

lawman dies

A longtime Platte County lawman has died of natural causes.

Einer Mickelsen died Sunday of cancer. He was 79.

Mickelsen served as Platte County Sheriff from 1967 to 1987. After he retired as sheriff, he served as Wheatland municipal judge and Platte County coroner.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Geraldine, four children and their spouses.

A celebration of life is planned for Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the First Christian Church in Wheatland.

Einer Bjegaard Mickelsen

August 19, 1922-July 7, 2002

A celebration of the life of Einer Bjegaard Mickelsen, 79, will be held Wed, July 10 at 10 a.m. at the First Christian Church with Andy Gudahl officiating. Interment will be in the Wheatland Cemetery.

Einer died July 7 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital following a courageous battle with cancer.

Einer was born Aug. 19, 1922, the fifth of 14 children, to Marius and Marie (Pedersen) Mickelsen, in Elba Nebr. He was raised on the family farm and graduated from Cushing High School. He worked several years in a bomb factory in Hastings, Nebr. during WWII. He then worked on numerous ranches in the Sand Hills in Nebraska. He married Geraldine Finney in Seneca, Nebr. Nov. 4, 1949. After their marriage, they moved to the LD Ranch at Bordeaux, Wyo., where he continued to work for Fred and Lucille Prewitt. Einer was elected Platte County Sheriff in 1967 and held this office for the next 20 years. After retiring in 1987, he was the Wheatland Municipal Judge and Platte County Coroner.

Einer was a 50-year member of the Chugwater Masonic Lodge, a 50-year member of Eastern Star, lifetime member of the Wyoming Peace Officer's Association, past president and lifetime member of the Wyoming Sheriffs' Association, past president and active member of Platte County Search and Rescue and a lifetime honorary member and rider of the National Pony Express Association.

Einer was a 50-year member of the United Church of Christ in Wheatland.

He was a well-known and loved character around Wheatland. He especially enjoyed the colts that he raised each year. He had a passion for the Pony Express and enjoyed the re-ride each year.

He was an accomplished wood worker and enjoyed showing off and giving away items he had made. Einer loved his grandchildren.

Einer is survived by his wife, Gerald, of 52 years; four children and their spouses, Mick and wife Vicki, Dick and wife Gwen, and Karen and husband Roy Bennett, all of Wheatland, and Rick and wife Jodie Mickelsen of Riverton; nine grandchildren, Levi, Erin, Abby, Libby, Nate, Jake and Brock Mickelsen, and Zachary and Zane Bennett; two brothers and nine sisters, Elda Miller of St. Paul Nebr., Mary Christison of Grand Island, Nebr., Miner Mickelsen and wife Lola of Grand Island, Joy Glines of Hastings, Bud Mickelsen and wife Lola of Lexington, Ky., Ada and husband Don Pedersen of St. Paul Nebr., Ann and husband Darwin Meyers of Hastings, Louise and husband Jack McIntyre of Wolbach, Nebr., Helen and husband Ray Meyer of Northglenn, Colo., June Wadas of Johnstown, Colo., and Dorothy and husband Larry Jones of Omaha; brother-in-law Andy Larsen of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, an infant brother, Dennis, sister, Eva Larsen; seven brothers-in-law; and two sisters-in-law.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mick Mickelsen, Dick Mickelsen, Rick Mickelsen, Nathaniel Mickelsen, Levi Mickelsen and Roy Bennett. Honorary pallbearers will be Zach Bennett, Zane Bennett, Brock Mickelsen, Jake Mickelsen, Erin Mickelsen, Abby Mickelsen and Libby Mickelsen.

Memorials to the United Church of Christ, PO Box 444, Wheatland, Wyo., 82201 or Platte County Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home, PO Box 848, Wheatland, Wyo., 82201 would be appreciated by the family.