

James Bailey

June 18, 1922 – December 23, 2006

James Bailey, 84, of Banning, Calif. passed away Saturday, Dec. 23, 2006, of complications from an injury following a fall.

He was born in Wheatland on June 18, 1922, and he graduated from Wheatland High School in 1940. Bailey started his career as a machinist in Wyoming as a blacksmith doing farm equipment repair. After studying welding in Nebraska as a young man, he fabricated railroad ties for the Union Pacific Railroad.

He married Jayne Cox on Dec. 24, 1945. He helped to build the house and shop on Water Street. It was there he started his own business, Wheatland Machine Shop Service repairing farm equipment.

After a severe drought devastated the nearby farming area, he moved to Torrington in 1955. While living in Torrington, he drove an oxygen truck for Denver Oxygen Company serving a 500-mile radius.

He moved his family to Denver in 1958 where he worked for Gates Rubber Company, and Power Curve. He supplemented his income by manufacturing and installing staircases for high rise apartments.

He moved to California in 1967, where he

worked for Brownyard Structural Steel and McDonnell Douglas and Boeing. He earned an AA degree in Electronics and Math Applications from Orange Coast College. After his retirement, he moved to Banning in 1991.

He fulfilled his dream of making it possible for all four of his children to graduate from college. He was a Boy Scout Master in Colorado and his two sons are Eagle Scouts.

His hobbies were woodworking, machines and airplanes. He donated considerable time and energy to Banning Estates where he lived for 15 years, assisting the community in developing an Emergency Preparedness plan.

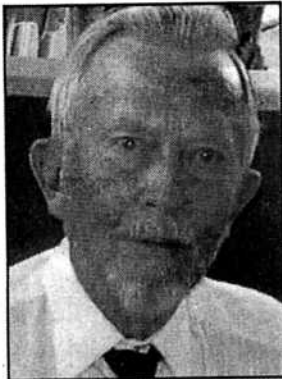
He was a member of Beaumont Presbyterian Church.

His parents, John Luther Bailey and Iva Hunt, both from Illinois, his brother Bob Bailey, and his sister, Catherine Bailey Zinser, preceded him in death.

Mr. Bailey is survived by his loving wife, Jayne Bailey; two sons, Jim and Jerry, two daughters, Janet and Joyce; a brother, John L. Bailey, Jr.; seven grandchildren: Aaron, Kevin, Ariel, Havivah, Katie, Kristin, and Jonathan, and one great grandchild, Emma Ryn.

Memorial services were held Saturday, Dec. 30, 2006, at 11 a.m. at the Beaumont Presbyterian Church. Weaver Mortuary in Beaumont handled funeral arrangements.

In keeping with James' giving spirit, the family asks that donations be made to the Orange County Council of the Boy Scouts of America, 1211 E. Dyer Road, Santa Ana, California. 92705.



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