

# John Birkbeck Bunker

March 8, 1926 – May 26, 2005

Graveside services with military rites for Wheatland resident, John Birkbeck Bunker, 79, were conducted at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 31, in the Wheatland Cemetery at Wheatland with Reverend Joel Dingman of All Saints' Episcopal Church officiating.

He died Thursday, May 26 at his home in Wheatland of natural causes.

John was born March 8, 1926, in Yonkers, N.Y., the son of Ellsworth and Harriet Allen (Butler) Bunker. He attended Putney School in Vermont and entered Yale University in 1943. As an infantry officer in the United States Army, 1944-46, he was with the army of occupation in Germany, emerging as a first lieutenant. He was graduated from Yale in 1950 and served again as an infantry officer in Korea and Japan, 1950-52. He married Emma L. Cadwalader of Philadelphia, Penn., on Feb. 27, 1954, in the Church of the Redeemer in Bryn Mawr, Penn. As a fourth generation of his family to be involved in the sugar industry, he spent nine years with the National Sugar Refining Company in Philadelphia and New York, spending three years as general manager of the Godchaux, La. Division of the company. In 1962 he moved west to join the Great Western Sugar Company where he was assistant to the president and was named vice president in 1964. Prior to moving to Wheatland, he served as president and CEO of Holly Sugar Company and California-Hawaii Sugar Company. In 1988, he was named "Sugar Man of the Year". He also served on the Board of Directors of Colorado College where he also taught busi-



**John Bunker**

ness and environmental ethics. He moved to Wheatland in 1987 and in 1992 served as chairman of the board of First State Bank, was a member of All Saints' Episcopal Church and the Lion's Club. Mr. Bunker enjoyed ranching and activities with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Emma of Wheatland; five children, Emma C. Bunker Jr. of Wheatland, Jeanie C. Bunker of Pleasant Hill, Calif., Harriet C. Bunker of LaSalle, Colo., John C. Bunker of Wheatland, and Lambert C. Bunker of Denver, Colo.; two adopted Chinese children,

David Shu of Chicago, Ill., Dongning Wang of Orefield, Penn.; one adopted Brazilian daughter, Mecca Corsetti of Sao Paulo, Brazil; sister, Ellen Bunker of Tucson, Ariz.; brother, Samuel Bunker of Dummerston, Vermont; and 18 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mike Daly, Dr. Brent Sherard, Juan Reyes, Tim Weaver, Bruce Hellbaum, and Ted Bentley. Honorary pallbearers will be Jerry Gebhart, Barb Jones, Kelli Phifer, Doug Weaver, Bob Seidel, Monica Koerwitz, Mary Lanaius, Shelley Marker, Richard Kimbell, Ronald Otsuka, Ginger Settles, Becky Hepker and all of his many other friends.

Memorials to the Platte County Memorial Hospital Foundation in care of First State Bank, P.O. Box 39, Wheatland, WY 82201-0039 would be appreciated by the family.

Gorman Funeral Homes - Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.