

# Obituaries

## Elmer Edwin Walz

Aug. 21, 1926 - Oct. 31, 2006

Elmer Walz lost his battle with cancer on Oct. 31, 2006, at the Hester Home in Benkelman, Neb.

Elmer was born to Martin and Lydia (Hust) Walz in rural St. Francis on Aug. 21, 1926. He attended Blue Ridge country school graduating from eighth grade. Because of his father's failing health he began farming at this time. He enjoyed farming. He continued to work in the fields planting and harvesting wheat until late in his life. Harvest was always an exciting time for him.

Following World War II he was in the Army for a short time training as a truck driver at Fort Lewis, Wash. Later he bought a welding shop in St. Francis where he built and repaired farm machinery and also sharpened discs. He ran the business until his retirement.

On June 16, 1963, he married Arlene Carpenter in Benkelman. To this marriage two daughters were born, Jana and Marta. As the girls grew older, the family spent many fun weekends camping and boating. He enjoyed water skiing and taught many children how to ski. He took snow-skiing lessons with the girls and skied for several years. With his family, he took many interesting trips. Later in life he enjoyed gardening, canning and jelly making with grapes he grew.

He was a member of the Salem Lutheran Church and later Peace Lutheran Church.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene; daughters, Jana and Marta; his son-in-law, Steve Wilhelm and grandchildren, Audrey and Ryan. He is also survived by his brother, John; sister, Edna and many nieces and nephews and their families.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Martin and Lydia, and his brother, Melvin.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis with Pastor Ken Hart officiating.

Inurnment will be in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Arrangements by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

## Dona Sherlock

Sept. 4, 1928 - Oct. 25, 2006

Dona Sherlock, 78, who spent a life-long career in the banking business, rising from teller to chief executive, died of cancer on Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2006, at the McKee Hospice Center in Loveland, Colo.

Dona was born to Roy and Bertha Waters at the family farm in Cheyenne County, Kan., on Sept. 4, 1928. She attended the Lawn Ridge grade school and graduated from the St. Francis Community High School in 1945. Her first full-time job was as a teller at the Cheyenne County State Bank in St. Francis.

After marriage to Charles Sherlock they moved to Douglas County, Colo., in 1954, where "Charlie" served as a ranch manager and auctioneer and Dona performed many "ranch-hand duties." Charlie died in 1964.

Dona began work as a teller in The Bank of Douglas County in Castle Rock in the late 1950s. A dedicated and hard-working employee, she advanced through the management ranks to vice president and cashier. During these years The Bank played a key role in the economic development of Douglas County as it transitioned from a rural, ranching-based economy to one of the fastest-growing suburban counties in the country. It was consistently rated one of the best-managed banks in Colorado.

When The Bank's legendary

owner, Philip S. Miller, became incapacitated full-executive responsibility for running The Bank was assumed by Willie Buboltz and Dona. After Mr. Buboltz's retirement, Dona served as the top-operating officer for three years until her own retirement in 1994.

In addition to her banking duties, Dona served from 1964 to 1975 as financial secretary for the newly formed Western Polled Hereford Association and was credited widely for the contribution to the Association's successful start up.

During the long years of her parent's declining health, Dona became a weekend commuting caregiver to their home in St. Francis, prompting occasional comments from the townsmen to the effect: "It must be Saturday because that car with the Colorado license plates is parked in Roy and Bertha's driveway."

In retirement Dona enjoyed gardening and attracting birds to her backyard, getting special joy from the hummers. She wrote essays on the experiences of her parents and became a serious reader and user of the local library.

Dona is survived by four siblings: Dixie Keller of St. Francis, Jerry Waters of Bethesda, Md., Beth Heitschmidt of Guymon, Okla., and Cathy Brunswig of Fort Collins, Colo., as well as nine nieces and nephews and 21 grand-nieces and nephews.

A private memorial service was held Friday, Nov. 3, in St. Francis.

Memorials may go to the St. Francis Public Library, 121 N. Scott.

## Neva Rose Richmond

Oct. 3, 1930 - Sept. 28, 2006

Neva Rose (Eggers) Richmond, 75, died of pneumonia on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2006, in Olympia, Wash. A memorial service was held Monday, Oct. 2, at Rockwood United Methodist Church, Gresham, Ore.



Richmond

Neva was born Oct. 3, 1930, in St. Francis, Kan., to John and Amy (Bannister) Eggers. She was raised and educated in Bird City, where she graduated from Bird City High School in 1948.

In November 1981, Neva married Kenneth Richmond.

Neva was the first female mail carrier at the Lents Post Office, where she worked for 22 years. She retired in 1989.

Neva lived in Gresham for almost 40 years before moving to Shelton, Wash., in 2003.

She was a longtime member of the Gresham Elks Lodge. Neva enjoyed playing cards, especially cribbage, playing pool, reading and music. She also enjoyed shopping and surfing the Internet.

On May 13, 2006, Neva was preceded in death by her husband. She was also preceded in death by her grandson, Kevin Venini, in 1989.

Survivors include her daughters, Roni Venini of Gresham, Cindy Vance of Portland and Joni Carlson of Shelton; sons, Dan Kaiser of Portland and Ed Ames of Corvallis, Mont.; sisters, Nina Welch of Chula Vista, Calif., and Emily Vallin of Long Island, Kan.; brother, John Eggers of Bird City; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to the charity of one's choice.

## Deloris Hilda Schirmer

Sept. 23, 1923 - Oct. 31, 2006

Deloris Hilda Neitzel Schirmer

was born on Sept. 23, 1923, on the family farm south of Wheeler, Kan. She was the third child of Albert and Hilda Monhardt Neitzel. Deloris died on Oct. 31, 2006, at the age of 83 years, one month and eight days.

As an infant, Deloris was brought to the Lord in Holy Baptism on Oct. 7, 1923, and later confirmed her faith on June 25, 1939.

She attended Pleasant View School through the eighth grade and then helped on the family farm and worked at the Wheeler Cafe. On June 3, 1962, she was married to Henry F. Schirmer in Goodland. To their union one daughter, Relda Marie, was born on Feb. 14, 1964.

Deloris enjoyed working side by side with Henry on their farm. She preferred working outside and helping on the farm to housework. She especially enjoyed gardening and caring for her flock of chickens and milk cows. Deloris always had a large garden and sold eggs, cream and milk for many years. She was a wonderful cook and excelled in baking. She also enjoyed embroidering and created many lovely items.

Henry and Deloris retired from their farm in 1981 and moved into St. Francis.

Deloris was a kind, loving person, wife and mother and she enjoyed being with people. Her Christian faith was a central part of her life. She was a member of Peace Lutheran Church. In her younger years she taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She was also a member of the Peace Lutheran Church Women's group. She and Henry both enjoyed assembling the weekly church bulletins for many years.

The last few years she was in her own home, she took up a new hobby and cut many quilt blocks for the Peace Lutheran "Piece Corps."

As her health began to fail, Deloris remained in good spirits, had a smile for everyone and always tried to make the best of her health situation. When she could no longer remain at home, she became a resident of the Good Samaritan Village in September 2000.

Deloris was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Quentin, Melvin and Lawrence Neitzel; sisters, Alberta Edwards, Venita Bair and niece, Sheron Penn.

She leaves to mourn her husband, Henry; daughter and son-in-law, Relda and Tracey Galli, Gem; sister, Mildred Edwards, St. Francis; nieces and nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services for Deloris were held on Nov. 4 at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis with Pastor Kenneth Hart officiating.

Pallbearers were Wayne Marshall, Roger Blume, Danny Penn, Leslie Doggett, Kenneth Knorr and Chuck Saddler.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home.

## Gary Ray Grice

April 23, 1969 - Oct. 28, 2006

Gary Ray Grice, the second child of Tommy R. Grice and Deanna K. Richards Grice, was born in Guymon, Okla., on April 23, 1969, and died at Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis, Kan., on Oct. 28, 2006.

Gary started school in Hardesty, Okla. He attended high school in St. Francis, graduating with the class of 1987. In school, Gary was active in FFA and enjoyed playing a variety of sports. After high school, his first job was working for Sam Rogers. He also worked at Great Western Tire in the sprinkler division.

On June 22, 1991, he was united in marriage to Tammara Joann Douthit. After four years of working for Cranston Farms, Gary and Tammy returned to St. Francis in the spring of 1994, to work for his father-in-law on the family ranch.

On July 6, 1994, a beautiful daughter, Allison Nicole was born. He enjoyed every minute with his little "squirt" as he affectionately would call her. He was so proud of all of her achievements, but most of all the day she decided to ride a horse.

He lived his life with no regrets and enjoyed family life with Tammy and Allison including riding horses, taking family vacations, attending the National Western Stock Show, and teasing each other. They raised their child on the family ranch, located in Wheeler. His nephews called him "Uncle Gary" and thank him for all the hours he spent with them riding horses, checking cattle, and feeding newly born calves. He was looking forward to spoiling his only niece as he did his nephews.

Gary was the family's cowboy who enjoyed riding the pastures, mending fences and tending to the crops. He spent his spare time attending horse sales, roping and helping many of his neighbors.

Gary was creative with metal art sculpting and making rope baskets.

Everyone enjoyed Gary's company because he had such an easy-going personality. He happily lived his life as a son, husband, father, brother, friend and most of all...a cowboy.

His grandfathers, Lawson Grice and Everett Richards, and his father-in-law, Thad Douthit Jr., preceded him in death.

Family and friends will miss their cowboy.

Those left to mourn include his wife of 15 years, Tammara Joann Douthit Grice and daughter, Allison, and his parents, Tommy R. Grice and Deanna K. Richards Grice.

Other survivors include: sister, Brenda Hays and sons, Chase, Brice, Kaleb, Dusty and Dalton; sister, Priscilla Prentice and son, Seth; mother-in-law, Mary Lou Douthit; brother-in-law, Thaddeus Jacob Douthit III and wife, Lynae and sons, Jacob, James and Justin of Golden, Colo.; sister-in-law, Tricia and husband, Grant Paulson and daughter, Rachael of Littleton, Colo., and many aunts and uncles, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held at the St. Francis United Methodist Church on Wednesday, Nov. 1, conducted by Rev. Morita Truman, with interment at the St. Francis Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were Darrel Richard, Jimmy Grice, Loyd Wilson, Scott "Hoagie" Carmichael, Roger Faulkender, Randy Dinkel, Ross Cranston, Darrell Pabst, Harvey Benham, Casey Donahue, Danny Donahue and Gary Cooper.

Pallbearers were Cliff Pilkington, Bob Holzwarth, Eddie Brunk, Mike Bandel, Troy Faulkender, Tye Faulkender and Skip Peterson.

## Ronda Lee Rose

April 18, 1966 - Nov. 3, 2006

Ronda Lee (Flint) Rose, age 40, of Larkspur, Colo., died at Sky Ridge Medical Center on Friday, Nov. 3, 2006. Ronda was born at North Platte, Neb., to Robert and Jean (Miller) Flint on April 18, 1966.

Ronda grew up in Arnold, Neb., and graduated with the class of 1984. While attending Arnold High

School her activities included Girls State Representative, A-Club, basketball, track and cheerleading. She attended Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte. There she received a degree in computer science. Later she trained and received her Certified Nurses Aide/Certified Medical Aide (CNA/CMA). She cared for numerous elderly including her Aunt Bunch and Grandma Babe.

Ronda's special interests were her family, friends, pets, horseback riding, flowers, wildlife, fishing, antiques and selling anything to anyone who wasn't looking.

Ronda is survived by her devoted husband and true love, Gary E. Rose of Larkspur. They were married at Paxton on Dec. 18, 1993, and renewed their vows on Nov. 3, 2006. They were residents of St. Francis, Kan.

Survivors include sons, Joshua R. Snyder and Austin L. Snyder of Nebraska, Scott and wife, Jennifer Rose of Louisburg, Michael and wife, Lisa Rose of Richmond, Va.; daughters, Christina and husband, Allen Grimmer of Parsons, Michelle and husband, Jody Cook of Joplin, Mo., and Tracy and husband, Tim Voorhes of Altamont; grandchildren, Stephanie Louise Rose, Kyle Rose, Samantha, Mathew and Aaron Grimmer, Tara Wynn, Stephen Mccurdy and Kandi Voorhes; great-grandchildren, Dakota and Alexis Wynn; parents, Robert and Jean Flint of Arnold; brothers, Bobby and wife, Elizabeth and son, Richard Paul of Virginia Beach, Va., Shad Flint of Hutchinson; Michael and wife, Corina and sons, Andrew and Daniel and daughters, Emily and Abby Flint of Broken Bow, Neb.; aunts and uncles, Harold and wife, Barbara Whitcomb of Arnold, Tim and wife, Kerri Miller of Gothenburg, Neb.; Terry and wife, Sharon Conley of Arnold and Robert and wife, Micky Miller of Kernersville, N.C.; pets, Ruby (Scottie) and Ace (black German

short-hair); and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Ronda was preceded in death by her grandparents, Art and Estelle Flint and Al and Doris Miller.

A memorial has been established in her name for the American Cancer Society.

Services were held on Thursday, Nov. 9, at the Arnold Baptist Church with Rev. Irving Jennings officiating. Burial was held at the Arnold Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Flannery of Larkspur, Jerry Headley of Larkspur, Butch Ewing, Farrell McAtee, Craig Brent, Gilbert Sherlock, Derek Fromholtz and Ronnie Zimelman, all of St. Francis.

Arnold Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## Sam Elmer

May 29, 1930 - Oct. 31, 2006

Sam Adair Elmer died on Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2006, at his home.

Mr. Elmer was born on May 29, 1930, in Hayden, Colo., to Samuel Elmer and Avery (Adair) Elmer. He attended schools in Hayden.

Sam married Glorrienne (Holzwarth) Elmer on July 4, 1963.

He served in the United States Navy for seven years; his service was during the Korean Conflict.

Sam worked for the Division of Wildlife for 20 years before retiring in 1982.

Sam was a kind and loving husband and father who enjoyed walking the hills in Chaffee County and taking care of his yard.

Mr. Elmer is survived by his wife, Glorrienne of Salida; daughter, Tonya Martin, son-in-law, Brian Martin, and six grandchildren, Elizabeth, Courtney, Timothy, Connor, Kevin and John, all of McMurray, Pa.

As per Sam's wishes, he was cremated; there will be no services.

In lieu of flowers, friends desiring may make memorial contributions to the Angel of Shavano Hospice or the Salida Regional Library.

# Producers need to report changes in farm operation

Producers are reminded of the importance of reporting changes to their local Farm Service Agency office. Changes to their farming operation to be reported are those that would affect the status of that farm so the change can be effective for the current fiscal year.

A farm, as defined by the Farm Service Agency is generally made up of tracts that have the same owner and the same operator. A sale of land in the farm or a tract of land within the farm would be an instance that requires notifying the local office so a farm reconstitution can be initiated by using the Farm Service Agency-155, Request for Farm Reconstitution. These requests must be made by June 1.

A special provision exists that would allow contract acres to be divided in a manner agreed to by all sellers and buyers. The method of division, known as the "designation by landowner" provision, must be requested and requires all sellers and buyers agree to the method by signing the FSA-155,

or providing a memorandum of understanding that includes signatures of all sellers and buyers.

The designation by landowner method of division may be used more specifically when:

- Part of the farm is sold or ownership is transferred.
- An entire farm is sold to two or more people.
- Farm ownership is transferred to two or more people.
- Part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred.
- A tract is sold to two or more people.
- Tract ownership is transferred to two or more people.

When notifying the county office of ownership changes, the designation by landowner method of division should be discussed to see if this methods would result in a more satisfactory division of contract acres compared to the default method most commonly used for farm and tract divisions. The designation by landowner method can only be used when requested and if all buyers and sellers agree in writing.

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