

Will I. Palmer

11-15-1981

Will Irving Palmer, 92, died Nov. 15, 1981 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital Nursing Wing.

He was born Oct. 26, 1889 in Blue Rapids, Kan., the son of William A. and Norma R. Palmer. He left Kansas with his family when he was young and moved to the Scottsbluff/Gering, Neb., area. The family then moved to Wheatland where they farmed for a short time. They then homesteaded at the mouth of the Palmer Canyon area.

Will ranched with his dad on the family-homestead. He and his father, along with Fred Ringrose, built the Palmer Canyon Road by hand and with horses. The trio kept track of the expenses for equipment and dynamite and operated the completed road as a tollway until the expenses had been reimbursed. Will later became a rural mail carrier and carried mail to Owen several times a week. He then worked in the oil fields in the McFadden area and there met and married Rose Burri in September of 1922. Rose was a school teacher in the McFadden area.

The couple homesteaded in Palmer Canyon west of Wheatland in Albany County. They raised their family there and continued to operate their ranch until they retired to Wheatland 10 years ago. Will was a 50 year member of the Wheatland AF and AM Lodge No. 16. He was active in the York Rite and the Commandary of the Masonic Lodge.

He is survived by three sons, Bill of Banden, Ore., Fred of St. Charles, Ill., and Budd of Rock River; one daughter, Geneva Marrs of Broomfield, Colo.; and two brothers, Frank and Dick Palmer and 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. One step-brother, Tom Palmer of Wheatland also survives. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Rose; four sisters and two brothers.

Services were conducted today, Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at the First Christian Church in Wheatland with the Rev. Delbert Dick officiating.

Burial was in the Wheatland Cemetery. Masonic Graveside Rites will be conducted by the Wheatland Masonic Lodge.

A memorial has been established to the Shriner's Crippled Childrens Hospital in care of the Schrader-Prell Funeral Home.

Palmer celebrates 90

11-14-1979



WILL I. PALMER, a resident of the Platte County Memorial Hospital Nursing Wing, celebrated his 90th birthday Oct. 26 with his wife Rose, and four children. His son, Will, 55, traveled from Bandon, Ore., Fred, 53, came from Charles, Ill., and daug. Geneva Marrs, 52, from Broomfield, Colo. Another son, Budd, 51, operates the family ranch near Rock River. Palmer was brought to Wyoming in a covered wagon by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Palmer, about 1895. The Palmer Canyon area is named after the family who settled in the vicinity. Will and the late Fred Ringrose helped build the upper section of Palmer Canyon Road.