

Merritt W. Gano III

1917-2003

Merritt Whitfield Gano III, 86, died Sept. 22 at Platte County Memorial Nursing Home in Wheatland.

He was born Aug. 29, 1917, in Denver, the son of Merritt Whitfield Gano Jr. and Pauline (Ware) Gano. He was raised and educated in Colorado and Pennsylvania.

He graduated from the Boeing School in Oakland, Calif., and was the youngest pilot to fly for an airline at that time. He flew for 20 years for Inland and Western Airlines. He was a partner in an International dealership in Cheyenne, and then owned Wheatland Motors in Wheatland.

He married Jane Adams in 1939. They later divorced.

In 1960, he married Betty Fish in Las Vegas.

Following his retirement, he began raising quarter horses. He was active in the Platte County 4-H Horse program, and he was a lifemember and past director of the American Quarter Horse Association and the Wyoming Quarter Horse Association.

He enjoyed hunting geese, fishing, and spending time with his hunting dogs.

He is survived by his wife, Betty of Wheatland; two daughters, Jane McGuire of Torrington and Frankie Morris of Wheatland; a son, Merritt Gano IV of Lee's Summit, Mo.; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a niece; and two nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Pauline Otis.

A service will be at noon Saturday at the Morris home, 316 W. Fairview Road, Wheatland. Cremation has taken place.

Gorman Funeral Home-Platte Chapel, Wheatland, is in charge of arrangements.
