

Obituaries

Leone Freemyer

April 13, 1926 - May 5, 2012

Leone Freemyer, daughter of James Christopher Lang and Mary Kinen Lang, was born on the family farm near St. Francis, Kan., on April 13, 1926. She died on May 5, 2012, in Greeley, Colo.



Freemyer

She was married to Lawrence Edgar Freemyer. She is survived by Mary Katherine Mosenbocker (Rick), Centennial; James Edgar Freemyer (Helen), Denver; Michael Roy Freemyer, San Jose, Calif.; Cathy Ann Freemyer, Greeley; grandchildren Jennifer, Jamie, Christopher, Josh and great-grandchild Miles.

Rosary and visitation was held at Macy Allnut Chapel on May 8. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Mary's Catholic Church, on Wednesday, May 9. Interment was in Sunset Memorial Gardens with a reception following at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Leone was a faithful and devoted member and volunteer of St. Mary's Catholic Church. She was a graduate of Colorado State Teachers College (University of Northern Colorado).

She taught elementary education in a one-room schoolhouse

near St. Francis and also Kimball, Neb., and loved every minute of it. Upon moving to Greeley she substitute taught and later worked and retired from Northern Colorado Medical Center in the burn unit and physical therapy unit as a nurses' aide.

Leone loved her family deeply and was a dedicated mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She enjoyed her yard and tending her roses and watching them bloom. High points of her life were her travels to Rome, the Holy Land, Spain, Portugal, France and Germany as well as family vacations and returning to St. Francis to visit friends.

Leone's roots were deep in Kansas where she maintained a family farm.

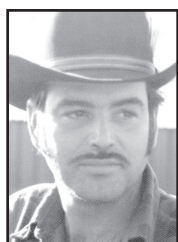
She enjoyed many friendships throughout the years, and lived a long and wonderful life. We are happy, her family said, that she is now with our Lord whom she served with oneness of purpose throughout her lifetime.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Mary's Catholic School in Greeley, Colo., in care of Allnut Funeral Service, 702 13th Street, Greeley, CO 80631. Friends may view the online obituary, sign the guest book, and send condolences at www.allnut.com.

David M. Leibbrandt

July 23, 1939 - April 13, 2012

David M. Leibbrandt was born July 23, 1939, in Cheyenne County, Kan., to Reuben and Mabel Leibbrandt.



Leibbrandt

He grew up on a farm and attended Sunny Ridge Grade School, 7 miles south of St. Francis, Kan. He served in the Navy, worked for Harvey Aluminum and Hanel Mills in Hood River. He was a skilled carpenter, builder and horseman, and enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing and camping.

David, 72, died on April 13, 2012, in Cebu City, Philippines, where he lived for the last 10

William Ludwig Raile

Nov. 23, 1918 - April 27, 2012

William Ludwig Raile, life-long resident of Cheyenne County, Kan., died on April 27, 2012. He was born on Nov. 23, 1918, as the youngest son of John and Katherine (Gienger) Raile.

As a boy he attended Northrup Elementary School through eighth grade. When he was growing up, baseball was a part of his life.

Church was a constant activity during his developmental years and remained so throughout his entire life. Bill was active as a layleader, council member and trustee in the E.U.B. church, and after their merger, the United Methodist Church. Bill's ultimate goal was his next home with the Lord.

His entire life's work was spent on the family farm northwest of St. Francis. When Bill was a teenager, he became an integral part of the farm operations after his father's death. He eventually took over the farm from his mother.

During this time, he gave up the baseball diamond and placed another diamond on his sweet-heart Ellen Brunswig's finger and they celebrated 69 years of marriage. Family was the most important part of Bill and Ellen's life. They encouraged all of their children to attend college and were proud that each one completed a college degree. When grandchildren came along they enjoyed attending most of their school activities.

Farming was Bill's life. Turning the soil, planting, seeing the crops grow and harvest was truly his calling. He believed in faithful stewardship of what was given to him by God. He was not afraid of trying new and different farming techniques. Early on, Bill implemented farming practices using sweep blades and stubble-mulch farming long before it was a common practice in the county. After his "retirement," the tractor became his part-time office. In addition to crops, the Raile's raised pigs,

years with his wife Marcia.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by children Nicole Moleli and Kristy Leibbrandt of The Dalles, Ore.; Brett Leibbrandt and Heidi Leibbrandt of Portland, Ore.; and grandchildren Eric Leibbrandt, Adam Koch and Natalie Moleli, all of Oregon. He is also survived by siblings Ken Leibbrandt and wife Alice of the Philippines, Donna Zimbelman and husband Marvin of St. Francis, Reuben Leibbrandt and wife Janice of The Dalles, and Judy White and husband Virgil of Springfield, Mo., and many nieces and nephews and extended family.

The funeral and burial was in Cebu City, Philippines.

chickens, beef cattle and milked cows.

In the early 60s, Bill began a cross breeding program with the hereford dominate cowherd. He introduced a charolais bull to the county when it was dominated by a red-white faced cattle population. At first, area cattlemen questioned Bill's choice of breeds, but this soon ended when Bill's crossbred weaned calves outweighed his straight breeds by 75-110 pounds. He saw the merits of the charolais cattle and in the late 60s decided to develop a purebred charolais herd. This was Bill's pride and joy. From this beginning, the Raile Farm reputation for selling excellent seedstock charolais spread from Texas to North Dakota and west to Washington State. Bill loved to raise the cattle and when he could no longer do the work would watch for hours while others did it. It provided a favorite pastime in his later years. One of his last public highlights was attending the March 2012 Raile bull sale now operated by son Cliff and family.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Ellen, son Dale, four brothers, Joe, Gotlieb, Albert, Harold, and three sisters Kathryn, Carolina, and Leila.

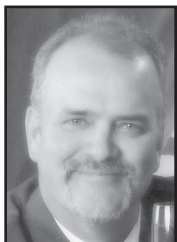
He is survived by one sister, Alice Pulliam of The Dalles, Ore., daughter-in-law Ramona Raile of St. Francis, daughter Loretta (Jim) Touslee of Baldwin City, son Cliff (Judy) Raile of St. Francis, and son Marvin (Jacqueline) Raile of Phoenix, N.Y., nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions in Bill's honor will be accepted by the United Methodist Church, 104 West Webster St. or the Cheyenne County Hospital, 210 W 1st St, both of St. Francis, KS 67756

Services were held on May 1, 2012, with interment in the St. Francis Cemetery.

"He always had a story to tell" and "the hat man"-- that's how JD Harvey was remembered

by friends and family at his memorial service March 31. In his many travels and connections, he collected



Harvey

both hats and stories and was known for both, from a cool Panama hat to a red lobster to a court jester. They represented the many loves of JD--travel, Cajun food and humor which he shared freely with family and friends.

He was born April 12, 1957 to Keith and Kathy Harvey in St. Francis, Kan., and died March 26, 2012.

JD started in the South Fork community school before moving in to town. Throughout his school years, he was active in all kinds of activities and sports--football, wrestling, band and Indian Singers were highlights.

Outside of school, he made memories in 4-H, United Methodist Youth group and anywhere his orange Opal GT would take him and his friends. He attended Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan., and it was the making of a die-hard Gorilla.

JD Harvey

April 12, 1957 - March 26, 2012

He loved his college days and continued to support his university until the day of his passing.

After college, JD took a job in Lake Charles, La., where he met his wife, Suzi Wiggins. They were married in 1982 and moved to Colorado. It was a short stay there and they relocated to Texas upon Suzi's request. After a couple years in Texas, he was hired by Siecor/Corning where he remained loyal to the end-- spending the last 10 years traveling internationally to China, Poland, Barbados, Mexico and more.

Soon after starting his career, JD and Suzi decided they were ready for a family. Their first addition was Amanda, now 25, and then Travis, now 21.

JD was preceded in death by his mother, Kathy, and his mother-in-law, Elizabeth Wiggins.

He is remembered in joy and laughter by his wife and children, his father Keith, his sister Ginny and family, many cousins and a host of friends around the world.

Through all of the events of his life-- academic achievements, sports recognitions, involvement in his work, time with his family, and all the friends he made through the process-- he had a love for life. But there was one thing that mattered to him more than life itself--his first love, Jesus Christ.

Darline Charlotte Price

March 14, 1921 - May 6, 2012

Darline Deardoff Price, 91, of Gothenburg, Neb., formerly of St. Francis, died May 6, 2012, at Stone Hearth Estates in Gothenburg.

Darline was born in Lebanon, Neb., on March 14, 1921, to Orion Levern Deardoff and Ebba Louise Carison. She lived in Oxford, Neb., until she was 3-years-old and her mother died. Darline and her father, O.L. (as he was known) moved to St. Francis in 1924. O.L. drove a truck picking up poultry, eggs and cream to take to Orleans, Neb., and ran a produce market. Several years later he opened a grocery store and Darline loved to work behind the candy counter.

When Darline was 6-years-old, O.L. married Chloe McKay and was blessed with two brothers, Ken and Wink and two sisters, Donna and Kay, whom she spent many hours babysitting and taking to Sunday school, the park and town activities. She went to school in St. Francis, attending kindergarten through high school and was awarded the National Honor Society pin.

After high school, Darline worked at the telephone office until 1941 when she married Delmont Price at a 6 a.m. garden wedding in the backyard of Josephine Churchill's home. After a short honeymoon trip they lived in Julesburg, Colo., and later Sterling, Colo., where Delmont worked at Safeway. In 1943 she and Delmont moved to a farm in St. Francis where Delmont farmed with his twin brother and raised cattle.

On Sept. 30, 1945, their daughter, Patricia Louise was born. They had many great times with friends and neighbors while living in the Lawn Ridge area. While Patty was in high school, Darline worked at the county treasurers office and drove Patty back and forth to and from school from the farm. In 1973, Delmont and Darline bought a house in town and moved to 419 Parkway Dr., where later their country neighbors and good friends also moved next door to them in town.

Darline spent several years working at the Style Shop in St. Francis, until she retired. She loved music and played a violin in high school and continued playing with a group at different functions in St. Francis.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church and was the cherub choir director for 25 years. Darline was also very active in the St. Francis Music Club and was president and also held a state office. She enjoyed going to the yearly state music club conventions with friends every year.

She also was a 4-H leader for

several years when Patty was in 4-H and a Home Extension Club member.

Darline and Delmont, after his retirement, spent time going on trips with family and friends and also to their daughter's to spend time fishing, visiting and going to the grandchildren's sports and other events. She received a lot of joy being with her grandchildren.

Darline and Delmont also enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors who would stop by in the summer and sit and visit in the driveway of their home.

Delmont died in 2006, and during November of 2008, Darline moved to Gothenburg to Stone Hearth Estates Assisted Living to be closer to her daughter and family. She made many friends there and had a lot of enjoyment joining in all the activities Stone Hearth had for their residents. She also spent many hours reading books, one of her favorite pastimes at Stone Hearth.

Darline was a friend to all with her warm and winning smile. She felt a real joy in giving and doing for others. She had humor to cheer people up or a helping hand when needed. Her many friends were a real treasure to her. She had a love for children and also her two black kitties, Mike and Millie.

Darline is survived by her daughter Pat, husband Robert Andrist, Gothenburg, and grandchildren Tia Murr, Kearney, Neb.; and Jai Andrist, wife Lisa and children Lindsey, Keefer and Jaison, Gibbon, Neb.; brother Kenneth Deardoff and wife Dee of Peoria, Ariz.; brother-in-law Cleland Tice, Scottsdale, Ariz.; sister-in-law Lucille Price, St. Francis; sister-in-law Korean Kramer of Denver, Colo.; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death were parents Orin Deardoff, Ebba Louise Deardoff and Chloe Deardoff; brother Wink Deardoff; sister-in-law Joyce Deardoff; sister Donna Smith; brother-in-law Raymond Smith; sister Kay Tice; brother-in-law Delmer Price; and brother-in-law Jay Kramer.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, at Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Services will be held at the St. Francis United Methodist Church, 512 S Scott, St. Francis, on Friday, May 11, at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Warren Cico officiating.

Interment will follow in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to the United Methodist Church, St. Francis.

Knodel Funeral Home is in charge of all services.



Mabel Lorwren Pritz Carstens

Dec. 31, 1918 - May 5, 2012

Mabel Lorwren Pritz Carstens was born Dec. 31, 1918, in Peabody, Kan., to John W. and Maude L. Pritz. She died on May 5, 2012.

Mabel graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1937. On Nov. 2, 1947, she was married to Maynard H. Carstens of Bird City. To this union, three children were born: Neil, Nora and Marla.

Mabel was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend and always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eyes. She was an active member of St. John Lutheran Church in Bird City. Her pride and joy was nurturing her children and sharing in their accomplishments. One of her most beloved joys was listening to her girls play the piano. She proudly displayed them and used the many beautiful pieces of furniture made by Neil. Mabel spent many precious moments with granddaughters Kaitlyn and Maddie making jelly, sewing projects and especially enjoyed snuggling. Grandma's house was always filled with love and laughter.

Mabel was a talented seamstress and made many of her own clothes as well as sewing for the girls. She also made

many beautiful quilts, pillows and other crafts using intricate embroidery.

Mabel was a very warm and compassionate person who touched the hearts and lives of all she met. She loved animals, especially cats, and working in her garden.

Mabel is preceded in death by her husband Maynard and brothers Lloyd Pritz and Elmer Pritz.

She is survived by son Neil of Bird City, granddaughter Kimli Carstens and great-grandson Thomas; daughter Nora and Jerry Wilson of Sebastol, Calif.; daughter Marla and husband Rusty Starns of Andover; granddaughters Kaitlyn Starns of Manhattan; and Maddie Starns of Andover; and a host of friends and relatives. She will be sadly missed by all.

Services were held Wednesday, May 9, at St. Johns Lutheran Church in Bird City and conducted by Reverend David Rossbach of St. Francis and family friend, Jim Gleason of Benkelman. Burial was in the Bird City Cemetery with arrangements by Knodel Funeral Home of St. Francis. The family suggests memorial donations be made to Hospice or the Wichita Humane Society.

William "Bill" Krien

April 2, 1913 - April 26, 2012

William Krien, 99, died early Thursday morning, April 26, 2012, at the Good Samaritan Village.

Bill was born on April 2, 1913, in Cheyenne County. He was the fifth child of 11 siblings born to Tobias and Dorothea (Feikert) Krien. At an early age, he moved to Colorado with his parents and then they moved back to Cheyenne County.

His parents had come to the United States from Neudorf, South Russia, in 1910, and they spoke German in the home. When he started school, he spoke only German which made school hard for him. When he was in the fifth grade, his parents needed help on the farm so he quit school.

He lived through the Dirty Thirties and told about the day when the dust was so heavy, it was like night. On that day, he said he was plowing in a field and it became so bad that he couldn't see. He turned the horses loose from the plow and followed them home. If it wouldn't have been for the horses he couldn't have made his way back home.

During this time, there was little work. He, Ralph Wiecek and George Byerly went to Montana, Idaho and Oregon working as they found jobs, mostly on farms, planting and harvesting crops. He also was known for his corn shucking skills.

He eventually returned to Cheyenne County where he met Leone Wiecek. They were married on March 5, 1940, in Goodland, Kan. They became Seventh-Day Adventists in the 1950s and were faithful members.

Their first few years were spent living on farms and making a living farming some for themselves and for other farmers.

In the late 1940s, Bill began his life-long career as a brick mason, working with his brothers. He and six of his brothers were bricklayers and they often worked together, especially on large jobs. He and some of his brothers laid the bricks on many of the area churches.

He was in his 80s when he and his son, Billy, laid Dr. Stout's house in Benkelman. Dr. Stout, who was about the same age as Bill, was concerned. He said, "He's too old to be doing that work." Each morning, he would all but give Bill a physical, then he would tell Bill to take two aspirin -- that he didn't want him to have a heart attack.

Bill believed in getting up early and getting a good start on the day's work. He often said, "What he didn't get done before noon, just didn't get done."

He was particular in his work. If a brick was not laid in straight, Bill tore it out. The grandsons were all hod carriers and they quickly learned the right consistency for the cement and when laying the brick on the scaffold, they had to be turned the right direction.

He worked for several more years, helping brick a church in Bethune, Colo., after a tornado

took it down. That was one of the last jobs he completed.

Throughout his life, Bill loved working with horses. He grew up with horses and seemed to have a great understanding of the animal, from training and riding, to selling them. He also had a collection of bits and had restored several sets of harnesses. He enjoyed going on trail rides.

Each summer, Bill planted a garden and reaped the harvest. He especially liked growing watermelon and cantaloupe.

He liked old cars and pickups and seeing them restored. He restored a 1937 Plymouth in which he would take the grandkids on rides. He also had a 1949 Ford pickup which, one morning during a blizzard, he, Billy, Troy and Todd went out to check the horses. The road was barely visible and the pickup went off the road. The pickup gently turned over on its side. They crawled out the driver's door and walked home in the blizzard.

He liked to fish. One afternoon, he and his brother, Fred, were fishing out of a boat. Bill had never learned to swim. The wind came up and Bill became a little concerned about the boat tipping over. Fred told him he didn't need to worry -- if it tipped over, he should just go to the bottom and walk out.

He and Leone took trips to Denver to see their daughter. She also accompanied them to the Black Hills in South Dakota.

They enjoyed watching the grandkids ride horses and would go to the gymkhana practices and then travel to their gymkhanas and horse shows. They also made sure they bought each grandkid their first pair of cowboy boots.

Bill entered the Good Samaritan Village in 2001.

Bill is survived by his wife, Leone, of 72 years; son, Billy (Karen) of St. Francis; daughter, Marilyn Krien of Aurora, Colo.; brother, Paul Krien of St. Francis; grandchildren, Troy (Jan) Krien of Waverly, Neb., Kelly (Tim) Allen of Clay Center, Todd Krien and friend, Shelley, of Fort Morgan, Colo., Tyler (Melissa) Krien of Salina; great-grandchildren, Bridgette (Brian) Rankin of Westmoreland, Kyle Allen of Clay Center, Jessie Krien and Jamie Krien of Waverly, and Tristyn Krien of Salina; and one great-great-grandson, Logan Rankin of Westmoreland. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents; brothers, Fred, John, Jake, Tobe, Otto, Oscar and Wilmer; sisters, Christina and Edna.

Funeral services were held on Monday, April 30, at the First Methodist Church in St. Francis. Pallbearers were his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandson. Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery, St. Francis.

Arrangements were made by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.