

## Marvin Lee Meints

April 6, 1927 - Oct. 5, 2012

Marvin Lee Meints, known to friends and family as Mick, was born in Beatrice, Neb., on April 6, 1927. His parents were Thomas and Minnie Jobman Meints.

Mick grew up with two brothers, Orvin and Delmar, and one sister, Mildred, in Beatrice. When Mick died on Oct. 5, 2012 he was the last surviving member of his immediate family.

Mick served for a short time in the Navy at the end of World War II but the majority of his military service occurred during the Korean conflict where he headed a demolition unit. His unit was responsible for clearing mine fields in front of tanks and destroying enemy bunkers. Mick was awarded many medals for his service including the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Korean Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars.

On March 11, 1951, he married Billie Poulignot. They became the parents of three children; Kathy, Mike and Tom. He was especially proud of his children and delighted in the seven grandchildren that followed.

Much of Mick's adult life was spent in Colorado where he was employed by Safeway Stores.

But, most important to Mick, he was a craftsman and he used his skills to remodel houses and to built furniture. He landscaped and he gardened. He loved tractors and always had at least one around to help him. From his German ancestors he inherited a strong work ethic and continued to work his whole life.

The family that remembers Mick are: his wife Billie of Edmond, Okla.; his Oklahoma family: Kathy Meints Brown and her son Thomas; His Colorado family is Michael A. Meints, his wife Marcia, and their children, Sam and Gleicy, Zachary, Max, and Sophie; and his Washington family is Thomas J. Meints, his wife Jo, and their children, Michael and Rosemary and Chelsea.

Billie's family remembering Mick are Olive Brant of Normandy, Tenn., Hattie Terry, Howard and Marlys Poulignot, and Dixie and Charles Curry, all of St. Francis. Mick and Billie were former residents of St. Francis.

Funeral services will be held later this month at Fort Logan Cemetery, Denver. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a charity of choice.

## Raymond Charles Duell

Aug. 2, 1925 - Oct. 5, 2012



Duell

Raymond Charles Duell was born on Aug. 2, 1925, to Charles Cleveland and Laura Mae Thompson Duell at the family farm in Cheyenne County, Kan., about halfway between Goodland and St. Francis. He died Oct. 5, 2012, at his home just outside of Flagler, Colo.

Ray completed the first eight grades of his education in a one-room schoolhouse near the family home. He completed his freshman year at Ruleton while staying with his older siblings who taught school there. He completed his sophomore and junior years at Edson, where Lowell had a teaching job. He had earned enough credits to graduate early and helped his father on the family farm in the fall of 1942. Then he completed his high school education at Goodland High School, graduating in the spring of 1943.

He attended Kansas State University in the fall of 1943 where he studied engineering for one semester before returning to Goodland. He farmed with his father and worked as a mechanic at the White Implement Dealership in Goodland.

He was drafted to serve in the military in early 1945 and was inducted into the U.S. Navy in Denver on Feb. 2, 1945. He served aboard LST 172, which embarked from San Francisco, Calif., and served in the Pacific Theater. Ray was honorably discharged on July 6, 1946 and returned to Goodland.

Ray never knew an idle moment and in the late 40s and early 50s he farmed with his father and on his own, hauled hay, grain, and automobiles with business partner Melvin Whisman of Goodland. He built terraces for erosion control and soil conservation and custom-seeded grass for the United States Department of Agriculture's "soil bank." At the height of his grass seeding days he had 13 grass drills in four or five locations and several employees. On some days he spent all of his time checking on the various tractors.

During this time of trucking, grass seeding, terracing, and farming, Ray usually stayed at the hotel in Seibert, Colo.

Ray used the telephone a great deal in all his business ventures, and his voice was very well known to the ladies who worked the switchboard at the Mountain Bell regional office in Limon, Colo. Most of the phone calls in eastern Colorado filtered through this office. Ray usually would make several calls in a relatively short period of time; usually in the morning, and at the time the calls had to be placed by an operator.

While he kidded, teased, and perhaps flirted with most of the ladies, one operator in particular, Ethel Burns, the widowed mother of Janice, Paul and Stan, seemed to place many more of Ray's calls than her co-workers. This may have been because their schedules coincided; it may have been something else. Ethel said that it got to the point that she knew when an incoming call was from Raymond Duell of Seibert, and that sometimes, particularly when he was in a very chatty or teasing mood, she would let another operator handle the call. We don't know how many calls it took, but Raymond was very persistent and Ethel eventually agreed to a date with him. The date apparently went pretty well as they were married on Dec. 31, 1961 in a private ceremony at the Lutheran church in Genoa, Colo.

After school let out that year the family moved to Flagler, Colo., where they lived next door to the Lyle Stone family, and later at the Gaines farm west of Flagler. Ray and Ethel's son, Charles, was born in May of 1963 and the family moved to the new house Ray built east of Flagler in the winter 1963-64, where he lived until his death.

Ray continued to farm until the day he died. He knew many people and hired many hands over the years. While he destined becoming a teacher as his siblings had, he had a knack for teaching his children and employees. He had great respect for the skill and talent of others wherever he saw it and was, himself, very talented mechanically. He had the mind of an engineer and the heart of a farmer. Ray was a perpetual optimist and always looked for the good in people.

He was preceded in death by his brother Lowell Duell, Lowell's wife Bertha, and his grandson, Kevin Burns.

He will be missed by those whose lives he touched. He is survived by Ethel, his wife and partner of 50 years, his sister Margaret Christensen of Lodi, Calif., brother Ralph Duell (Wava) of Goodland; his children Jan (Joe) Layton, Paul (Anita) Burns, Stan (Willie) Burns, and Charles (Nancy) Duell; grandchildren Shawn (Lisa), Chad, Heath (Leigh Ann) and Cody (Chelsea) Layton, Tandy (Jake) Nossaman, Jason and Kelsey Burns, and Nathan and Karissa Burns; great-grandchildren Kendrick, Tyce and Weslon Nossaman; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Wednesday Oct. 9, at the First Congregational Church with burial following at the Flagler cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Flagler Ambulance Fund, P.O. Box 101, Flagler, CO 80815.

The Love Funeral Home of Limon, Colorado was in charge of arrangements. Please visit the website at [www.lovefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lovefuneralhomes.com) to sign our online guest book or to send condolences to the family

## Union hosts tour of food coop

In September, the Kansas Farmers Union hosted a tour of the High Plains Food Cooperative starting in St. Francis, with the assistance of Rawlins County Economic Development. The tour included witnessing the co-op in action during their delivery day, touring four co-op members operations and listening to five co-op members about their operations.

On Sept. 19 during the Beginning Farmer Workshop in Atwood four co-op producers explained their operations.

During the Co-op's monthly delivery day, tour attendees witnessed the co-op in action when Kansas producers dropped their products off in St. Francis. There they toured Becky's Bierocks and learned about Manna Bakery.

Becky Robertson, owner of Becky's Bierocks and one of the original High Plains Food Cooperative members, along with nine employees make 75-100 dozen bierocks a day, four days a week. She gets her cabbage from a producer in Oklahoma, pork from Rattlesnake Ridge and some beef from RJ Klie Organics. Becky's Bierocks are sold in Dillions, independent grocers, hospitals and through the cooperative.

Manna Bakery is located between Goodland and St. Francis where they give about five adults with disabilities a chance to live independently. They opened four years ago and make preservative-free products including fresh bread, tortillas, cookies, egg noodles and more. They sell to a coffee shop in St. Francis, the Farmers Market in Goodland, through the cooperative and take orders over the phone.

The first tour stop was at Prairie House Herbs with Jo Hagney where she specializes in herb mixes with no added salt. She also has goats raised for their cashmere wool. They have a small store on the farm and sell through the cooperative. She is also one of the original co-op members.

JoAnn Klie then gave a tour of RJ Klie Organics where they raise organic cattle, organic hay, organic wheat flour, organic triticale flour and organic sweet corn kernels and white and blue corn meal. They have been certified organic for eight years and currently have 1,800 acres certified and 320 in transition. JoAnn said their yields really haven't dropped and the weeds have decreased. They have been selling through the cooperative for three years and average 50 to 60 orders each month.

Heather Leibbrandt gave the last tour at her farm, Rattlesnake Ridge Ranch, where they raise chickens, grass-fed beef and free-range heritage pigs. Heather, her husband, seven boys and one girl manage the farm. They sell through the cooperative and to the local sale barn.

The High Plains Food Co-op is now five years old and has 275 customers with an average order size of about \$70 each month, Chris Sramek said, who is credited with getting the co-op going. The third Thursday of each month High Plains Food Co-op producers send their customers' orders to Denver which are then distributed by volunteers to about 12 pick-up points around the Denver area.

"We've seen a tremendous growth in the food co-op. It's been an exciting endeavor for I think everybody that's been involved. We just really look forward to further expansion both in customer base and pick up points," said Chris Schmidt, Atwood, with Schmidt's Premium Meats. "It's just amazing the possibilities that are there. It just takes a lot of work. It's quite an undertaking when you think about it, the number of products that we have and the number of people that are involved."

All the producers' products are available to consumers outside of the Denver area by purchasing direct from the producer. Their products can be found on [highplainsfood.org](http://highplainsfood.org).

## Club Clip

### Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild met on Monday, Oct. 3, at the Senior Citizen building. Twenty-three members, including new members, were present and Mary Beth Miller, M.D. was the guest speaker.

Anita Miller presided over the meeting. Dues were paid and the minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.

Anita introduced Dr. Miller, who talked on "Your Heart" and how it works.

Did you know that a person's heart is about the size of a person's fist? She also asked how many people had the shingles shot, the flu shot, and the pneumonia shot. These are all very

important and everyone should have them.

Are you aware that women have different symptoms than men when they are having a heart attack? If you are having a heart attack, get medical care immediately. If you are a smoker, you should quit smoking immediately- do yourself and your heart a favor.

A question and answer period followed. Dr. Miller's talk was very interesting and informative.

The next meeting will be Nov. 5 and Ken Loof of Great Plains Mental Health will be the speaker. DeEtta Knorr and Kathy Weber will be hostesses.

## Recycle Newspapers

You have read the newspaper and it is ready to be recycled. Here are a few ways to recycle that newspaper:

- Deodorize food containers. Stuff a balled-up piece of newspaper into a lunch box or thermos, seal it, and let sit overnight.
- Pack delicate items. Wrap frames and figurines with several pieces of newspaper, then crumple the remaining sections to fill extra space in the box.

• Wipe away tough streaks on glass. Use newspaper with cleaning fluid to clean mirrors and windows.

• Preserve antique glass. Some older frames have finishes on the glass that can be damaged by cleaning solutions. Remove smudges by rubbing with newspaper dipped in a solution of one part white vinegar and one part warm water. Let air-dry.

## Driving Safety

Diving is one of the most hazardous water activities. Most diving-related injuries occur in pools with five feet of water or less. The Kansas SAFE KIDS Coalition urges parents to take the following precautions to prevent diving-related injuries and deaths:

- Never allow your children to dive into above-ground pools.
- Teach your children to dive with their hand's in front of their face and to swim toward the surface immediately upon entering the water to

avoid hitting the bottom of sides of the pool

- Teach them to dive only from the end of the diving board; never let them dive from rooftops, balconies, ledges or fences.
- Teach them to keep their dives simple.
- Make sure your diving board is in good condition before allowing your child to use it.
- Do not permit children to run and dive.

### 35 and still alive

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### ACROSS

- Easy marks
- Diamond defect
- Dwelt
- It may thicken
- Cohort of Kent and Olsen
- Ring great Griffith
- "\_ boy!"
- See 24-Across
- Big name in bridge
- Venus at sunrise, sometimes
- Singer DiFranco
- When paired with 18-Across, miscellany
- Utter chaos
- Thick \_ brick
- Beirut is its cap.
- Crystal ball consultant
- Tend to the turkey
- "Just for the heck \_ ..."
- Leather piercers
- Tea, e.g.
- Top-shelf
- Pound or Cornell
- "Nancy" rich kid
- Go ballistic
- Lyrical Gershwin
- Brylcreem amount
- Lead from the dugout
- Pull at the earth's surface, briefly
- Corrida shout
- Formal attire
- "Zelig" director
- Brie covering
- AI, "inventor" of the Internet
- Apartment sign
- "The Raven" opener
- Jacob's twin
- Eyelid problems

### DOWN

- Cyber-trash
- Choir voice
- Sauerbraten, et al.
- Mike holder
- Defat, whaler-style
- Singer k.d.
- Added stipulations
- Shrine Game side
- Ogrish Simon
- "Editorially speaking," in chat-room shorthand
- Like the flu
- Actress Verdugo
- Strauss material
- Do-nothing barker
- Assists, criminally
- Harsh Athenian lawgiver
- Quatrain scheme
- Ahead of the tag
- Flask filler
- Commandments mount
- Half of octa-
- On behalf of
- Part of a V-formation, perhaps
- In \_ land (spacy)
- Grubby guy
- Israeli desert region
- Arboreal ape
- Scully and Smart
- Short poem on two rhymes
- Zoo barriers
- Literature Nobelist Sachs
- Urged, with "on"
- Lustful god
- Mudville complement
- Andean of old
- End of a shooting
- Not masc. or fem.
- Shoebbox letters

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