

# Obituaries

## Daniel I. Jones

Sept. 7, 1952 - Oct. 17, 2012

Daniel I. Jones was very proud of his family. From stories of growing up chasing cows with the Devlin and Blach cousins in eastern Colorado, to tales of corn and machinery with the Strasser in-laws in Iowa, Dan's stories revolved around big tales of adventures in agriculture with his family.



Jones

Dan was born in Denver, Colo., on Sept. 7, 1952, to Margaret (Devlin) and Irvin Jones. It was very obvious from the beginning that Dan was a cowboy. Many of the childhood memories he shared included working and playing hard with his cousins under the supervision of his aunts and uncles.

After graduating from Yuma, Colo., Dan began his lifelong passion for the cattle industry. His journey started at the Winger Ranch where he had the opportunity to strengthen and grow lifelong friendships. Later, he had the opportunity to start his own ranching operation in Haigler, Neb.

When a new school teacher moved into Idalia, Colo., Dan met his future wife, Karen (Strasser) Jones who was fresh from Iowa with her pigtailed and love of cows.

Their daughter Amanda Faith was born in the tiny Haigler house between the rigor of ranch life including ditch irrigation, checking cows and feeding pigs. One short year later the family relocated to Rose Hill, Iowa, to farm with Karen's family. Humidity, mud and grass were a big change for the family. Adam Eugene joined the family on a miserably, hot summer day.

The next year the family took on the challenge of feedlot life. Living in Johnson and Scott City, the family enjoyed the opportunity to share in the excitement of the feedlot. Dan was so proud of his family's involvement in Beef Empire Days

and Chuckwagons in the Park. He was also excited to tell everyone about his wife and kids participating in processing cattle, riding pens and checking bunks. In 1989, the family became complete when Katherine Lyn made her dramatic entrance coming three months premature and weighing in at 2 pounds.

Next the family moved to Garden City where Dan managed the 40,000 head Brookover Feedyard. Exciting projects included the Hawaiian-Bred and Kansas-Fed program, winning Beef Empire Days carcass contest and feeding cattle for big name industry leaders including the Sam Walton Family, Bob Evans, T. Boone Pickens.

Moving back to St. Francis in 1998 was the opportunity Dan was looking forward to get back home. It gave his kids and wife the chance to re-connect with cousins and thrive in the development of a family Angus Ranch. Dan was proud to see his son Adam continue the dream by running Crooked Creek Angus. He also enjoyed telling people about Amanda's college and the Redlands Programs. Dan was excited about Katherine's prospects for the future and her plans to attend graduate school and earn her master's in library science. In the summer of 2012, he drove Karen to Iowa to see family and also visited Amanda and Jeremy in Oklahoma.

On Oct. 11, he suffered a heart attack doing what he loved. Dan was out chasing heifers and being a cowboy on his last day. Being buried in Wray was very important to Dan. He was always so proud of his eastern Colorado cowboy heritage and we thank you for being here when he made it home.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Oct. 20 at St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church in Wray. Honorary pallbearers were Don Metzler, Gary Yonkey, Herbert Strasser and Hale Strasser. Casket bearers were Tom Blach, Greg Devlin, Jim Norwood, Danny Robertson, John Boggess and Tim Blach.

## Marie L. Kowalke

Feb. 15, 1918 - Oct. 14, 2012

Former Goodland, Kansas resident Marie L. Kowalke, 94, died Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012, at Colonial Acres Nursing Home in Humboldt, Neb.

She was born Feb. 15, 1918, in Cheyenne County, Kansas, the daughter of Louise Amelia (Roesch) and Everett Edgar Cress. She attended school at South Star School in Cheyenne County.

On April 24, 1942, she and Glenn Bear were married in Delta County, Colo., and divorced in 1945. On March 31, 1947, she and Paul Kowalke were married at the Pleasant Valley Church in Logan County, Kan. On Jan. 14, 1948, she was confirmed in the Lutheran faith at McAllister, Kan. She lived in and around Goodland for most of her life, with shorter times in Colorado, Arkansas, and Idaho. Her memberships included Lutheran Women Missionary League, 1918 International Birthday Club; Jefferson County Senior Citizens Club, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary.

Preceding her in death were her husbands Glenn Bear and Paul

Kowalke; daughter Glenna Marie Bear; her parents; brothers Carl Cress, Frank Cress, Harold "Bud" Cress; sister Pearl Franklin; and several great-grandchildren.

Surviving family includes daughter Katherine Hauptman and her husband David of Denver, Colorado; daughter Annie May and her husband Gene of Humboldt, Neb.; daughter Pauline Ocker and her husband Larry of Brighton, Colo.; son Everett Kowalke and his wife Leona of Wray, Colo.; 16 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and 22 great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will be Saturday, Oct. 20, at 1 p.m. MT, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Goodland, with Pastor Darian Hybl officiating. Burial will follow in the Goodland Cemetery.

Friends may share their respects on Friday, from 3 until 7 p.m. mountain time, at Koons Funeral Chapel in Goodland.

Memorials may be designated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and may be left at or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.

## Ruth Elsie Zimbelman

Sept. 25, 1922 - Oct. 10, 2012

Ruth Elsie Zimbelman, 90, died peacefully on Oct. 10, 2012, in Boulder, Colo. She was born on a farm outside of St. Francis, Kan., on Sept. 25, 1922, and was the fifth of Peter and Margaret (Croissant) Zimbelman's six children. In the year she was born, President Warren G. Harding dedicated the Lincoln Memorial.

Ruth's childhood was typical of many at that time in the St. Francis area. As a child of Russian-German immigrants, she grew up speaking German at home. She attended a one-room schoolhouse through the eighth grade, and then graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1941.

After high school she worked at the J.C. Penney store in St. Francis, and then later at the Cheyenne County State Bank. On Feb. 20, 1946, Ruth married Clarence Zimbelman, son of John and Christina (Hoerth) Zimbelman at the Salem Evangelical Church west of St. Francis. Because of Clarence's career with the U.S. Government, they made their home in a number of locations in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado over the course of their 66 years of married life.

Ruth and Clarence had two daughters, Joan, born in 1951, and Margot, born in 1959. Ruth was a devoted wife and mother, and was passionate about instilling her moral values of hard work and integrity in her daughters. After staying home with her girls for many years, she returned to the workforce in 1970 as a teller at the Republic National Bank in Pueblo, Colo. She worked there for 17 years, and had a well-deserved reputation for being a loyal and dedicated employee.

## Elsie Shippert Hood

Dec. 25, 1911 - Oct. 21, 2012

Elsie Schippert Hood, 100, died peacefully, Oct. 21, 2012, at the East Morgan County Hospital in Brush, Colo. Elsie was born on Dec. 25, 1911, to William and Anna Schippert in Atwood, Kan., to a large family. The entire family worked from dawn to dusk on the family farm. At age 14, Elsie and her family moved to Colorado in the fall of 1926.

Elsie married Edwin Hood on April 4, 1932, in Hugo, Colo., in the minister's home. To this union three daughters were born, Barbara Marie, Ruth Ann and Mary Louise. She and Edwin farmed and ranched and survived the Great Depression and the dust storms of the 1930s. They lived on the farm until they sold it in 1980 and retired and moved to Brush.

Edwin died in 1988. Elsie lived at home in Brush until 2008 when she moved to the Aladdin Assisted Living. There she loved playing dominoes with the "gals."

Elsie was a loyal member at the Howard United Methodist Church in Last Chance, Colo. She loved her quilting friends and tried to attend the weekly

In their later years, Ruth and Clarence enjoyed travel, gardening, and spending time with family. These were years that were also marked by the most challenging event of their married life - the long illness and eventual death of their daughter Joan. In spite of her sadness and loss, and in a living testament to optimism and resilience, she took great joy in her grandchildren. Ruth was generous beyond measure to them, and loved more than anything to welcome them to her home in Longmont, Colo., for delicious home-cooked meals and overnight visits.

In addition to her husband Clarence and daughter Joan Dowdy, she was preceded in death by all of her siblings: Elmer, Frederick, Ruben, Albert and Emma Lubbers.

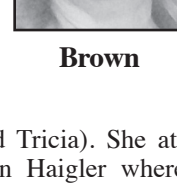
She is survived by her daughter Margot (Ray) LaPanse, and grandchildren Christopher and Alaina LaPanse, all of Superior, Colo.; her son-in-law, Dennis (Natalya) Dowdy, of Kent, Wash.; her brother-in-law, Raymond Zimbelman of St. Francis; sisters-in-law, Alma Zimbelman of St. Francis, Dorothy Zimbelman of Burlington, Colo., and Lucille Zimbelman of Michigan, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 10:30 a.m. at the Philips Chapel at Frasier Meadows Retirement Community, 350 Ponca Place, Boulder, Colo. In lieu of flowers, please consider giving a gift to one of the following charities: Frasier Meadows Employee Education Fund, Hospice Care of Boulder and Broomfield Counties, or Mountain View United Methodist Church.

## Joann "Joie" Brown

Dec. 4, 1963 - Oct. 11, 2012

Joann "Joie" Theresa Brown (Pevler) was born to Joann Alta Wheaton and Michael Mark Thompson on the Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., on Dec. 4, 1963. She died peacefully at her home on Oct. 11, 2012.



Brown

Joie grew up in Haigler, Neb., with her three sisters (Mary, Julie and Tricia). She attended school in Haigler where she graduated at the top of her class in 1982.

She married Alan Brown on Sept. 25, 1982. To this union they added two daughters, Amber and Toni. The family lived in Idalia, Colo., where she earned her emergency medical technician certification and served on the ambulance crew for the community. In 1991, the family moved to Springfield, Mo. While in Springfield, Joie began passionately working with troubled youth at the Regional Girls Shelter and Good Samaritan Boys Ranch. In honor of her dedication and hard work, she was awarded the Childcare Worker of the Year Award. She took pride in her most recent job at Foltmer

Drug, where she enjoyed working with the public.

Her favorite activities included anything involving her family, and the lights of her life, her four grandchildren; Madison, Aidan, Brady, and Mackenlie.

Joie was preceded in death by her grandad Merle "Dick" Wheaton, granny Anna Wheaton, uncle Merle Wheaton, aunt Lois Williams, and aunt Liz Cobb.

She is survived by her loving daughters Amber Baker (husband Jabe, children Aidan and Mackenlie); Toni Adamson (husband Cecil, children Madison and Brady) both of Wray; special friend Mike Fonte of Wray; mother Joann "Joanie" Henderson of Haigler; father Michael "Mike" Thompson of Las Vegas, Nev.; sisters Mary Keller (husband Clay, children Joni, Jami, Darris, Casey, and Connor) of St. Francis, Kan.; Julie Wolkow (husband Brad, children Anni, Jessica, Dalton, Lucas, and Clay) of Gordon, Neb.; Tricia Henderson (fiance James, son Brenner) of Longview, Texas; several aunts, uncles, cousins and other loving family and friends.

Services were held on Oct. 17 at the Haigler United Methodist Church in Haigler. Memorials can be made to the Spellman-Schmidt Funeral Home.

## Yvonne "Vonnie" Underwood

April 17, 1931 - Oct. 16, 2012

Yvonne "Vonnie" Underwood, age 81, died Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012 at Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook.

Vonnie was born on April 17, 1931 in Atwood, Kan. to parents RE and Nadia Orell (Koskie) Purvis. She was one of three children. Vonnie graduated from high school in Bird City, Kan. with the class of 1949. She then went on to attend Ft. Hays State University in Fort Hays, Kan.

Vonnie married husband James A. Underwood on Aug. 6, 1950 in Bird City. To this union three children were born; Diana, Steven and Janet. The family made their home in both Bird City and McCook where Vonnie was involved in a number of activities and organizations.

Vonnie was a member of Memorial United Methodist Church in McCook where she taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, sponsored the youth group and helped with the Red Willow County Fair Booth. She was a past President of Meals on Wheels and also delivered meals to area residents for many years. Vonnie enjoyed babysitting, embroidery, and gardening. She was employed by Vogue Men's Store. Vonnie was especially fond of her grandchildren, and loved to play cards with her family.

Vonnie was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jim Underwood; two granddaughters, Stacey Sue and Jaycie Lynn;

brother, Darrel Purvis; and sister, Raoma Johnson.

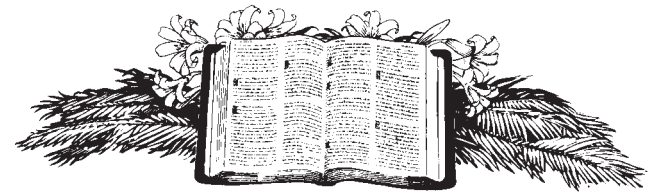
She is survived by her three children, Diana Underwood of Lexington, Neb., Steven Underwood of McCook and Janet (Charles) Fritsche also of McCook; grandchildren, Kyle Underwood, Chas Fritsche, Julie Fritsche and Kori Underwood; brothers-in-law, Jay Underwood and Melvin "Mux" Johnson; sisters-in-law, Shirley Purvis, Twila Kramer and Elaine Jensen.


Memorials may be given in her name to the Memorial United Methodist Church Music Department.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Oct. 19, 2012 from 6 to p.m. at Carpenter Breland Funeral Home. The family will also be present to greet friends during that time.

For those who wish to attend, burial will take place on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012 at 9 a.m. in Memorial Park Cemetery in McCook. A Celebration of Life Service will take place following the burial at 10:30 a.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church, also in McCook, with Pastor Lance Clay officiating. Lunch will be served following the service.

Carpenter Breland Funeral Home of McCook is in charge of the arrangements. Please visit our website at [www.carpenterbreland.com](http://www.carpenterbreland.com) to sign the online guestbook and leave your message of condolences for the family.





## Vote Brett T. Poling

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### NW KS GMD#4 WTAP Sign-up Open

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is accepting applications for the Water Right Transition Assistance Program (WTAP). The deadline to apply is **November 15**.

**WTAP is a voluntary, incentive-based program** designed to help restore aquifers and streams in critical areas by retiring water rights. Six "high priority" areas in the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 (GMD 4) have been designated as eligible target areas by the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources chief engineer because of significant water level declines. The six areas have been determined to be in need of aquifer recovery and are now closed to further water appropriations. These six areas in Cheyenne, Sherman, Thomas and Sheridan counties are also the subject of additional management program protocols being discussed with landowners by GMD 4.

Applicants who are selected for WTAP grants are compensated by the department's Division of Conservation in exchange for the permanent retirement of water rights on irrigated land. Priority is given to retiring water rights in areas that would have the greatest impact on the aquifer system. A fixed rate of \$2,000 per acre-foot of historic consumptive water use is available for eligible water rights to be retired. **WTAP grants are approved on the basis of competitive bids.**

**To be eligible, water rights must be in good standing with the department's Division of Water Resources.** Dryland farming is permitted after a water right is retired. Limited irrigation can also be temporarily allowed to establish a permanent cover on the land being transitioned from irrigation. Partial water right reductions will also be considered for retirement grants.

For more information, contact Steve Frost, water conservation program manager, at (785) 296-8964 or [Steve.Frost@kda.ks.gov](mailto:Steve.Frost@kda.ks.gov). WTAP rules and regulations, applications, maps and other details are available on the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation website at <http://www.ksda.gov/doc/?cid=1941>.

Information and assistance is also available on the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources field office in Stockton at (785) 425-6787 or at the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 in Colby at (785) 462-3915.

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