

Obituary

Van Douglas Nelson, 81

Van Douglas Nelson, 81, of Firth, passed away Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at the Life Care Center in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Van was born on June 28, 1929 in Idaho Falls, Idaho to Oscar and Lena Ard Nelson. He went to school in Firth, Idaho and graduated in 1947. While he was in the Army, he was stationed in Korea in a M.A.S.H. unit. Before going into the service and after he returned, he worked on the family farms and in potato warehouses.

On April 17, 1966 Van married Joann James from Boise and together they raised two children, Adam and Becky. The family raised hay, grain and cattle and were one of the 6 original owners of Cedar Creek Grazing Association. Van and his family kept the farm going even with Van working for G.P.O.P. of Shelley. Van retired from G.P.O.P. in 2001, after 33 years.

Van and Joann traveled, doing garage sales from the West to the East coast and the North and South borders. The family did many camping trips, including rock hunting and 4-wheeling. Van and Joann wintered either in Arizona or the Oregon Coast with their friends, Bob and Jo Thomas.

Van is survived by his wife, Joann; son, Adam (Peggy) Nelson of Firth; daughter, Becky Nelson of Firth; brother, Darren (Elaine) Nelson of Post Falls, Idaho; three grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Van is preceded in death by his mother, father and a sister, Jean Jones.

A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2010 at Riverview Cemetery in Firth, Idaho. Family will meet with friends and relatives from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Avenue in Blackfoot, prior to services at the cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to your favorite charity. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to thank the staff at Creekside Home Health in Idaho Falls and Life Care Center of Idaho Falls for the love and care they showed Van.

