

# Obituaries

## John Wayne Barnhart

Nov. 23, 1922 - Jan. 31, 2005



John Wayne Barnhart, 82, of rural Akron, Colo., died Monday, Jan. 31, 2005, at his home following a lengthy illness.

John was the first of seven children, born Nov. 23, 1922, to Harvey and Irene Evelyn (Moore) Barnhart at St. Francis, Kan. He was born on the ranch established by his grandfather, John Barnhart. He spent his early years on this ranch located on the Hackberry Creek between St. Francis and Benkelman, Neb. It was here the family of children, ranging in age from 12 to 2 years, lost their mother in the Republican River flood of May 1935. The care and concern shown by the neighbors and friends greatly influenced the character of the children, not only in their childhood but into adulthood. The importance of friends and neighbors are uppermost in their lives.

"Johnnie" attended a rural elementary school and since he was the first in his family to go to school, he didn't know the rules. The first day when the teacher checked her roll after lunch, little Johnnie Barnhart was gone. The other students said that he had gone home. The teacher ran down the road and caught him and he told her that he was going home to get a drink and he would be right back. He was most often the "head bus driver" of the one-horse cart that transported the family 5 miles to and from school. He is credited with some unorthodox antics to reach points ahead of similar conveyances carrying other families.

When the younger children reached working age, Johnnie left home to work at a variety of jobs, including "simonizing" cars at a car dealership and working in a bakery with physically handicapped co-workers. He also helped transport many of the buildings from the Air Force Base in McCook, Neb., to Turpin, Okla., and Anton, Colo. It was through this endeavor that he met his future wife of 54 years, Louise Twiss.

Louise and Johnnie were married on Aug. 6, 1950, in Englewood, Colo. After they were married, Johnnie worked at the Douthitt Hereford Ranch at St. Francis, on many oil rigs in the area, at the Ben Hueske Ranch, and at various local grain elevators, including 14 years at Hall Grain Company in Akron. He was a substitute mail carrier on the Burdette Route for Albert

Kopisch and took part in many local construction jobs, including the Washington County Hospital, the Masonic Temple, laying the natural gas line in Akron, the construction of the present Rural Electric Association line in Washington and neighboring counties and converting the old Catholic school to apartments.

Johnnie enjoyed livestock care and farming and he and his business partner, Louise, raised many "skinny" calves for sale. They also had quite a large hog operation. Johnnie could and did drive his John Deere equipment long hours, enjoying every moment of it. At the time wheat acreages were so carefully controlled by the government, Johnnie spent many hours moving his "train of equipment" which consisted of a tractor pulling a swather, pulling a pickup. He moved from field to field to swath excess acres of wheat so farmers could get within their allotment. This often meant many hours of meeting deadlines. He got the "good" out of three swathers. These activities he missed terribly when his health began to fail, although his interest in them remained.

Johnnie enjoyed watching his grandchildren, Kimberly and Mark, grow to adulthood. He always felt so fortunate that they lived in Akron and were easy to keep track of. He was especially proud to attend their college graduations in New Orleans, La., and Laramie, Wyo.

Johnnie was a member of the Akron United Methodist Church, Akron Lions Club, a charter member of the Akron B.P.O.E. No. 2579, and the Northeastern Colorado Quarter Horse Association. He enjoyed books and reading and all the activities of producing, showing and selling both quarter horses and paint horses. He always pretended that he wasn't interested but he watched and enjoyed seeing over two hundred Pekingese puppies born on the farm find their new homes. Receiving and reading the mail was a favorite activity because he enjoyed reading the notes and letters from the many student interns in the equine departments of the local junior colleges who had worked with both Louise and himself on the farm.

Left to mourn his death is his wife Louise, and his daughter, Vicki Horn and husband, John, all of Akron; grandson Mark Horn of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; and granddaughter, Kimberly Horn and fiance', Jonathan O'Neil of Fort Collins, Colo.; four sisters: Manota Daniels and husband, Clyde of Stratton, Neb., Macalene Olson and husband, Alden of McDonald, Wilma Petsch and husband, Jess of

Guiderock, Neb., and Willa Scott and husband, Claude of Gonzales, La.; brothers: Jim Barnhart and wife, Mildred, Jerdene Barnhart and wife, Barbara, and Maurice Barnhart and wife, Jan, all of St. Francis; brother-in-law: Howard Twiss of Otis, Colo.; 40 nieces and nephews, and a host of friends in several localities.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Although almost completely bedfast for eight months, his spirits remained high and he rarely thought but what the next day would be better. He continually hoped he could again do the things he enjoyed most. His grin and good humor certainly helped those who cared for him and loved him. He will be missed by all.

Memorial contributions in Johnnie's memory may be made to the Akron Lions Club or to the St. Jude Research Children's Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 4, from the Akron United Methodist Church with Reverend Ramon V. Robledo officiating. Rosalie Jefferson, organist, accompanied Linda Hayes and Donne Spicknall as they sang "In The Garden", "One Day At A Time", "Here I Am, Lord" and "On The Wings Of A Dove."

Casketbearers were: Ed Basler, Robert E. Diamond, Clay Nab, Kenneth Pieper, Tom Quint and Dick Tharp.

Honorary bearers were: Norwood Bondhus, Charles Gebauer, Frank Hernandez, Robert Kraich, Everett Matheny, Harold Miller, Dale Nelson, Dr. Mick Price, Keith Rogers, Rob Strauch, and Joe Theurer.

Interment followed in the Akron Cemetery with Brenner Funeral Home of Akron in charge of arrangements.

## Otto Isernhagen

Aug. 24, 1918 - Feb. 14, 2005

Otto Isernhagen was born Aug. 24, 1918, on the farm where his parents home-steaded 7 miles northwest of St. Francis, Kan. He was the fifth of six children born to George Christopher H e r m a n H e i n r i c h I s e r n h a g e n and his wife, Elizabeth Zwegygart Isernhagen. He died Feb. 14, 2005, at his home in St. Francis at age 86.



Isernhagen

Otto was baptized and confirmed at Salem Lutheran Church and on May 23, 1940, he and Alice Zwegygart were married at Salem Lutheran. He was a farmer, rancher and dairyman on the home place

until his retirement in 1982. They just moved to town in the summer of 2004.

Otto was a lifelong member of the Lutheran church. Some of his most rewarding times were spent sponsoring the Luther League at Peace Lutheran. He was a member of choir at Salem and Peace and served on the church board. As a young man, Otto played baseball on the Cherry Creek Ramblers team and later on the St. Francis town team. He was a county assessor for many years and also served on the St. Francis Cemetery Board.

Otto especially enjoyed his seven grandchildren when they visited the farm. He played pitch and pinocle, made wine, followed his children's sports teams and activities, and loved watching sports on television. He was quite a joker and teaser.

Otto was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Bill Isernhagen and August Isernhagen; sisters, Lydia Landenberger and Emma Hilt and his daughter, Maxine Ruth Bardach.

He is survived by his wife, Alice, of the home; a sister, Martha Rahjes of Kensington; son, Glenn Isernhagen, and his wife, Louanne, of St. Francis, and son, Fred Isernhagen and his wife, Jane, of Aurora, Colo. His seven grandchildren are Jonathan Isernhagen and wife, Jennifer, of Keller, Texas, Anne Isernhagen Husted and husband, David, of Littleton, Colo.; Louis Bardach and Rachael Bardach of Longmont, Colo.; Robert Bardach of St. Martin's Island, Erik Isernhagen and wife, Anita, of

Highlands Ranch, Colo., and Kira Isernhagen Pinkston and husband, Eric, of Aurora. There are five great-grandchildren, Evan, Benjamin and Abigail Husted and Jakob and Benjamin Isernhagen.

Otto had many cousins and was a favorite uncle to lots of his nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Feb. 14 at Peace Lutheran Church, St. Francis, with Pastor David Rossbach officiating.

Music was provided by the Men's Choir of Peace Lutheran, Tom Bandel, Art Krueger, Stan Keller, John Keller, Keith Dankenbring and Randy Rueb, directed by Cinda Dankenbring. Organist was Darlene Feikert. An organ and violin duet was played by Sandy Bandel and Louanne Isernhagen.

Honorary pallbearers were David and Anne Husted, Rachael Bardach, Eric and Kira Pinkston.

Casket bearers were Jonathan Isernhagen, Erik Isernhagen, Robert Bardach, Louis Bardach, Gerald Hilt, Raymond Isernhagen.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery, St. Francis.

Arrangements by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

## Elmer L. Query

March 16, 1917 - Feb. 19, 2005

Elmer L. Query, 87, Goodland, Kan., died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2005, at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

He was born March 16, 1917, at Stromsburg, Neb., the son of Charles Leroy Query and Ruby Ethel (Deeds) Query. He attended

Central School, which was north of Bird City.

On May 20, 1939, he and Lora Maxine Childers were married at the Methodist Church parsonage in Bird City. They were blessed to be able to celebrate 65 years together.

He had lived and farmed in Sherman County for 63 years.

His memberships included Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Elks Lodge 1528, and Lions Club.

Preceding him in death were his parents and two brothers, Lowell and Virgil.

Surviving family includes his wife, Lora Maxine Query, Goodland; five children, Clair Query and his wife, Eunice, Colby, Sharon Layman, The Villages, Fla., Ann Bay and her husband, Darrell, College Station, Texas; Bryan Query and his wife, Cathy, Albuquerque, NM, Alan Query, Edson; 15 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; one sister, Lucille Query Wright and her husband, Maynard, Bird City; and two sisters-in-law, E.J. Query, Bird City and Viola Query, Woodrow, Colo.

The funeral will be at 10 a.m. mountain time, Thursday, Feb. 24, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Goodland, with Pastor Scott Grimshaw officiating. Burial will follow in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to the Elmer Query Memorial, which will be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Brewster and to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Goodland, and may be left at or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 North Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.

## Haigler News

By Opal Collicott



tures in an album of Melba's.

Almeda Norris of Longmont, Colo., spent the weekend of Feb. 10 through Feb. 12 in the home of her sister, Deloris Zuege. Almeda was here to attend the funeral services of Leslie White, which were held on Thursday, Feb. 10.

Gerald and Betty Myer accompanied Stanley and LaNeta Carlock to Greeley, Colo., on Tuesday, Feb. 15. On their return trip, the group enjoyed a late lunch at the Pizza Hut in Yuma, Colo.

Richard and Laura Pearl Wall were Saturday dinner guests in the home of Robert and MerryLu Simmons. Amber Simmons of Loveland, Colo., and Quentin Simmons were also guests. On Sunday, the Simmons brought Amber, their 5-year-old granddaughter, to the Wall home. She was a happy little girl when Uncle Quentin took them for a ride in the old Model A coupe.

Deloris Zuege was a guest on Sunday, Feb. 13, in the home of her

son and family, Gary, Pam, Brook and Cory Zuege, in Wray, Colo. The occasion was a birthday celebration honoring Pam and Brook Zuege and Mary Lou Rose.

Gracie Wall spent Wednesday in the home of her grandparents, Richard and Laura Pearl Wall. Gracie, her dad Dusty, and Josh Krauthamewrate dinner at the Wall home.

Saturday afternoon and evening guests in the home of Floy and Ray Ruggles were her son, Gary and Sharon Fisher of Barstow, Calif. Another guest was Eric Ollia of Wray, Colo.

Judy Minton and her brother, Donnie Workman, of Wray were Wednesday afternoon callers at the home of LaVoine and Opal Collicott on Feb. 16. Other visitors during the week were Grace Adams, Gerald and Betty Myer, Myrna and Charlie Mulligan, LaNeta Carlock and Galena and Darrell Webster.

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