

Obituary

Deto Ritsu Harada, 95

Deto Ritsu Harada, 95, a Blackfoot resident, passed away Saturday, June 5, 2010 from natural causes, while surrounded by his loving family.

Deto was born August 17, 1914 in Iona, Idaho, the son of Orinosuke and Sode Harada. In his youth he attended school in Fairview, and graduated from Ucon High School in 1934. After renting 80 acres in Ucon, he began farming on his own at the age of 22.

Deto met his wife, Yuki Yokota from Pocatello, Idaho and they married on March 21, 1941 in Idaho Falls, Idaho and moved into their first home on the Ucon farm. Life was pretty primitive in that they had no indoor plumbing and water source was from a canal outside. In 1945 they moved to Firth, Idaho where Deto farmed and ranched for 47 years. In 1992 Deto and Yuki retired to their present home in Blackfoot, Idaho.

Throughout his farming career and life, Deto always displayed a great sense of humor and willingness to help those around him. Being the social “butterfly” he was, Deto was a past Firth School District school board member; a member of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Farm Bureau and Woolgrowers Association.

Deto so enjoyed traveling with Yuki in their early retirement, and then dancing, playing pinochle and other card games and visiting with friends. However, his greatest joy in life was time spent with his family.

Deto is survived by his wife, Yuki of Blackfoot; six children, Joyce (Mitts) Naito of Nampa, Idaho, Ron (Carla) Harada of Idaho Falls, Janet (Ron) Green of Pocatello, Larry (Miki) Harada of Salt Lake City, Utah, Vance (Joanna) Harada of Boise and Jolene (Bryan) Parrish of Pocatello; 25 grandchildren and 37 great grandchildren; brother, Agie Harada of Shelley; and sister, Mickie Martin of Yorba Linda, CA.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Avenue in Blackfoot. The family will meet with friends on Friday evening from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and again on Saturday for one hour prior to services. Interment will be at 4 p.m. after services at the Idaho Falls Rose Hill Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.

