



Obituary

Louise Wedemeyer Orr, age 88, passed from this life on June 13th at the Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland.

She was born in Wheatland, WY on January 15, 1923 and was raised on the family ranch on the Laramie River 12 miles west of town. She attended country school until the 8th grade and then boarded in Wheatland while attending school in town. During and immediately following high school she worked for Clarence Stumpf at the Wheatland Times newspaper as a writer and office worker, before following the love her life to California.

She married her high school sweetheart, Bryce G. Orr, in San Diego, CA on January 14, 1943 while he was stationed at Camp Pendleton as a Marine Corps drill Instructor. While in California she worked for Aetna Insurance and also Consolidated Aircraft. At one point during WWII, when her husband, Bryce, was listed as missing in action during and following the invasion of Okinawa, she wrote a poem titled, "Oceans Between Us", which was later published in the Marine Corps military news.

Following the War Louise and Bryce returned to Wheatland where she worked for Gordon Davis at the "Record Times" as a typesetter, proof reader and secretary. Later she worked keeping the books and working alongside with her husband at the Texaco service station and bulk petroleum plant they owned and operated for many years. When Bryce's health failed and he was forced to retire in 1979, she also retired to enjoy time with her husband. They celebrated 50 years in marriage before his death in 1993.

They loved racing sports and often traveled to NASCAR and Indy races. Until recently she could tell you the top 10 finishers of races, the car owner and sponsors, the crew chiefs and many other statistics from races. She also loved to watch basketball and corresponded with former Denver Nuggets player and coach Dan Issel, who would often send her letters and signed team posters and pictures. She traveled to England to visit her niece, to Honduras, Central America on 3 occasions to visit her grandson and family and to Washington State to visit a granddaughter and family. She traveled to Washington, DC, annually for many years to visit her sisters and her mother who was in a nursing home. Numerous other trips to visit new sites, friends and family were always a joy for her.

She was an American Red Cross Volunteer for 32 years, working every week at the hospital and nursing home tending to the needs of the sick and elderly. She loved writing letters and often wrote and read letters for the residents. She mended clothes and would make soup and other meals for the residents, especially when they would not otherwise eat. She had been a Cub Scout Den Mother and she and her husband Bryce, delivered Meal On Wheels weekly for several years. She was a member of Wheatland Chapter No. 11 of the Order of Eastern Star for 68 years. She was a past Honor Queen of Jobs Daughters Bethel No. 22, as were her Daughter and a Grand-daughter. As a member of the First Christian Church for over 50 years she had taught Sunday school, prepared communion, performed many other services and worked in the church office as a volunteer for many years. She was always doing for others and instilled this practice and following the "Golden Rule" in her children. She had written that the two most important qualities in life were to be honest and forgiving. When asked what bible character she most wanted to meet her answer was always "Jesus". She has reached the end of the road of life, as we know it, and has entered the gate into his eternal care.

She is survived by her two sons, James B. (Butch) Orr and wife Susie of Wheatland, Jerry G. Orr and wife Ellie of Wheatland; Daughter, Josephine Ann / JoAnn (Orr) Maxwell and husband Bill of Aurora, CO.; 4 grandchildren; Johnnie Orr and family of Honduras; Jenea (Orr) Goddard and family of Evansville, WY; Carrie (Orr) Harmon and family of Everett, WA; and Kellie (Maxwell)

Service Summary

Visitation

03:00 PM to 08:00 PM, Thu Jun 16, 2011

Gorman Funeral Home - Platte Chapel

P.O. Box 816
1108 9th Street
Wheatland, Wyoming 82201-2613

Funeral Service

10:00 AM Fri Jun 17, 2011

First Christian Church

95 19th Street
Wheatland, Wyoming 82201

Fundenberger and family of Aurora, CO.; 3 step-grandchildren, Leslee Nilsson and family of Wheatland, Dana Grabo and family of Cheyenne, WY and Scott Stivason and family of Thornton, Co; 11 great-grandchildren; 5 step-great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren; 2 nieces, Linda Renshaw of Norway and Barbara Ann Seib of Colorado and 2 nephews, Brian VanDercook, of North Carolina and Robert Orr of Colorado. Her special caretaker for the past several months has been her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and a dedicated Great-Grand-Daughter, Jamie Marie Orr.

She was preceded in death by her Husband Bryce G. Orr in September 1993, her parents, Frank D. Wedemeyer and Mary (Johnson) Wedemeyer, her sisters, Dorothy (Wedemeyer) Harding and Elizabeth (Wedemeyer) VanDercook; and by numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Mrs. Orr was the last of her generation in the family. Two of her Great-Grandsons always called her "GREAT" and that she was!

Visitation will be held from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at the Platte Funeral Chapel, 1108 9th Street, Wheatland. Services will be held at 10:00 A.M., Friday, June 17th at the First Christian Church, 95 19th Street, Wheatland, Wyoming with Pastors Andy Gudahl and Adam Lovitt officiating. Internment will be at the Wheatland Cemetery immediately following the service. A luncheon will be held at the First Christian Church following the burial service.

Serving as pallbearers will be Butch Orr, Jerry Orr, Johnnie Orr, Robert Orr, Bill Maxwell and Calvin Goddard. Honorary pallbearers are Robert Harmon, Eric Fundenberger, Don Wedemeyer, Clifford Wedemeyer, Russell Wedemeyer, Johnnie J. Baker, Jordan Orr and Jerin Orr.

Memorial contributions to the Platte County Hospital and Nursing Home Foundation, P.O. Box 694, Wheatland, WY 82201 or a charity of the donor's choice will be greatly appreciated.

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