

QUALLS, WILLIAM J.
AUGUST 20, 1908—NOVEMBER 5, 1962

The Platte County Record-Times
November 9, 1962

William J. Qualls electrocuted on job

11-5-1962
William J. Qualls, age 54, long time employee of the Wheatland REA died instantly of electrocution Monday, Nov. 5 ten miles East of Richards Hall in Laramie county. He was working on a power line going to a missile site.

Ed Cox of Wheatland, who was working with Qualls, said they had a 7,200 volt "hot line" tied to a ladder truck. Wm. Qualls, Wheatland REA superintendent, who was on the truck, put off a steel bar establishing a ground for the current.

Cox said he gave Qualls mouth to mouth artificial respiration for 10 minutes without results. He summoned aid from other workers on the job, and continued resuscitation efforts. A Wheatland ambulance was summoned but Mr. Qualls was dead when the vehicle arrived.

"Bill" Qualls had resided in Wheatland since 1924 and had been employed by the REA for 21 years. He was affiliated with the Methodist church, AF & AM No. 16, IOOF and Rock Lake Grange. He was born in Dubois, Ill. August 20, 1908.

Last rites will be held at the Methodist Church Nov. 9 at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Clifford Polson, Sr. officiating. Masonic services will be held at the graveside in the Wheatland cemetery. The body will lie in state at the Schrader Chapel Thursday and at the Methodist church from 10 a.m. Friday until service time. To those who prefer, the family requests that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Wheatland Methodist church.

Mr. Qualls is survived by his wife Emma; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Qualls of Lingle; one son, Melvin of Cheyenne; a daughter Alanna; two brothers, Harry (Bud) of Lingle and Russell of Denver; sisters, Mrs. Helen Clifton of Greeley, Mrs. Velma Marke of New Rymer, Colo., Mrs. Gertrude Hitt of Slater and Mrs. Hazel Hall of Cheyenne. There are two grandchildren.