

Obituary

Freeman Lilya, 91



Freeman Lilya passed away Friday, March 19, 2010 at Renaissance Assisted Living Center at the age of 91.

Freeman was born in Salt Lake City Utah on October 12, 1918 to Ernest and Jane Simper Lilya. At the age of one year, his family moved to Bingham County and he has lived there ever since. He attended elementary school in a two room schoolhouse in McDonaldville and then attended Blackfoot High School. In 1938 he married June Anderson and they had seven children He spent most of his life farming, at first on his father's farm in Groveland and then in 1945 he purchased an 80 acre farm in Aberdeen where he ran a small dairy. Freeman and June were later divorced. In 1979 he married Willie Mae Beach and at that time he moved to Blackfoot After selling the farm, Freeman worked several different jobs and retired from the INEL where he worked as a janitor and delivery person. Freeman was very independent and worked hard all of his life. He raised a huge garden each year, much to the delight of his family and neighbors. He loved to go fishing whenever possible at the Rose Ponds and at Mackay Reservoir.

He is survived by his children Gayle (Bonnie) Lilya, Gary (Irene) Lilya, and Terry (Kathy) Lilya, his step children Shelton Beach, Phillip Beach, Stella Chase and Ellen May as well as numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his sister Orva Parks and brother Claude Lilya, and his dear friend Dorothy Winson. He was preceded in death by his wife Willie Mae, his children Doreen, LaNae, Gene and Kaylynn Lilya, his brother Marvin Lilya and his stepson Delton Beach.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 11:00 am at the Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Ave., Blackfoot, Idaho. Friends may visit with the family from 7:00 to 8:30 pm Tuesday, March 23rd and again from 10:00 to 11:00 am prior to the services at Hawker Funeral Home.