney Lauer; one sister, Dorothy Roth of McCook, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

"In remembering we keep what is best and dearest as treasures forever."

Ruben Albert Zwegardt

Aug. 28, 1923 - Feb. 9, 2003

Ruben Albert Zwegardt was born on Aug. 28, 1923, on the family farm in Cheyenne County, Kan.,

to Friederic "Fred" William Zwegardt and Katerina "Katie" Hust Zwegardt; the oldest son of six children. He died on Feb. 9, 2003, at the age of 79 at his home in Parker, Colo., after a 3 1/2 year battle with cancer.

On Sept. 20, 1923, Ruben was baptized at Salem Lutheran Church where he was a member of this congregation until the early 1960s when his family became members of Zion and Peace Lutheran Church. Ruben grew up on a farm southwest of St. Francis. He attended a rural school, River View District 63, through eighth grade. He then began his life as a farmer, farming with his father. Ruben served as a private in the Army during World War II from Nov. 14, 1944, until May 17, 1946. He served in the United States, France and Germany, receiving a Victory Medal.

Ruben was united in marriage to Betty Lee Wieck on Sept. 22, 1946. To this union of 56 years three children were born: Raneen Ann Zwegardt Webb, Charlene Kay Zwegardt and Fred Lynn Zwegardt. Ruben enjoyed his years of farming along the Republican River. He especially enjoyed the fall colors. When Ruben and Betty retired from farming and moved to Parker, Colo., in 1991, having a pretty view was a priority for Ruben. Family and his extended family (friends) were important to Ruben. Time spent with them gave him lots of pleasure.

Ruben was preceded in death by his parents; his son (Fred); his brother (Leonard); brothers-in-law (Lorence Wieck and Robert Walz), and sisters-in-law (Venita Wieck, Betty Saint Wieck and Barbara Wieck Raile).

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Betty of Parker; daughter, Raneen Webb and husband, Marc of Round Rock, Texas; daughter, Charlene Zwegardt of Hayward, Calif.; grandchildren, Aspen Ashell Zwegardt Croneis of South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; Aaron James Zwegardt Croneis of Incline Village, Nev.; Jason William Webb of Round Rock, Marie Ellen Webb Rhodes and husband, Dustin of Phoenix, Ariz.; great-grandson, Tyler Allen Rhodes of Phoenix.

Also surviving Ruben are sisters, Lydia Krien and Alice Coffin; brothers, Willard Zwegardt and Delmar Zwegardt; brothers-in-law Philip Krien, Roger Coffin, Don Wieck, Melvin Wieck, Paul Raile, Bob Wieck and Bill Wieck; sisters-in-law, Bernice Zwegardt, Donna Zwegardt, Lavonne Zwegardt, Rena Wieck, Barbara Zimbelman Raile, Shirley Wieck and Margie Wieck. He will be missed by his family, many dear friends, nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held on Feb. 12 at Peace Lutheran Church with burial in the St. Francis Cemetery. Officiating was Pastor David Rossbach.

Casket bearers were Ed Knodel, Aaron Zwegardt Croneis, Tom Hinzdil, Bill Wieck, Bill Brown and Kip Wiese.

Memorials may be made to Peace Lutheran Church, St. Francis or to the Visiting Nurse Association, Hospice-at-Home, 390 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203-9514



FINDING A LITTLE QUITE TIME—Juliette Sasek finds time every day to go to the library and read.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Scholarship available through clerk's office

The Kansas County Clerk's and Election Officials Association is taking scholarship applications from those students that are majoring in journalism, Political Science or Communications. The Scholarships are available to High school seniors or a freshman or sophomore in college.

The money from these scholar-

ships are made available by the effort put forth by local elections officials and supervising judges of the state of Kansas. Due to the joint efforts of the county clerks, secretary of state's office and the Voters News Service the Scholarship Committee will be awarding nine scholarships (statewide) in the amount of \$500.

Applications may be picked up at the county clerk's office or from Anita Burton (Cheylin) or Brenda Day (St. Francis) at the high schools. Applications must be returned to the county clerk's office on or before March 28. Scholarship winners will be announced at the County Clerk's and Election Officials Association Seminar in May.

Society makes camp available

Summer camp is part of growing up for many kids across the country, but medical needs preclude some from attending camp. Camp Hope allows Kansas children who have or have had cancer to experience all the fun of summer: flying kites, swimming, playing games, meeting new friends and enjoying the outdoors.

Camp Hope is a free, week-long camp for young people ages 8 through 21 who have or have had cancer and is completely funded by contributions to the American Cancer Society. Campers and volunteers are being sought for the 21st annual Camp Hope scheduled for June 15-21, at Camp Aldrich near Great Bend. The deadline to register as a camper or volunteer is March 3. Volunteers are needed for a number of roles, especially activity coordinators and male house parents.

More than 60 volunteers will join about 75 campers for a week of fun activities. Medical personnel are available around-the-clock so these young people can enjoy every minute of Camp Hope, and oncology nurse clinicians, social workers, teachers and dietitians also are on hand.

"Camp Hope gives these kids a normal, active and safe camp experience," said Judy Calhoun, 2003 Camp Hope chairperson.

"Campers come back year after year to reunite with old friends and make new ones. We have created a

family where everyone can celebrate life while living with, through and beyond the diagnosis of cancer."

For more about Camp Hope, call your local American Cancer Society at (800) 359-1025. For more cancer information call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or log on to their Web site,

www.cancer.org. The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service.

Service News

Tobias Walters, a 1995 graduate of St. Francis Community High School and son of Jim and Edie Walters, will be commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy on May 23.

After graduation from high school, Tobias attended Colby Community College and then enlisted in the Navy. After training to become a submariner, Tobias was chosen to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

While attending the Naval Acad-

emy, Tobias has excelled; he is in the top 10 percent of his class militarily and is currently serving as a Battalion Executive Officer. Because of his performance academically and militarily, Tobias has been selected to attend flight school in Pensacola, Fla., to train as a future Naval Aviator.



Walters



EARL...

"THESE BLACK HEIFERS ARE SURE HARD TO SEE AT NIGHT AREN'T THEY, EARL?... EARL?"

Laid-Back West Syndicate

640 ACRES CHEYENNE COUNTY CROPLAND, GRASS & IMPROVEMENTS

"MULTI-PARCEL" AUCTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2003 @ 10:30 AM

MANNER OF SALE: This real estate will be offered as a "MULTI-PARCEL" auction in individual tracts and in combinations of tracts.

POSSESSION & CROPS: Day of closing on the open ground and improvements, and after the 2003 wheat harvest, or August 1, 2003, whichever date occurs first, on the planted wheat acres. 100% of the 2003 growing wheat crop shall be retained by the tenant under a cash lease.

MINERAL RIGHTS: All of the Sellers' interest shall transfer to the Buyer(s).

FSA PAYMENTS: Tenant shall retain 100% of all FSA wheat payments associated with the 2003 crop year. Buyer(s) shall receive 100% of all FSA grain sorghum payments associated with the 2003 crop year.

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