

# OBITUARIES

## Gerald Weymon Persinger

March 30, 1923 - Oct. 21, 2013



Gerald Weymon Persinger, youngest son of Henry Persinger and Esta Pettijohn Persinger's five children was born on the family farm near Norton, Kansas on March 30, 1923. He passed away on Oct. 21, 2013 at the Arbor Rose Senior Care facility in Mesa, Ariz.

Gerald attended rural Norton County grade schools and helped on the family farm during his early years. As a teenager he moved to Jetmore, Kansas to assist his sister and husband, Verla and James Ringgenberg with their Phillips 66 gas station. He graduated from Jetmore High School in 1941. After high school, he returned to Norton County to develop a farming business in Norton and Graham Counties and also for a short time in Colorado. He kept the family farm going when his two brothers were called to serve in the war.

On Dec. 9, 1948 Gerald married Arbutus Jones of Hill City, and they resided for several years in the house which he and his brother Raymond had built at 302 N. Norton in Norton. During this time their children, Susan and Steven were born. In 1957, the family moved to a farm near Lenora, and lived there until returning to Norton County in 1962. He purchased a farm southeast of Norton and resided there until retiring to Mesa, Ariz. in the mid-1980's.

While continuing to develop the farming operation, Gerald was also actively involved in several organizations. He served at the county, state and national level for the Kansas Wheat Growers Association and made

several trips to Washington, D.C. as an agriculture advocate. He also served on the Township Board, the County Extension Board, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Board and a Norton community school committee. In 1974, Gerald and Arbutus received a Kansas Banker's Association Soil Conservation award in recognition for stewardship of their land. Gerald was also a member of Norton Christian Church.

In 1980, Arbutus died suddenly in an automobile accident. Later Gerald met Kathleen Wilson Archer and they united in marriage on January 28, 1984. Gerald and Kathleen remained on the farm until retiring to Mesa and assisting Gerald's two sisters there. While in retirement, Gerald continued his passion to travel and completed a visit to every one of the 50 states in the USA. During his life, he also visited Cuba, Canada, Mexico, and the Panama Canal. After retiring, he accumulated an extensive collection of Mexican ironwood carvings and Avon bottles. He also continued his woodworking hobby while creating many projects he

shared with family and friends.

Gerald loved life and his family. He had a keen sense of humor and appreciation for friends and caregivers. His core values included perseverance, determination and optimism. Even after moving to Arizona, his interest in the family farm in Kansas never waned. He felt a sense of pride knowing that the land his father farmed was continuing in the care of the third and fourth generation of the family.

Gerald will be missed by his wife Kathleen of Mesa, Ariz.; daughter Susan and her husband Ray Flickner, Wichita; son Steven and his wife Deborah of Norton; stepson Jim and wife Marcia Archer of Ladera Ranch, Calif.; stepson Steve and wife Cheryl Archer of Amarillo, Texas; 16 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren and many friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents, brothers Ivan and Raymond, sisters Verla and Mildred, stepsons Leon and Rodney, and one grandson.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013, at Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton. Burial will follow at Norton Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Gerald Persinger Memorial Fund.

Friends may call at the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton on Friday, Nov. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Condolences may be sent to [www.enfieldfh.com](http://www.enfieldfh.com).

Arrangements by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

## Delphia Nowels

June 15, 1920 - Nov. 17, 2013

Delphia Nowels, McCook, Neb. (formerly of Oberlin), died Nov. 17, 2013, at Willow Ridge in McCook, Neb., at the age of 93.

The daughter of William Davis and Lula Connell, Delphia was born June 15, 1920 in Leader, Colo., and was raised on a farm northwest of Norcatour.

She went to school at Mount Vernon in rural Norcatour and attended Knapp's Business College in Tacoma, Wash.

On Dec. 30, 1961, Delphia married Eugene Edgar Nowels, and the couple resided in Tacoma, Wash., Denver, Colo.,

Oberlin, Norton and McCook, Neb. She worked as a civil servant in Tacoma, Wash.

Delphia was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and four siblings, Clifford Davis, George "Rusty" Davis, Merna Wurm and Merle Babb.

She is survived by her son, William (Sandy) Rounsley of Minden, Mass.; brother, Marvin (Lorraine) Davis of Leavenworth; sisters, Wava Markmann of Kansas City; Mildred Carroll of Wichita; and two grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at Pauls Funeral Home in Ober-

lin on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 1 p.m., with Rev. Nancy Proffitt officiating. Burial will follow at Oberlin Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday and on Saturday from 8 a.m. until service time.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Pauls Funeral Home of Oberlin, [www.paulsfh.com](http://www.paulsfh.com), is in charge of arrangements.

## Patricia Ann Louise Felts

July 12, 1934 - Nov. 10, 2013

Patricia Ann Louise Felts, daughter of Linus and Florence (Rupp) Basgall, was born in Hays, Kansas on July 12, 1934 and departed this life on Sunday, Nov. 10, 2013 at the Phillips County Hospital in Phillipsburg, at the age of 79.

She grew up in Hays, where her parents owned and operated Basgall's Grocery Store for many years. She attended Jefferson Grade School and Middle School and graduated from GCHS (Girls' Catholic High School), which is now a part of the TMP-Marion schools. "Patt" met her future husband, Tad Felts, while attending Fort Hays State University.

The couple was married Aug. 25, 1954 in Hays, and on their honeymoon took the train to St. Louis, Mo., where they watched the Cardinals play baseball. Needless to say, Patt's enthusiasm for traveling and sports helped set the stage for their successful and happy marriage of 59 years. They went to baseball games in many of the major league ballparks and attended numerous college football "bowl" games. Together they shared many adventures and created years of wonderful memories.

Their family was blessed with the birth of two sons, Gregg and Marc, who added their own individual gifts to Patt's life. She loved being a Mom and always played an active part in her sons'

school activities and, of course, sporting events.

In addition to her roles as wife and mother, Patt worked for many years as a clerk at Rankin Drug in Phillipsburg. One of her favorite pastimes was playing Bridge, sometimes with the "girls" and sometimes with Tad and other couples in their Bridge Club. She also collected angels and had a large assortment of refrigerator magnets which she'd picked up at various tourist attractions in the 48 different states they had visited. Her favorite holiday was Christmas and each year she looked forward to decorating their home, adding new items and updating colors and styles.

In 1984 Tad and Patt took their first trip together to New York. Patt fell in love with the city; she loved the glitz, the galleries, Rockefeller Center, Coney Island and the subways. One of the last family vacations they all shared together was a special trip back to New York and the east coast.

Patt was a devout and active member of the Catholic Church who cherished her friends, her family, and especially her grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

Her parents, Linus and Florence, preceded her in death.

She is survived by her husband, Tad, of the home in Phillipsburg; sons, Gregg of Houston, Texas and Marc of Junction

City; and three grandchildren: Meghan Felts of Dallas, Texas; Devon Felts of Manhattan; and Alex Felts of Junction City.

A Rosary Service was held on Thursday, Nov. 14 at Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel and a Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, Nov. 15 at SS Philip & James Catholic Church, with Father George Chalbham and Father Charles Steier officiating. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery in Phillipsburg.

## Native American art at library



Have you visited the Norton Public Library to see the current exhibits in the display cases and in the Art Gallery?

With colder temperatures and the arrival of advertisements about decorations and toys for Christmas, you may be thinking about the coming holiday season. Two of the exhibits will help you think about two facets of the holidays.

On display is a nativity collection belonging to Leigh Davis. It is being shared by her family in memory of their dear "Miss Davis." Leigh attended grade school in Norton and was a graduate of Norton Community High School in 1977, then graduated from Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina. She became a teacher in Oberlin and taught there during her 30 year career.

Leigh became interested in nativities as a child and loved the Christmas story. She began collecting nativities when she was in college; bought some herself and received many from family, friends and students.

Her favorite artist was Jim Shore of Jim Shore Designs. On display is a Cherished Teddy Tea Set Nativity. Also note the Elegant Blessings set from the Bradford Exchange.

The grandchildren of the late Ruby Chambers Strayer have shared her collection of Christmas Santa cards. Sixty-three are on display with 36 that couldn't be fitted in. The family stated, "Grandma Ruby probably started, mostly in the

70s just to save them in a box, but continued down through the years." Ruby loved red which probably led her to save the cheerful Santa cards from loved friends and family.

Ever since she was a little girl, Dana Paxton wanted to be a Native American. She ran through the pastures as 'Running Deer,' as she called herself. She loved everything about the way of Native Americans.

Dana's father, Lyle Hutchens, and mother, Sue Hutchens (Sharp), were very interested in history. Over the years, her father "grew" his Native American artifact collection. In 1990, when Dana's daughter, Wiyanna (which is Lakota for Girl Child), was born her father gave her a feather fan with a beaded handle. This started Dana's collection.

Dana taught herself to make dream catchers which she sells along with jewelry, medicine wheels and other items. Dana's favorite piece is the beaded pipe bag, one of the many artifacts her father gave her.

Dana loves the Native American culture-art, music, traditions, language, religion and rituals. She had a dear friend, a full-blooded Lakota, who named Dana, "Ghostwoman," which Dana carries with great pride.

As you visit the Art Gallery, you will see photography exhibits shared by 4-H members. These photos were a part of the more than 200 entries of photography in the 4-H division at

the Norton County Fair, 2013. From these exhibits 4-H members entered nine exhibits at the Kansas State Fair.

Rebecca Wentz, Prairie Dog 4-H Club, had a photograph selected to be a part of a traveling photo display, that will be displayed during the year at Rock Springs Ranch, Kansas State University, the State House and the Capitol. Molly Maddy, Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club, had a photo selected for the display for the Kansas 4-H Foundation, which will be on display at Rock Springs Ranch.

The photos show a variety of subjects the photographers chose with both black and white and color photos. The exhibitors are Rebecca Wentz, Amy Wentz, Bryndon Wentz, Addison Brooks, Prairie Dog 4-H Club; Jasmine Covington, Cedar Ridge 4-H Club; Scott Sansom, Molly Maddy, Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club; Sarah David, Kaytie Henrickson, Ryan Johnson, Katelyn Skrdlant, Colby Skrdlant, Teagan Johnson, Busy Beavers 4-H Club.

Carol Griffith, County Project Chairman, 4-H Photography, arranged the display. She also serves on the State Project Action Committee for photography. These 4-H exhibits from Norton County represent the Twin Creeks Extension District.

All of the exhibits will be on display through December 2013. Take time to visit the library to enjoy these displays.

## Merl L. Edmands

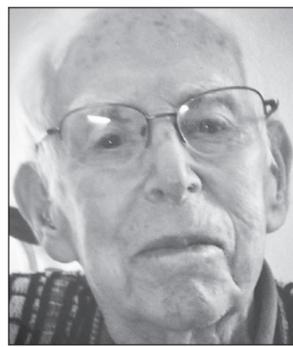
May 10, 1917 - Nov. 10, 2013

Merl L. Edmands, 96, was born May 10, 1917 and went home to his Lord Nov. 10, 2013.

The beloved father of Janet Kelly, Joyce Murch and Judy Spada, Merl was preceded in death by his loving wife Wilma F. Edmands - dollmaker, three son-in-laws and multiple family members.

He was a tool and die maker and engineer for New Age Industries, Norton.

He will be greatly missed by his three daughters, nine grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren



and three great-great-grandchildren.

**I want to thank the Norton Fire Department for their quick response Sunday.**

Also a big thank you to Jim and Lida Sharp for calling the fire department and me.

*Thanks to all for a job well done.*

**Roy's Sales and Service**

## 65th Anniversary

DICK AND BETTY PAULS



The family of Richard "Dick" and Elizabeth "Betty" Pauls invites you to participate in a card shower to celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on November 25. Cards will reach them at: 109 S. Illinois, Selden, KS. 67757.

Dick and Betty's children include: Margaret (Boyd) Wilson of Oberlin, Janella (Daniel) Benoit of Hill City, Jacklyn (Daniel) Schreiner of WaKeeney, and Rick (Dori) Pauls of Oberlin.

They also have 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren

Nov. 21- Nov. 26

Showing at the

# NORTON THEATRE

**Thor: The Dark World**  
2 Hours, 2 Minutes (PG-13)  
Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.  
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 p.m.

**The Hunger Games**  
Catching Fire  
2 Hours, 36 Minutes (PG-13)

Thor is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. No Sunday Discount  
The Hunger Games is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. No Sunday Discount

PREMIERING IN NORTON  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27  
FROZEN (PG)

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Let's Go to the Movie

COMING SOON

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