

# Obituaries

## Neva Ruth Loomis

Feb. 16, 1923 - Dec. 31, 2011

Longtime Goodland resident Neva Ruth Loomis, 88, died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, at Good Samaritan Society—Sherman County in Goodland.

She was born Feb. 16, 1923, in Hayes County, Neb., the daughter of Ethel Dee (Barrett) and William Leslie Mintling. She graduated from high school in Hayes Center, Neb.

On Feb. 7, 1943, she and Edwin Warren Loomis were married. Following Edwin's honorable discharge from the Air Force in 1945, the couple returned to Hayes Center to make their home. With Edwin's work with Co-op, they moved to Bird City in 1955, and then in 1968, to Quinter. They also lived in Houston, Texas, for two years and Sabetha, Kan. for three years. In 1975, Edwin's work brought them to Goodland to make their home.

Preceding her in death were her husband Edwin Loomis, who died Oct. 16, 1983; two brothers Merle

Mintling and Riley Mintling; and two sisters Eldeen Shores and LaVeta Vollmer.

Surviving family includes her son Roger Loomis and his wife Lynelle of Las Vegas, Nev.; her daughter Linda Rogers and her husband Rick of St. Francis; two grandchildren Shawn Rogers of New York, N.Y.; Dallas Friedli and her husband Larry of Hope, Kan.; three great-grandchildren Sydney Friedli, Amelia Friedli, and Hadley Friedli; two brothers Richard Mintling of Kearney, Neb.; Dean Mintling of Boulder, Colo.; and sister Twila Burkett of McCook, Neb.

The funeral will be private and will be followed by burial in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to Genesis or Good Samaritan Society—Sherman County, and may be mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.

## Wanda Diane DeVasher

April 14, 1964 - Dec. 22, 2011

Wanda Diane DeVasher was born April 14, 1964, in Kansas City, Mo., to James R. DeVasher and Wanda A. Culp. She died on Dec. 22, 2011, in Kansas City, Mo.

She lived life to the fullest while enjoying helping others as expressed through her work as an activities director and certified nurses aide. And, also by her passionate love for animals.

Wanda was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Richard M. DeVasher.

She is survived by her four children: Ronda Zweygardt and her husband Chad, Uriah Williams and his wife Kaitlin, Shannon LeQuire and her husband Blake, and Jeremy Adkins and his wife Tish; as well as, her nine grandsons, 10 siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

She lived in St. Francis the last year where she met many wonderful people and made many friends.

Funeral services were held on Dec. 26, 2011, at Sheldon Funeral Home, Osceola, Mo.

## Billy Kent Lampe

April 15, 1936 - Dec. 29, 2011

Billy Kent Lampe was born on April 15, 1936, to Emil and Martha (Lucas) Lampe. He died on Dec. 29, 2011, at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis. Billy was raised on the Lampe family farm 9 miles west of St. Francis,

After graduating from St. Francis Community High School in 1954, he went to Jennings and worked for Votopka Farms. It was in Jennings where Billy met Geraldine Fleckenstein. They were married on Oct. 24, 1959. They celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in 2011. To this union, a son, Kelly, was born in 1964.

In 1967, Billy purchased the implement dealership from Rudy Rieb which became known as Lampe Implement. Billy sold out in 1977 and was employed by the Co-op, then the Farmer's Equipment and then Van Allen's in Wheeler.

Billy joined the Kansas National Guard in 1960 and remained a member for 7 years.

He loved gardening and was always proud of having the biggest onions and potatoes. He also loved going to farm sales and working on old tractors.

## Lawrence D. Richard

April 12, 1929 - Dec. 27, 2011

Lawrence D. Richard was born northeast of Parks, Neb. in Dundy County on April 12, 1929, to Nellie and Jasper Richard. He died on Dec. 27, 2011, in Lincoln, Neb.

He grew up farming on his grandfather's home place with his three brothers and three sisters.

Lawrence attended country school and was drafted into the Army in Sept. 15, 1948 and was a Military Policeman in Japan during the Korean War. After his service, he came home and met his bride of 57 years, Adele Barenberg. They were married, July 12, 1954, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Benkelman, Neb., and farmed south of Benkelman. They were blessed with three children, Dixie, Kent and Dana Jo.

Lawrence worked for Southwest Public Power Company for 27 years and covered hundreds of miles throughout the county. During his lifetime, Lawrence built a camper and took his family out camping, fishing and on many family trips. He loved the Rock Creek Marauders and the good fishing out at Rock Creek, Trenton and Enders. After he retired, he enjoyed woodworking, fishing, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Lawrence loved to find 'hidden treasures' and fix them up.

Lawrence was an active member of the American Legion Post

The loves of his life were his two granddaughters, Katie and Killy Lampe.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents, Emil and Martha Lampe, his brothers, Merlin and Larry Lampe, and a sister, Elaine Consbruck.

He is survived by his wife, Geraldine; son, Kelly and daughter-in-law, Brandee; his two step grandsons, Colton Hillin and Zach Sasse; and his two granddaughters, Katie and Killy Lampe.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, at the United Methodist Church, St. Francis, with Rev. Warren Cico officiating. Honorary pallbearers were Doug Ross, Jerry Bier, Bud McCall, Jim Walters, Eric Harper, Drew Fleming, Dan Siegfried, Ron Hill, Dale Hill and Pete Jensen.

Casket bearers were Gary Ferguson, Marlin Rueb, Dennis Habiger, Elmer Hilt, Roger Applegate and Frank Kaiser.

Burial was in the St. Francis Cemetery with a military graveside service by Fort Riley Honor Guard.

in Benkelman and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and participated in the Honor Guard at Memorial Day Services, parades, and funerals in Benkelman.

Lawrence is preceded in death by his baby brothers Donald and Beryl; brother Vearle Richard; sisters Iva Jean Vernon and Louise Billington; daughter Dana Jo Webster and her son Shane.

Lawrence is survived by his wife, Adele; his daughter Dixie Cobb of Lincoln, Neb., and her husband Wes; his son Kent Richard of Lincoln, and his wife Patty and their children Jessica, Deidre, Justin and Derek; grandson Seth Cobb of Lincoln, and his wife Marcelina and their two children Josiah Lawrence and Aubrey Ann Adele; granddaughter Sheila Long of Longmont, Colo., and her husband Kade and their daughter Micajah; son-in-law Larry Webster of Lakeside, Neb.; brother Mearle Richard of Benkelman; twin brother Leonard Richard of St. Francis, and his wife, Joann; sister, Phyllis Whitmore of St. Francis, and her husband Don; brother-in-law Bill Billington of Imperial, Neb.; sister-in-law Josie Preston, Benkelman, and her husband Jerry; sister-in-law Sharon Barenberg of Benkelman.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at a later date. Memorials to the Saint Joseph's Catholic Church in Benkelman. .

## Rueben Floyd Schultz

Sept. 7, 1927-Dec. 21, 2011

Rueben Floyd Schultz was born Sept. 7, 1927, in Wheeler, Kan. He died at his home on Dec. 21, 2011. His parents were Paul and Lena Andrist Schultz. Rueben was raised on a farm southeast of Wheeler along with five brothers and three sisters.

After graduating from St. Francis Community High School in 1945, Rueben joined the Army and was stationed in Japan. When he returned from the service, he began dating Valjean Zimbelman and they were married on Sept. 28, 1950. To this union, four children were born, Scott, Stephen, Janet and Daryl. They lived on the family farm until 1960.

After moving from the farm, Rueben and Don Topping began a business building new homes. They had a reputation for building top-quality homes. Rueben was always a perfectionist and his work was proof of that. One of the homes he was the most proud of building was Radean and Velda Wright's home south of Bird City.

Rueben retired from the construction business in 1985 and then returned to farming with his brother Henry on land by Idalia, Colo. He loved harvesting the wheat and driving the combine. The family always noticed how straight the rows were when he did the planting.

Rueben was also active in the community. He served on the St. Francis City Council from 1977-1985. He also served on the Cheyenne County Hospital Board from 1999 until 2006. He played an important part with the remodeling and addition of the hospital. He could be seen quite often checking out the quality of work and was not afraid to make sure they did it right.

Rueben also served on the Trustee Board of the United Methodist Church and was an active member of the Lions Club. In 2008, the city of St. Francis honored him with the Spotlighting the Positive award for his time and contributions to the community. Serving on these boards was important to Rueben and he always gave his best.

Rueben and Valjean enjoyed traveling in their motor home and spending some winters in Texas and Arizona. There was always a good time had with friends and family. Fishing was a hobby both Rueben and Valjean enjoyed. They spent a lot of time on the lake working at catching the "big one."

In September of 2010, Rueben and Valjean celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The family enjoyed spending a weekend together and laughing and remembering lots of good times.

Rueben is survived by his wife Valjean of 61 years. Sons, Scott and wife Nancy, Steve and wife Susan and Daryl. Grandchildren, Jennifer and husband Brandon Fey, Marque Monsees, Joshua Schultz, Jessica Jo Schultz, Tara Schultz, Kyle Underwood, Tess and husband Paul Flanders, Kori Underwood, and Tatum and husband Ben Gabel. Great-grandchildren, Bethany Monsees, Stephen Schultz and Jayslin and Pierce Gabel. Sister-in-law Leona Schultz and step mother in law Arrilla Zimbelman. brother in law

Kenneth Zimbelman and wife Susie, sister in law Loretta and husband Von Sidman and brother in law Marvin and wife Donna, plus a host of nieces and nephews and good friends.

Preceding him in death were his daughter Janet Denise in 1981 and granddaughter Jodi Lynn in 1978. Also his parents Paul and Lena, brother Ted and wife Mayzee, sister Mildred and husband Walter Kroeger, brother Henry and wife Margaret, brother Edward and wife Martha, sister Pearl and husband Ellsworth Smith, brother John and wife Darlene, sister Mabel Hefner and brother Fred Schultz.

Casket bearers were his grandsons, Brandon Fey, Joshua Schultz, Kyle Underwood, Paul Flanders, Ben Gabel and Neal Smith.

Honorary Pallbearers were his granddaughters, Jennifer Fey, Marque Monsees, Jessica Schultz, Tara Schultz, Tess Flanders, Kori Underwood and Tatum Gabel.

Rueben was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was truly a wise man, his family said, and we all trusted in what he said. He could talk politics, farming, local or world events and usually had an opinion he was glad to share. The one thing we all learned was that we could agree with him or we could be wrong!

A few years ago when Rueben had his back surgery in Denver, Valjean and Nancy were in the room with him and he kept asking them how to get to Highway 81. They told him they didn't know where highway 81 was. He quickly replied that it was the highway he needed to get to, to go home with Jan. We all know that he found that highway.

A memorial service was held for Rueben on Dec. 26 at the United Methodist Church in St. Francis. Interment was at the St. Francis Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Knodel Funeral Home.

Memorials can be made to the Cheyenne County Hospital or the United Methodist Church.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.

## —St. Francis News—

Dec. 31 guests at the home of Robert and Gertie Zweygardt were Darrel and Jacque Zweygardt, Jon and Amy Gossen, Rylan and Laken, Andy and Cass Zweygardt, Jonalee and Austin Zweygardt, all of Montauzema; Bruce and Donita Baird, Brewster; Heath and Jaylin Baird and Braxtyn, Atlanta, Ga., B.J. and Brook Baird and Justice, Neodesha; Pete and Kay Raile, St. Francis; Trent Raile and Brianna, Manhattan; Oscar and Kayla Lulera, Taky, Kaitlynn and Logan, Goodland; Travis and Valisha Raile, Kariah, Alana, Trenton and Tripp, Oberlin; Keith Zweygardt, Mary Beth Zwick, Kaleb and Oscar; Brock Zweygardt and McKayla Taylor; Ty Zweygardt, Darby, Oberlin; Clayton and Kandee Hoss, Goodland; and Smiley and Wanda Raile, Bird City.

Those unable to attend were J.R. Baird, Barb and Easten Bair, Minnesota; Chanda, Madison and Cameron, Neodesha.

# Book Review

## What's So Amazing About Grace?

Book review from the St. Francis Public Library

By Philip Yancey

In 1987, an IRA bomb buried Gordon Wilson and his twenty-year-old daughter beneath five feet of rubble. Gordon alone survived. And forgave. He said of the bombers, "I have lost my daughter, but i bear no grudge....I shall pray, tonight and every night, that God will forgive them."

His words caught the media's ears and out of one man's grief, the world got a glimpse of grace.

Grace is the church's great distinctive. It's the one thing the world cannot duplicate, and the one thing it craves above all else—for only grace can bring

hope and transformation to a jaded world.

In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy?

Yancey sets grace in the midst of life's stark images, tests its mettle against horrific "ungrace." Can grace survive in the midst of such atrocities as the Nazi holocaust? Can it triumph over the brutality of the Ku Klux Klan? Should any grace at all be shown

to the likes of Jeffrey Dahmer, who killed and cannibalized seventeen young men?

Grace does not excuse sin, says Yancey, but it treasures the sinner. True grace is shocking, scandalous. It shakes our conventions with its insistence on getting close to sinners and touching them with mercy and hope.

It forgives the unfaithful spouse, the racist, the child abuser. It loves today's AIDS-ridden addict as much as the tax collector of Jesus' day.

In his most personal and provocative book ever, Yancey offers compelling, true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church.

He asks, How can Christians contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear?

And he challenges us to become living answers to a world that desperately wants to know, *What's So AMAZING About Grace?*

The Monsanto Fund is offering grants to local schools. To obtain the grant, qualifying producers must nominate their school of choice. Nomination forms are available through Frontier Ag, Bird City. Frontier Ag encourages all producers to participate. See Ray Magnani to nominate your school today.



785-734-2331  
Hwy. 36 ~ Bird City

