

PENSOLD, HUGO MAX
May 1, 1884-February 28, 1960

Hugo Max Pensold, 75, a resident of Wheatland for the past ten years and a long time resident and pioneer homesteader of Wyoming for the past 50 years, died Sunday evening, February 28, 1960 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital. He had been in ill health for the past six months.

He was born May 1 1884 at Grossvoightsberg at Freebey Saxanay, Germany where with five brothers and sisters, Richard, Paul, Meta, Emma and Hedwig (the late Mrs. Peter Schulz) he was reared by his parents. He studied bookkeeping and entered military service in Germany as a young man.

Peter Schultz, his brother-in-law, who had come to the United States earlier and at that time was living in South Dakota, had written of the opportunities in this country. So Max decided to leave the family, which he never saw again. Upon coming to South Dakota he worked on a farm and here learned the language and ways of the new country.

In 1910 he came to Wyoming and homesteaded in Platte county south of Chugwater. In 1914 he took out citizenship papers. Then came the first world war. In 1917 he returned to South Dakota where he claimed Alma Mundt as his bride July 25 at the home of her parents at Humboldt.

These two young people worked happily side by side, building their home and farming. Three children were born to them: Margaret, Maxine and Walter Max. Sadness came to them when Walter Max passed away in 1928 and Maxine in 1930. Then came the drouth and depression. The people faced many hardships together but like all hardy pioneers they overcame them with faith and courage.

Better more productive years came on the farm and happiness as they welcomed the birth of their first grandchild.

In 1949 after Max recovered slowly from a coronary thrombosis, he and his wife retired and moved to Wheatland.

Here he led an active life serving as committeeman for ASC and was community chairman for 20 years. In June 1958 he received honors and an award for ten years of faithful service. His greatest pride was his work and the friendships he made.

Max was a member of Chugwater lodge No. 23 AF & AM for about 20 years. Also while in Wheatland he became actively interested in serving his Lord through his church. He was serving as a deacon on the board of Federated United Churches of Christ at the time of his death. He was a good friend and neighbor to all.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a sister Emma Wehner in Germany, a daughter Margaret Havelly and three grandchildren of Portland, Ore.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, March 3 at the Schrader chapel with Rev. Steigemeier officiating. Interment was made at the Wheatland cemetery. Pallbearers were Robert Pearson, Herman Schnacker, Fred Cashner, Russell Staats, Herman Hellbaum and George Carroll.

A song his granddaughter plays sees fitting: "My God and I we walk the fields together. We walk and talk as good friends should and do. We clasp our hands, our voices ring with laughter. My God and I---we go on unendingly.