

Obituary

Ken Kenji Ugaki, 87



Ken Kenji Ugaki, 87, of Blackfoot died Friday, January 6, 2012 at the Bingham Memorial Hospital in Blackfoot.

He was born February 16, 1924, in Rexburg, Idaho, the son of Gisaku George Ugaki and Hisano Akiyama Ugaki.

His early years were lived in the Sugar Salem area where he attended schools.

He married Jane Miyuki Okamoto on August 8, 1952, in Rexburg, Idaho. They were later divorced.

He came to Blackfoot in 1954 and other than a few years in California has lived here since. He was a religious man and had attended various church denominations.

He served in the U.S. Army during WWII in Military Intelligence. He had some experiences helping and interpreting for General McArthur as he served in the Pacific Theatre.

Ken was active in the American Legion where he had been past commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars and life member of Disabled American Veterans. He had been through most of the seats in both the local, district and state American Legion. He was an avid bowler and was inducted into the Idaho Bowler's Hall of Fame, and was the Blackfoot Bowling Association President for many years and was still on the board until his time of death. Also, he was a member of the Blackfoot Bowling Association Hall of Fame. He was an Eastern Area Director for the Idaho State USBC Bowling Association. He was also a member of the Idaho State USBC Youth Bowling Association. He was a coach for many years in the late 1950's thru the early 1970's. He was also a past member of JACL (Japanese American Citizens League) and Parents without Partners.

He had worked as a farmer west of Blackfoot on the desert. He also worked for Spudnik from 1972 - 85 as a truck driver delivering equipment. He enjoyed fishing, bowling, playing cards and spending time with his family.

Survivors include his children, Malon (Tina) Ugaki, San Leandro, CA, Raymond Ugaki, Blackfoot, Yvonne (Ed) Hicks, Pocatello, Terri (Walter) Raines, Stockton, CA, Janet (Rob) Rudy, San Leandro, CA; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and one step-great grandchild. Also surviving are one brother Jack (Margaret) Ugaki, Idaho Falls; three sisters, Ruby Ouye, Berkeley, CA, Fumi (Fumio) Nukaya and Taka (Jun) Nukaya, both of Idaho Falls.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and three brothers, Yoshi, Yuzo and Tomi Ugaki.

Funeral Services will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 14, 2012 at the Hawker Funeral Home in Blackfoot. Family will meet with friends on Friday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Funeral Home and one hour prior to services. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.