

# Donald John Cook 1913 to 1996

Funeral services for Donald "Don" John Cook, 83 were held Monday, December 23, 1996, at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, Wyoming. Andy Gudahl, Minister, and Father Charles Velasquez officiating.



Donald Cook

Interment will be in the Wheatland Cemetery. Mr. Cook died Saturday, December 14, 1996 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland.

Don was born January 29, 1913 in Marysville, Missouri, the son of John W. and Jennie Ruby (West) Cook.

He was one of six children. In 1915, at the age of two, Don and his fam-

ily came to Wyoming where they homesteaded in the Dwyer area.

They later lived in the Laramie Mountains near the foot of Laramie Peak. At the age of 15, Don went off on his own, working for many early Wyoming ranches, including Ben Chadwick's, Kenny Marshall's, Jack Criss's, Chet Thompson's, Fergie Mitchell's, and Razor Bill Irvin's.

He then worked a short time in Montana before returning to Wheatland where he worked at the George Grant ranch.

He courted Eilene Bowen for seven years before marrying her on May 28, 1935, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Wheatland.

Together, they lived at several places before moving to the TY Ranch in Chugwater, working for the Swan Land and Cattle Company.

When the family returned to Wheatland, Don continued to work for others until he began leasing his own and eventually he ended up working for the True Company and became the company's first general foreman.

When he retired from True's, he bought his own place near Festo Lake where he raised cattle and horses.

When they sold the farm, they moved into Wheatland. Don continued to be active by working at various jobs; including building the first storage garage for golf carts at the golf course. Don enjoyed sharing his knowledge of horses and cattle, and he enjoyed going to sales and visiting with other ranchers, and solving the problems of the world with his friends and family.

Don is survived by his second wife, Gail (Harvey) Cook of Wheatland; two daughters, Joan Stugart and Donna McGuire, both of Wheatland; two step-children, Ann Barker and Dale Harvey, both of Wheatland; six grandchildren, Ron Stugart of Gillette, Wyoming; Susie Wann of Yankton, South Dakota; Pegge Stutzman of Las Vegas, Nevada; Ken and Karen McGuire both of Wheatland; and Colleen McGuire of Apex, North Carolina; seven great-grandchildren, Michelle Stugart, Casidy Siedschlag, Clay and Cody Teel, Jamie and Brandon Stutzman, and Ashlee McGuire; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Eileen on April 26, 1981; three sisters, Eloise, in infancy; Doris Oates, and Violet Henze; and brothers Harold and Earl Cook.

Serving as pallbearers were Ron Stugart, Steve Stutzman, Jed Lane, Rick Bowen, Jerry Bowen, J.R. Lane and David Bredthauer. Honorary pallbearers were John Labertew, Clayton Reitz, Stan Hooley, Jim Nees, Corky Sherwood, John Suntych, Percy Turner, Terry Lockman, Bison Pete, Marlin Baker, Clay Unger, Richard Chase, Harold Howe, Bill McConnell, and all of his many other friends.

Memorials to the Platte County Memorial Nursing Staff, 201 14th St., Wheatland, WY, 82001, would be appreciated by the family.

The Platte Funeral Chapel of Wheatland was in charge of arrangements.