Christopher Julian (Chris) Bechard 1961 - 2007

LEAWOOD — Christopher Julian (Chris) Bechard, 46, of Leawood, died Dec. 26. Mr. Christopher Bechard was born Oct. 31, 1961, in Waterville, Maine, to Julian L. and Diane (Cyr) Bechard. He married Pennie Marie Steinert Feb. 8, 1986, in Larned. They are the parents of Luke David Bechard, who was born Sept. 1, 2002, in Los Angeles, Calif. Chris was employed by Butler Manufacturing as a corporate sales manager. He was involved in many church and civic organizations. Chris was extremely devoted to his family.

Survivors include his wife, Pennie Marie (Steinert) Bechard and son Luke, both of Leawood; his parents, Julian and Diane Bechard of Waterville, Maine; three brothers, John and wife Dorcas of Mount Vernon, Maine, and John’s daughters Katy and Ellie of Albany, N.Y.; Mark, and Matthew and wife Karyn and son Noah, all of Augusta, Maine; a grandmother, Blanche Cyr of Waterville, Maine; his godparents, Uncle Ralph and Aunt Annette Cyr, Aunt Ferne Cyr, and Great-Aunt Viola Bouchard; as well as many cousins, Chris’s wife’s parents Roger and Kay Steinert of Bushton; her brother TSgt. Gary and wife Ann of Columbia, S.C.; sister Teresa Caster and husband Curtis and children John, Anthony, Amanda, and Reylynn, all of Wichita.

A Rosary will be prayed at 5:30 p.m. with a visitation following until 8 p.m. today at McGilley State Line Chapel, 12301 State Line Rd, Kansas City, MO 64145. A Funeral Mass will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Nativity, 119th and Mission in Leawood. Friends and family are invited to attend a luncheon in the parish hall following the funeral service. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at the cemetery in Galatia. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Luke D. Bechard c/o McGilley State Line Chapel. Arrangements provided by McGilley State Line Chapel, 816-942-6180.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 1, 2008*

Roberta Rose Leiker 1921 - 2007

Roberta Rose Leiker, 86, of Great Bend, died Dec. 29. She was born April 25, 1921, near Downs, to Robert William and Ada Rose Stuart Kiper. She married Ernest Leiker in Great Bend in 1943 and was blessed with 60 happy years of marriage before his death in 2003.

She was a member of Saint Rose Catholic Parish for many years, where she was active in the Altar Society. She was a leader for all of her daughters’ Girl Scout troops and worked as a clerk and bookkeeper at Gates Drug Store, which was managed by her husband, Ernie.

Survivors include three daughters, Janice Magana and husband Conce, of Dodge City, Judy Laux of Schaumburg, Ill., and Linda Hess and husband Hugh of Lansing, Mich.; her sister, Betty Sumpter and husband Rex; her sister-in-law, Bernice Leiker of Oklahoma City, Okla.; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, all of whom will miss having her in their lives.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Great Bend with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association in care of Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 1, 2008

Willis W. “Pete” Harbaugh 1918 - 2007
RUSSELL — Willis W. “Pete” Harbaugh, 89, died Dec. 31 at Vintage Place in Russell. Born Sept. 3, 1918, in Russell County, he was the son of James I. and Susan Ringheisen Harbaugh. He was raised and attended schools in Russell County. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, he returned to the Russell area and lived in Luray for several years before moving to Colorado in 1956. He was a bulldozer operator in the construction business for many years in Colorado until he retired and moved back to Russell in the early 1980s.

Mr. Harbaugh was very active at the Russell Senior Citizen Center, where he had been a past president. He was also a life member and past commander of the Russell American Legion Post and a member of the Russell Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans.

Survivors include two sons, Wayne Harbaugh and wife Sandy of Otis and Stanley Harbaugh and wife Bonnie of Longmont, Colo.; a daughter, Judith Janssen and husband Wayne of Russell; three sisters, Phyllis Bodine of Russell, Lillie Jean Livingston of Great Bend and Bonnie Schartz and husband Aubrey of Hutchinson; four grandsons and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; six brothers, Ralph, Warren, Ernest, James, Lloyd and Richard; and a sister, June Faulkner.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. on Friday at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Russell with Pastor Roger Dennis officiating. Interment will be at the Russell City Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home with family receiving friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the DAV and Russell Senior Citizen Center in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.russellfuneralhome.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Russell Funeral Home*
610 North Elm Street
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-4399
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 1, 2008

Katherine L. Collins 1925 - 2007


Mrs. Collins was a member of First United Methodist Church in Hoisington.

Survivors include two sons, Roy Goans of Hutchinson and Jimmie Allen Goans of Pontiac, Mich.; five daughters, Ada Jean Cox of Commerce, Mich., Alberta Kay Tederington, Flowerville, Mich., Marchia Ann Halloc and Peggy L. Collins, both of Wixom, Mich., Martha Lucille Goans, Pontiac, Mich.; four brothers, Melvin D. Loreg of Great Bend, Mike A. Loreg, Jr. of Hoisington, Alvin Dean Loreg of Topeka and Darrell L. Loreg of Hays; three sisters, Helen McKenney of Lyons, Marjorie Bockner of Hays and LaDonna Lytle of Great Bend; 31 grandchildren; 29 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Keith and Joseph Loreg; three sisters, Loree Ann Blair, Dorothy Loreg and Della Mae Loreg.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington with Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Burial will be at 3 p.m. on Thursday at Paradise Center Cemetery in Codell. Friends may visit from 1 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday and 9 a.m. until service time Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home
415 North Main
P.O. Box 146
Clarence Randall Ritchie

Clarence Randall Ritchie, 71, former Great Bend resident, died Dec. 30 at Bakersfield, Calif.

Survivors and arrangements will be announced by Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood.

Vela L. (Kinman) Etchen 1911 - 2007

Vela L. (Kinman) Etchen, 96, of Great Bend, died Dec. 31 at Country Living Place Plus, Hoisington. She was born July 15, 1911, at Valeda, the daughter of Daniel Shotwell Kinman and Pauline Faye Kinnamon. She married John Baker on Nov. 22, 1941, in Springfield, Mo. He preceded her in death June 17, 1951. She then married Al Etchen on Nov. 15, 1957, in Denver, Colo. He preceded her in death Feb. 18, 1982. She was employed for 17 years with Komarek’s Jewelers.

Mrs. Etchen was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include a daughter, Lynn Hannachi and her husband, Salah, of Tunisia; a granddaughter, Rym Hannachi, and a grandson, Skander Hannachi; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four brothers, Fred, Ted, Don and Harry Kinman, and four sisters, infant Gertrude Kinman, Ida Thorton, Leona Haines and Katie Propes.

There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Memorial donations for Southwind Hospice of Pratt may be made in care of Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington.

R.D. Standlee 1925 - 2007

ELLINWOOD — R.D. Standlee, 82, died Dec. 31 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. He was born April 11, 1925, at Winfield, the son of David and Clara Briscoe Standlee. He married Betty Rose Kastrup on Nov. 28, 1942, in Russell. She survives. He worked in the oil field most of his life and was owner and operator of Energy III Inc. He was a loving and devoted husband and father.

Mr. Standlee was an Army veteran of World War II. He was of the Nazarene faith.

Survivors include his wife of the home; two sons, R.D. Standlee Jr. and wife Terrie of Enid, Okla., and Bruce W. Standlee and wife Jo Ann of Hudson; one daughter, Rose L. Goldsberry of Medicine Lodge; one brother, Kenneth Standlee of Ellinwood; one sister, Darlene Honomicl of Ellinwood; six grandsons and 14 great-grandchildren.
Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend, with the Rev. John Grummon officiating. Burial will be in Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. until service time Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Salvation Army. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by:
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 3, 2008

Dixie Lee Dodson 1939 - 2008

Dixie Lee Dodson, 68, of Great Bend, died Jan. 2 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. She was born July 2, 1939, at Turon, the daughter of Harold and Edna Allen Pugh. She married Gordon Brewer in 1956 at Sylvia. He died in 1962. On Feb. 2, 1972, she married Bob Dodson at Great Bend. He survives. A resident of Great Bend since 1962, coming from Sylvia, she was a retired bank teller for American State Bank.

Mrs. Dodson was a member of the Church of Christ, American Legion, Eastern Star and Sweet Adelines, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; three sons, Shannon Brewer and wife Barbara of Nashville, Ky., Darren Brewer and wife April of Great Bend and James C. Dodson of Sterling; one stepson, Lynn Ray Dodson of Fort Scott; one stepdaughter, Janie Dodson of Great Bend; one sister, Linda Gardner of Hutchinson; one grandson and one stepgranddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents and her first husband.

There will be no visitation or services as cremation has taken place. Inurnment will be in the Sylvia Cemetery in Sylvia at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the American Diabetes Association in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by:
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 3, 2008

Fargie Kenneth McLean 1927 - 2008

SYLVIA — Fargie Kenneth McLean, 80, died Jan. 1 at the Stafford District Hospital. Born July 29, 1927, at Partridge, he was the son of Fargie and Eva Marie Hirst McLean. On May 25, 1952, he married Dorothy Pendergrass at Whiteside. She survives.

Mr. McLean was a veteran of the Korean War, serving with the U.S. Army. He was a Sylvia resident since 1957 and had worked for the Santa Fe Railroad and the Sylvia Co-op, and he was a farmer. He was a past member of the Odd Fellows Lodge of Partridge and had attended the Sylvia United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; a daughter, Linda Copeland of Sylvia; two brothers, Fred McLean of Oregon and Glenn McLean of Reed, Mo.; a sister, Naomi Reasen of Buhler; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two sons, Mark and Larry.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, at Minnis Chapel, Stafford, with the Rev. Harry Graves presiding. Friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the funeral chapel. Burial will be at the Partridge Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Sylvia United Methodist Church in care of the funeral chapel.
Paul J. Urban 1919 - 2008

Paul J. Urban, 88, of Great Bend, died Jan. 1 at Rush County Nursing Home, La Crosse. He was born Nov. 2, 1919, in Ellis County, the son of John and Margaret Stecklein Urban. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1953, having moved from Hays, where he taught at St. Joseph’s Military Academy for a number of years. He was a teacher at Great Bend High School for 20 years, serving as president of the local education association and president of the Kansas Association of Mathematics Teachers. He went into real estate in 1973, where he was elected as Realtor Associate of the Year in 1978. He also taught a real estate course at Barton County Community College for a number of years and retired in 1988.

He was a graduate of Fort Hays State University and a member of Pi Sigma Pi fraternity and received his master’s degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1951. He was also a graduate of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth.

He was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church and was past president of the parish council, diocesan pastoral council, diocesan school board and Catholic Social Service. He was a member and past grand knight of the Knights of Columbus and a fourth-degree member of the Coronado Assembly.

As a veteran of World War II, he served in the active Army and Reserve for 33 years and retired as a colonel. He was a member of ROA, TROA and AUSA. He was also a lifetime member and past commander of the American Legion, named top service officer of the state of Kansas in 1977 and served as chairman of the annual Barton County Government Day for many years.

He was a member of Kiwanis, vice chairman of the Commission on Aging for four years, a lifetime member of NEA, a member and past president of the Barton County Retired Teachers Association and AARP.

Survivors include numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by six brothers, Benjamin, George, Isadore, William, Eugene and Walter Urban; and two sisters, Ann Leiker and Sister Lillian Urban.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the K of C Rosary. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery with military honors conducted by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Donations to a memorial fund for the Holy Family School Endowment may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by:
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 3, 2008

Clarence Randall Ritchie 1936 - 2007

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Clarence Randall Ritchie, 71, formerly of Great Bend, died Dec. 30 at Bakersfield, Calif. He was born Feb. 28, 1936, at Cle-veland, Okla., the son of Clarence Rector and Rosetta Allene Keeling Ritchie. He
married Judith Bailes on April 29, 1961, in Medicine Lodge. He had lived in Bakersfield for the past 25 years, and had formerly lived in Great Bend, Winfield, Ellinwood, Wichita and Ponca City, Okla. He was an oilfield electrician.

He was a member of the Moose Lodge at Bakersfield, the National Electricians Union and the American Legion.

He served in the National Guard with Company L, 137th Infantry Regiment, Winfield.

Survivors include a son, Randall Joe Ritchie of Great Bend; a daughter, Nancy Winkelman of Ellinwood; two brothers, Leon Ritchie of Winfield and Lynn David Ritchie of Ardmore, Okla.; two sisters, JoRita Davis of Winfield and Rena Mae Bennett of Wichita; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Ellinwood, with the Rev. Jeff Frakes officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to noon Friday at Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood, and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the church. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood. A memorial has been established for the Moose Lodge.

Funeral arrangements provided by:
Kimple Funeral Home
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 3, 2008

Joyce Dangerfield Longsdorf 1942 - 2007


She is survived by her daughters, Laura Askins of Sacramento and Monica Longsdorf of Astoria, N.Y.; a sister, Carol Scheuerman, and niece, Diana Scheuerman, both of Great Bend; and two grandchildren, Kristopher Askins and Kara Askins of Sacramento. She was preceded in death by her husband, her son Karl, her brother Major Dangerfield, and her parents.

She was a devoted wife, following her husband wherever the Air Force sent them throughout his career. After his death in 1985 in Rawlins, Wyo., she relocated her family to Tucson, Ariz., and worked for Sun West Services as the Food Service director of the Mirana School District for several years. After working for Sun West Services for many years in Tucson and Santa Barbara, Calif., she relocated to Dodge City, to be nearer to her family. Joyce had a long career as a food service director, most recently serving as the food service director of Manor of the Plains Retirement Center in Dodge City until her illness in late 2005. She then retired and moved to Sacramento to spend time with her family.

A memorial Web site has been set up in her honor at http://www.joyce-longsdorf.memory-of.com/. Contributions in lieu of flowers can be made in Joyce's memory to the National Brain Tumor Foundation or Vitas Hospice Charitable Fund. Arrangements were made by Simple Traditions Cremation Services in Sacramento, Calif. A private family gathering will be held in her memory.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 3, 2008#

January 04, 2008

Stanley G. A. Hudspith 1911 - 2008

Stan spent many years as an accountant in the oil business until his retirement from ESSO followed by a 10-year stint with the British Government’s Printing Department. Retiring to Worthing, Sussex, Stan was a member of the local Church of England to which he walked to services every Sunday. He was an active philatelist (stamp collector), a family tradition. During World War II, Stan and his brother Herbert enlisted in the same British Army unit. Later Stan was injured during the invasion of North Africa. In 1936 he married Sybil Markham, who pre-deceased him.

Survivors include his daughter, Angela and husband Gerald Atkins of the Isle of Wight, England; two grandsons, one granddaughter and 10 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Winifred Rouse, of Lancing, England, and Marjorie Harrington of Great Bend; three nieces, Laurie Sandercock and Vickie Ward of Sussex, England, Brenda Kelley of Grand Junction, Colo., and Rosalind Neeland of Great Bend; and a nephew, Peter McCallum of Wichita. Preceding him in death were a brother, Herbert, and a son, John.

He will be greatly missed.

Services for Stan are pending following cremation.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 4, 2008*

Clifford McCaslin    1945 - 2007

KEARNEY, Neb. — Clifford McCaslin, 62, died Dec. 30 at Hays Medical Center. Born Nov. 26, 1945, near Broken Bow, Neb., he was the son of James Wesley (Wes) and Evelyn Clay McCaslin. He attended school in Broken Bow and Merna, Neb. He graduated from Gothenburg High School in 1964. He married Donna Goodner on Oct. 4, 1964. They lived in Overton, Neb., Cozad, Neb., and Kimball, Neb., while he worked for the Union Pacific Railroad until he retired in 1980. They then moved to Anselmo, Neb., where he was a carpenter. On Sept. 15, 1990, he married Jessie Lindstrom in Holdrege, Neb. They lived in Merna. On May 6, 2005, he married Karolyn Bitter-Mason in Kearney, Neb., where they resided until his death.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Jerry, of Kearney, and James of Broken Bow; a daughter, Rebecca Smith of Louisville, Neb.; stepchildren, Brenda Bitter of Victoria, Brian Bitter and Bruce Bitter, both of Hoisington, Brent Bitter of Holyrood, Doug Lindstrom, Jim Lindstrom and Scott Lindstrom, all of Columbus, Neb., and Susan Sall of Iowa City, Iowa; three brothers, Dan McCaslin of Broken Bow, Wesley Curtis McCaslin of Hershey, Neb., and Daryl McCaslin of North Platte, Neb.; five sisters, Audrey Jones of Thedford, Neb., Ardis Goodner of Broken Bow, Cleo Purdum of Reedpoint, Mont., Beverly Goehring of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Leata Krejci of Eustis, Neb.; eight grandchildren, one great-granddaughter and 10 stepgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Edward McCaslin, and a sister, Mary Neben.

Funeral services were Wednesday at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Broken Bow, with the Rev. Kathy Salts and the Rev. Kathy LaRocque officiating. Burial was at the Broken Bow Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Our Savior Lutheran Church Building Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Govier Brothers Mortuary
542 S. 9th Ave.
Broken Bow, NE 68822
308-872-2424
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 4, 2008

Clyde Victor Merckle

Clyde Victor Merckle, 92, of Great Bend, died Jan. 1. Arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 4, 2008
Verlyn "Chop" Unruh 1932 - 2007

LOS ANGELES — Verlyn "Chop" Unruh of Los Angeles, Calif., passed away at home on Dec. 24, where he’s resided for the past 48 years. He was born Dec. 21, 1932, in Larned, the son of Ralph and Pearl Unruh. He married Mary Ann Hall, of Seward, on June 6, 1959. Verlyn was a computer systems consultant. He was a graduate of Great Bend High School and Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia.

Mr. Unruh was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean Conflict and served from 1950-1953. He was an active member of the German United Methodist Church in Glendale, Calif.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann; two daughters, Carla Linneman of Littleton, Colo., and Telsa Unruh of Alpharetta, Ga.; grandsons William and Michael Linneman; sisters June Butts of Thomson, Ga., and Barbara Unruh and Charlotte Vaughn, both of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by one brother, Richard.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2 at Gates, Kingsley, Gates in Santa Monica, Calif., and burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Culver City, Calif.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008#


LAWRENCE — Carole Ellen (Nuss) Dorsch, 63, died Dec. 28 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. She was born Dec. 10, 1944, in Great Bend, to Raymond and Elsie Kelpe Nuss. She attended St. John’s Junior College in Winfield, where she received her Associate of Arts degree. From there she attended Valparaiso University in Indiana, and received her Bachelor of Science degree. Carole later returned to school at the University of Kansas and became licensed as an alcohol and drug abuse counselor, which she practiced for 21 years.

She is survived by her partner and best friend Caitlin D. Matthews; one son, Daxon of California; one daughter, Chane of Concordia; four grandchildren; her brother, Morrey Nuss of Mayfield Heights, Ohio; and her sister, Una (Nuss) Durheim of Dodge City.

A memorial visitation was held Wednesday. Memorials may be made to Lawrence Humane Society in care of the Rumsey-Yost Funeral Home, Box 1260, Lawrence, KS 66044. Online condolences may be sent to www.rumsey-yost.com.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008#

Eugene “Gene” Zorn 1945 - 2008

Eugene “Gene” Zorn, 62, of Great Bend, died Jan. 4 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. He was born March 1, 1945, at Great Bend, the son of William E. and Frances Jenisch Zorn. He married Arlene M. Lamatsch on Sept. 28, 1968, in Odin. She survives. He was an accountant for Harper Construction Company for 37 years, and also engaged in farming. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1968, coming from Odin.

Mr. Zorn was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, The Perpetual Adoration Chapel and the American Diabetes Association.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two daughters, Julie M. Smith and husband Spencer, Houston, Texas, and Carrie A. Rueger and husband John, Lenexa; two sisters, Leona Birzer, Ellinwood, and Eleanor Zecha, Claflin; one grandson, Alexander Rueger; one step-grandson, Reagan Smith; four nephews, Greg Birzer, Mike Birzer, Jason Haberman and Jeremy Combs; and two nieces, Debbie Steinert and Sharon Koerperich.
Vigil and Rosary service will be at 7 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Great Bend with Father Marvin Reif and Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Interment will be at 2:30 p.m. in Holy Family Cemetery in Odin. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial donations to the Holy Family School Endowment or Sister Aquinata Nursing Scholarship Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008

Doris June Anthony 1936 - 2008

LARNED – Doris June Anthony, 71, died Jan. 4 at Ellsworth Hospital. She was born July 21, 1936, at Dalhart, Texas, to James and Nancy Maudie Green Merwin. She married Miles E. Anthony in April of 1956 at Great Bend. He died Dec. 31, 1984. A longtime resident of Russell, she was a cook at the Russell Inn.

Mrs. Anthony was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary of Russell.

Survivors include one daughter, Sandra Thompson, Russell; one son, John H. Anthony, Larned; two brothers, Jerry Lee Merwin, El Dorado, Texas, and Donald Keith Merwin, Larned; six grandchildren, John Anthony, Jeff Anthony, Jackie Anthony, Brandon Thompson, Tyler Thompson and Kyle Thompson. She was preceded in death by a son, James Anthony, and four brothers, Gene Merwin, Ernest Merwin, James Merwin and Samuel Merwin; and a sister, Margie Richie.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with the Rev. Don Paden officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. until service time Tuesday at the funeral home. Donations to the Doris June Anthony Memorial Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008

Clyde Victor Merckle 1915 - 2008

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Clyde Victor Merckle, 92, died Jan. 1 at his home in Surprise, Ariz. Born April 25, 1915, at Fly, Ohio, he was the son of Samuel J. and Blanche Hissom Merckle. He married Margaret Evelyn Lehman on Dec. 28, 1936, at Newton. She died on June 2, 1971. He was a retired drilling contractor for D.R. Lauck Oil Company. After working for the D.R. Lauck Company as a driller and toolpusher, he became a partner in 1956 of the Lauck Drilling Company, a position he held for the next 22 years. The Halliburton Oil Producing Company hired him in 1977, but a year later, he assembled a new rig and commenced operating as the Merckle Drilling Company. After five more years, he sold the rig and went to work for Sam Mays Petroleum Services for several years. In 1987 Merckle built the wooden derrick for the Mid-America Oil and Gas Show, which still stands at the Expo Building west of Great Bend. He was a resident of Surprise, Ariz. since 2002, coming from Great Bend, where he had been a resident since 1941.

Mr. Merckle was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Great Bend, BPOE, all Masonic bodies in Great Bend and Isis Temple and Salina Consistory, both of Salina, KIOGA and the Great Bend Petroleum Club.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Clarke, of Surprise, Ariz.
Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church in Great Bend with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday with family receiving friends from 7 to 8 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Shriner Children’s Hospital in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008

Daniel C. Stejskal 1935 - 2008

LA CROSSE – Daniel C. Stejskal, 72, died Jan. 3 at Hays Medical Center. Born June 5, 1935, at Timken, he was the son of Ralph and Clara Zimmer Stejskal. A lifelong resident of Rush County, he was a truck driver in the oil industry before his retirement.

Mr. Stejskal was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in Panama for two years.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Timken, and American Legion Post No. 106, Larned.

Survivors include his fiancée, Marilyn Ewing, of La Crosse; three daughters, Therese Thompson, Charleston, S.C., Tracy Myers, Hutchinson, and Tammy Pugh, Great Bend; one sister, Evangeline “Vangie” Anderson, Great Bend; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass of Resurrection will be held by the family at 10 a.m. Monday at the church in Timken, with the Rev. Rene Labrador officiating. Cremation has taken place. Donations may be made to the Daniel C. Stejskal Memorial in care of Janousek Funeral Home, La Crosse.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
(785) 222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008

Robert C. Schaeffer 1950 - 2007

LARNED – Robert C. Schaeffer, 57, died Dec. 17 at his home in Larned. He was born Oct. 9, 1950, at Great Bend, the son of Leo L. and Inez Ann Slansky Schaeffer. A lifetime resident of Larned, he was a retired Social Security Aid at the Larned State Hospital.

Mr. Schaeffer was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Larned.

Survivors include one aunt, Lou Slansky, Stockton, and several cousins.

Memorial service will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the church in Larned, with the Rev. Bernard Felix officiating. Cremation has taken place. Burial will be at a later date in the Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Plainville. Donations may be sent to the Robert Schaeffer Memorial Fund in care of Morell Funeral Home, Larned.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
P.O. Box 124
HOISINGTON — Luceil I. Plotner, 88, died Jan. 3 at Clara Barton Hospital in Hoisington. Born Dec. 27, 1919, at McCracken, she was the daughter of Ralph Monroe and Martha (Schlegel) Plotner. A resident of Hoisington since 1975, coming from Washington, D.C., she was a retired personnel relations worker for the U.S. government.

Ms. Plotner was a World War II Navy veteran.

Survivors include a sister, Evelyn Higgins of Hoisington; a niece, Carolyn Sekavec of Hoisington; two nephews, Robert Higgins and Keith Higgins, both of Hoisington; several great- and great-great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a brother, Harold Ray Plotner; a niece, Marilyn Herdman; and a great-niece, Sharolyn Herdman.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Monday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Burial will be at the McCracken Cemetery with flag presentation by Veterans of Foreign War Post No. 7428 and the American Legion Post No. 286. Friends may visit from 2 to 6 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to service time on Monday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Bruce Woydziak Memorial Fire Department Scholarship Fund in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

La CROSSE — Virgil A. Kraisinger, 87, died Jan. 6 at the Rush County Nursing Home in La Crosse. Born Feb. 24, 1920, in Timken, he was the son of Charles and Flora (Erb) Kraisinger. A lifelong resident of Rush County, he was a farmer and co-owner/operator of Monti’s Dress Shop in La Crosse, and sold insurance for many years. He married Monti Emery on April 3, 1959, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She died May 1, 1987.

Mr. Kraisinger was a member of the Walnut City Lodge No. 215 in Rush Center, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 5147 and the American Legion Post No. 33, both of La Crosse, and the Fort Hays Shrine Club in Hays.

Survivors include a nephew, Mike Bieber of Beloit, and a niece, Jane Stephens of La Crosse. He was preceded in death by his wife, and a sister, Ida Mae Bieber.

Graveside service will be at 10:30 a.m. today at the La Crosse City Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Fort Hays Shrine Club in Hays.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine
P.O. Box 550
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 6, 2008

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 8, 2008
Sammy Lee Bee 1945 - 2008

Sammy Lee Bee, 62, died Jan. 2 at his residence in Great Bend. Born Oct. 6, 1945, he was the son of John and Myrtle Marie Parks Bee. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, he was a truck driver.

Mr. Bee was a United States Army veteran.

Survivors include his mother, Myrtle Borski of Visalia, Calif.; two brothers, Robert Bee of Reno, Nev., and John Bee of Kansas; and three sisters, Virginia Waggoner of Hutchinson, Carol Roberts of Visalia, Calif., and Mary Davis of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by his father, John Bee.

There will be no visitation or services as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the Sammy Bee Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 8, 2008

Tava Nixon Hawes 1920 - 2008

WICHITA — Tava Nixon Hawes, 87, died Jan. 6 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, after a long illness. She was born Nov. 11, 1920, in Great Bend, the daughter of William A. and Blanche Smith Nixon. On Feb. 8, 1953, she married George O. Hawes at Kansas City, Kan. He died April 6, 1996. She was a homemaker and had lived most of her life in western Kansas. She graduated from Lewis High School in 1938. After graduation she moved to Kansas City with her twin sister, Tima, to work.

Survivors include two sisters, Tima McIlvain of Plano, Texas, and Louisa Passman, Wichita; one brother, William A. Nixon, M.D., Wichita, and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside service will be at 1:30 p.m. today at Great Bend Cemetery, with the Rev. Jack Singer presiding. Memorials may be sent to Chrohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America in care of Morell Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
1021 Broadway
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 8, 2008

Lillian Rachel Taylor Long 1906 - 2007

On April 18, 1906, the earth quaked in San Francisco and Lillian Rachel was born on July 18, 1906, to Arthur E. and Mabel Brinkman Taylor at St. Rose Hospital in Great Bend. Lillian Taylor’s mother and father were descendants of two Great Bend founding families. Lillian graduated from Washburn College in Topeka, where she was president of her senior class. Later she married Paul Q. Long on a hot morning in Kansas on July 4, 1931. Two children were born to them, Elizabeth and Susan. Mrs. Long and her daughters followed Capt. Long to San Diego, Calif., Fort Bliss, Texas, and Frederick, Md., where he was stationed during the Second World War.

After many years of packing and repacking their household including the years Mr. Long worked as a manager for the Bell Telephone Co., they settled down in Great Bend to raise their children.
The Longs were members of the First Congregational Church. Besides church work and book club, Mrs. Long belonged to the Great Bend Chapter of the A.A.U.W. She was also a Girl Scout leader for 25 years. Her last troop was a small senior troop and she was very proud of all those girls. Mrs. Long celebrated her 100th birthday at a special party in San Luis Obispo, Calif., attended by her nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and other family and friends.

On Nov. 21 she passed away and was preceded in death by her daughter, Susan, and her husband Paul. She was cremated and her ashes will be interred in the Great Bend Cemetery.

We who knew her will miss her dry wit, love of family, and joy at playing Mexican Train Dominoes.

If you wish to contribute to the Lillian Taylor Long and Paul Q. Long Scholarship Fund at Washburn University you may call Charlotte Adair at 785-231-1010 at Washburn.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 8, 2008*

January 09, 2008

Norma Jean Erb 1931 - 2008

NESS CITY — Norma Jean Erb, 76, died Jan. 7 at her daughter’s home in Hays. Born Aug. 22, 1931, in rural La Crosse, she was the daughter of Albert and Pauline Maier Brack. She married Fred L. Erb in Bazine on May 2, 1948. He died Oct. 24, 2007. She was the owner and operator of several local cafes in Bazine and Ness City.

Survivors include four sons, Fred A. Erb of Longmont, Colo., Eugene A. Erb of Ness City, Donald D. Erb of Great Bend and Steve D. Erb of Hays; a daughter, Vickie Hicks of Hays; two brothers, Dale Brack of Ness City and Dean Brack of Weeping Water, Neb.; two sisters, Jeanette Foos of Bazine and Lila Bowman of Great Bend; 13 grandchildren, five stepgrandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother, Orville Brack.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at the United Methodist Church, Ness City, with the Rev. Darlene Nonhof presiding. A private family inurnment in the Ness City Cemetery will take place at a later date. Friends may visit Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Ness City, to sign the memorial book from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday. The family will be present to receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be sent to the American Cancer Society or to the Hospice of Hays Medical Center.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home
207 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 9, 2008

January 10, 2008

Edmund B. Keiter

LARNED — Edmund B. Keiter, 84, died Jan. 9 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Morell Funeral Home, Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 10, 2008

Milton V. Turner 1929 - 2007
HEMET, Calif. — Milton V. Turner, 78, died Dec. 30 at his residence in Hemet, Calif. Born Jan. 23, 1929, at Sylvia, he was the son of Thomas and Verda Barker Turner. He married Thorene Schaffter on March 24, 1956, at St. Patrick Catholic Chapel in Great Bend. She survives. He was employed for 35 years with the Santa Fe Railroad.

Mr. Turner was a veteran of the Korean War.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Douglas Turner and wife Patricia of Trabuco Cyn, Calif. and Jeffrey Turner of Dallas, Texas; a daughter, Linda Segura Turner of Sevilla, Spain; two grandchildren, Sylvia and Daniel of Sevilla, Spain; and a sister, Nina Sheppard of Alva, Okla. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Clinton Turner, and a granddaughter, Stephanie.

A private family service will be held at a later date as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home#
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3625

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 10, 2008

Catherine M. Schremmer 1932 - 2008

MANHATTAN — Catherine M. Schremmer, 75, former longtime resident of Hays, died Tuesday morning, Jan. 8, at the St. Joseph Village in Manhattan following an extended illness. She was born on March 10, 1932, in Odin, the daughter of Alois and Regina Prosser. Mrs. Schremmer was united in marriage on Aug. 9, 1949, in Odin, to Edward A. Schremmer. They made their home in Beaver, prior to moving to Hays in 1961. Prior to her retirement she was employed by Fort Hays State University. She and her husband also formerly owned and operated the Tastee Freeze in Hays. Mrs. Schremmer made her home at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Hays for the seven years prior to moving to Manhattan in October of 2006, where she became a resident of St. Joseph Village. Her hobbies included vegetable gardening, baking, singing and playing cards. She was an avid Royals baseball fan and enjoyed going to her grandchildren’s sporting events and activities when she was able. She also was a former volunteer at the Community Assistance Center in Hays.

Mrs. Schremmer was a former member of the Holy Family Catholic Church in Odin and a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hays for more than 40 years.

She is survived by her two daughters, Cheryl Miller of Manhattan and Nadine Herold and husband Sherman of Hays; four grandchildren, Craig Miller and wife Heather of Wichita, Carrie Foster and husband Chris of Marysville, Aaron Herold of Shawnee, and Chad Herold and wife Jessica of Kansas City, Kan.; five great-grandsons: Mackenzie, Curtis and Braeden Miller of Wichita, Clayton Foster of Marysville and Jacob Herold of Kansas City, Kan.; two sisters, Helen Kaiser of Hoisington and Mary Birzer of Hutchinson; and two brothers, Julius Prosser and Joe Prosser, both of Hoisington. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1988 and by her son-in-law, Curtis Miller, also in 1988; her sisters, Anne Steiner, Matilda Kramer, Jean Rome, Cecilia Tieperman and Eleanor Kingston; and her brothers, Anthony, William, John, Louie and Leonard Prosser.

Mass of Christian burial will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Odin, with Father Dwight Birket as celebrant. Interment will follow in the Holy Family Cemetery in Odin. The family will receive friends during a visitation from 7 until 8 p.m. today at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home in Manhattan. Additional visitation hours will be from 12:30 until 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Odin. Memorials have been established for St. Joseph Village in Manhattan, Hays Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Hays or the Holy Family Cemetery in Odin. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. On-line condolences may be left for the family at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.
Funeral arrangements provided by
Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home*
1616 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 10, 2008

Darlene B. Adams 1921 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Darlene B. Adams, 86, died Jan. 8 at Stafford Leisure Homestead in Stafford. She was born Oct. 2, 1921, in Pawnee County, the daughter of Oscar Porter and Eulalia (Avery) McComas. She married Lester B. Adams, Jr. on Aug. 1, 1942, in Macksville. He preceded her in death on Dec. 9, 1999. She was a homemaker, and a resident of Hoisington for 37 years, coming from Belpre.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, UMW, Cameo Club, Women’s Civic Club, and VFW Auxiliary, all of Hoisington, the Great Bend Ambassador Club and the Research Club at Belpre.

Survivors include two sons, Larry L. Adams and wife Reba, of Belpre, and Jim R. Adams and his wife Gloria, of Hoisington; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, John W. Adams, six brothers, John, Bill, Wesley, Donald, Gerald and Leonard McComas, and three sisters, Florence Beachel, LaFawn Razor and Dorothy DiLorito.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church, Hoisington, with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday with the family receiving friends from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Saturday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. also at the funeral home, and 12:30 to 2 p.m. Saturday at the church. Memorial fund donations for First United Methodist Church or Southwind Hospice may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 10, 2008

January 11, 2008

Paul H. Smitheran 1922 - 2008

GARNETT — Paul H. Smitheran, 85, of Garnett, died Tuesday, Jan. 8, at St. Luke’s Hospital in Kansas City, Mo. Paul was born July 31, 1922, in rural Centerville, the youngest son of Frank F. and Dena L. (Hill) Smitheran. He married Rozena Campbell on May 5, 1945, at Garnett. This union was blessed with two children, Carl and Claudia. Paul attended country school at Round Mound School and Parker High School. He farmed in the Centerville area until 1959, and he worked in construction until 1966. They moved to Garnett in 1966, where Paul went to work for the City of Garnett, working there until his retirement in 1987 as superintendent of services.

He was a member of ACARC (Anderson County Association of Retarded Citizens) and the Prairie Spirit Trail. Paul was a past member of the Greater Kansas City Orchid Society and the Kansas Association of Garden Clubs and had been superintendent of operations for the Anderson County Fair. He was also a member of the Centerville Community Church and the Masonic Order No. 341 of Parker. After retirement, he was an avid gardener and bird watcher.

Survivors include his wife, Rozena, of the home; his son, Carl L. Smitheran and wife Patricia of Council Grove; his daughter, Claudia Smitheran of Great Bend; his brother, Ray Smitheran and wife Ernestine of Garnett; three grandchildren, Brent Smitheran and wife Tiffany of Olathe, and Kim Bachand and Tim Henderson of Great Bend, and Julie Nelson and husband Cody of Andover; and three great-grandchildren, Skyler Smitheran, Brianna Henderson and
Kelsi Dalton. Paul was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, Raymond G. Smitheran and Jennice B. Smitheran.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Feuerborn Family Funeral Service, Garnett. Burial will follow at the Garnett Cemetery. Visitation will be from 7 to 8 p.m. tonight at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Centerville Community Building Fund or to Tri-Ko Inc. of Osawatomie. Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at www.feuerbornfuneral.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Feuerborn Family Funeral Service*
219 South Oak St./Box 408
Garnett, KS 66032
1-888-447-5411
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 11, 2008

Edmund B. Keiter 1923 - 2008

LARNED — Edmund B. Keiter, 84, died Jan. 9 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. He was born July 8, 1923, in Cheney, the son of Bernard and Josep thrown Keiter. A resident of Larned since 1974, from Towner, Colo., he was a retired farmer and a greens superintendent for the Larned Country Club.

He belonged to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Larned Country Club, all of Larned.

Survivors include his longtime companion, Pauline Atteberry, Larned; one son, Wayne Keiter, Dacono, Colo.; six daughters, Patricia C. Peterson, Las Vegas, Nev., Jo Harris and husband Terry, Fountain, Colo., Janice M. Christenson, Parker, Colo., Joyce A. Simon and husband Toby, Henderson, Nev., Sandy S. Krohne and Billy, Weston, Mo., and Dena M. Kerr and Martin, Chesapeake, Va.; his companion’s children, Clarissia Lichlter, Casa Grande, Ariz., Michael Tiry, Wichita, and Jerry McBride, Missouri; two brothers, Gilbert Keiter of Gardner and Vincent Keiter of Cheney; four sisters, Juliana Landwehr, Thelma Traffas and Marjorie Blubagh, all of Wichita, and Bernatta Lebrick of Two Rivers, Wis.; 22 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one brother, Clement Keiter, and one sister, Rosella Wolf.

A vigil service and Knights of Columbus Rosary will be at 7 p.m. today at Morell Funeral Home, Larned. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Larned, with Father Bernard Felix presiding. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Ed Keiter Memorial Fund for the Franciscan Monastery Mission, in lieu of flowers, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway/P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 11, 2008

Eleanor Jean Rusco 1913 - 2008

ST. JOHN — Eleanor Jean Rusco, 94, died Jan. 10 at South Wind Hospice, Pratt. Born May 8, 1913, in Stafford County, she was the daughter of Walter Jacob and Madora Effie Hahn. On Oct. 12, 1941, she married Milton Ralph Rusco at St. John. He died May 19, 2002. A longtime resident of St. John, she was a former Stafford County clerk and administrative assistant for the Farm Service Agency in St. John. She was a 1931 graduate of St. John High School and attended the Wichita Business School.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, where she was past church treasurer, Mother’s Club, United Methodist Women, a 4-H sponsor and a Sunflower Senior Citizens Center volunteer.
Survivors include five daughters, Jean, Leah, Angie, Anita and Katie; 17 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Dan William Rusco, five brothers, Cecil, Elmer, Leslie, Gerald and George, six sisters, Ethel, Fern, Helen, Stella, Marjorie and Dorothy, and a grandson, Saul Harrison.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, St. John, with Pastors Robbie Fall and W. Harlan Rittgers presiding. Burial will be in the Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Memorial donations for the South Wind Hospice may be made in care of Minnis Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
526 East Fourth Ave.
St. John, KS 67576
620-549-3556
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 11, 2008

Pauline Osborn 1918 - 2008

LYONS — Pauline Osborn, 89, died Jan. 10 at Good Samaritan Center in Lyons. She was born Nov. 10, 1918, at Robinson, Ill., the daughter of Walter Darius Lankston and Addie Marie Reinohl. She married James Franklin Osborn on March 28, 1938, at Fort Riley. She was a Rice County resident for more than 60 years. She was a 1936 graduate of McPherson High School. She retired from a position as postal clerk at the Chase Post Office after 20 years’ service.

She was a member of the Southern Baptist Church in Chase.

Survivors include three sons, Bill Osborn, Collinsville, Okla., Floyd Osborn, Aeworth, Ga., and Paul Osborn, McPherson; and one daughter, Peggy Sheridan, Ellinwood; 10 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by a son, Bob, a brother, Emerson, and a sister, Geraldine.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood, with the Rev. Johnnie Hardie officiating. Burial will be in the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood. Memorial donations to the Good Samaritan Center may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 11, 2008

January 13, 2008

William J. “Joe” Hopkins, Jr. 1957 – 2008

HUNTER, Okla. — William J. “Joe” Hopkins, Jr., 50, of Hunter died Jan. 5 at Integris Bass Baptist Hospital, Enid, Okla. He was born June 3, 1957, in Great Bend, to William J. Hopkins Sr. and Phyllis Rankin Hopkins. He attended school in Great Bend, then joined the Army. He married Tina Purcell Nov. 30, 1984, in Great Bend. They moved to Hunter, Okla., in 2001. He constructed golf courses with the last being the Branson Creek Golf Course, in Branson, Mo. He later worked at Oakwood Golf Course in Enid, Okla., until retiring.

Mr. Hopkins attended the Nazarene Church.

Survivors are his wife, Tina, and daughters, Billie Jo Hopkins and Coriane Hopkins, of the home; daughters, Tessa Barnes and Amber Walter, both of Enid, Okla.; his parents, of Walnut Grove, Mo.; one brother, Richie Hopkins of Enid, Okla.; two sisters, Ulanda Hall of Walnut Grove, Mo., and Juanita Amador of Great Bend; and one grandson.
Services were held Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Ladusau-Evans Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Marvin Goodpasture officiated. Burial was at Memorial Park Cemetery, Enid, Okla. Memorials may be made for funeral expenses through the funeral home, Ladusau-Evans Funeral Home, 2800 N. Van Buren, Enid, OK 73703. Condolences may be made online at ladusauevans@suddenlinkmail.com.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 13, 2008

Mary Diane Petrik 1956 – 2008

STAFFORD — Mary Diane Petrik, 51, died Jan. 10 at the Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Feb. 16, 1956, at Great Bend, she was the daughter of Marvin Alvin and Virginia Eileen Wellman Dixon. She was a longtime Stafford resident, and was a homemaker.

Mrs. Petrik was a member of the American Legion Women’s Auxiliary of Stafford.

Survivors include her soulmate of 18 years, Roland Brau, of the home; four sons, Johnny Lynn Adams, Jr., of Arizona, Waldo Eugene Adams of Susank, James Lowell Petrik of Osceola, Iowa, and Ian Albert Brau of Stafford; three daughters, Misty Dawn Harter of Stafford, Wendy Marie Carter of Osceola, Iowa, and Aimee Kahler of Midlothian, Texas; three stepsons, Bruce Petrik of Hutchinson, Terry Petrik of Great Bend, and Shane Petrik of Palm Springs, Calif.; five sisters, Judith Mayhugh of Guthrie, Okla., Minnie Brennan of Tracy, Calif., Sheryl Thomas of Louisiana, Nancy Tidwell of Tulsa, Okla., and Paula Miller of Afghanistan; one brother, Donald Smith of Salina; and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, DeeAnna Adams, and a brother, Bobby Carlson.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Minnis Chapel, Stafford. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday at the chapel. Burial will be at the Stafford Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the American Legion in care of the chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
125 N. Main
Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5261

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 13, 2008

Helen Mary Brack 1926 – 2008

Helen Mary Brack, 81, of Great Bend, died Jan. 12 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. She was born May 13, 1926, at Great Bend, the daughter of John and Frances Marek Serpan. She married Kenneth F. Brack in 1947 at Great Bend. He died Jan. 7, 1980. She was a Southwestern Bell Telephone operator for 35 years, and later worked for the Fuller Brush Company. She was a lifetime Great Bend resident.

Mrs. Brack was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Southwestern Bell Telephone Pioneers, American Legion Auxiliary and VFW Auxiliary, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include a sister, Mildred Sayler of Great Bend, and two grandchildren, Kenneth Titus and Amanda Titus, both of Great Bend. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Anita Titus.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for the church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
J. Lloyd Magers Jr. 1940 – 2008

LARNED — J. Lloyd Magers, 67, died Jan. 11 at his home in rural Pawnee County. He was born Aug. 11, 1940, at Pratt, the son of Jesse Lloyd Magers Sr. and Dorothy Ann Stegman Magers. On Aug. 24, 1962, he married Karen Diane Amos at Hays. She survives. He was a resident of Larned since 1992, moving from Great Bend. He was owner/operator of Magers Associates, practicing as a clinical audiologist for more than 30 years.

Survivors, besides his wife, include a son, Scott, of Houston, Texas; a daughter, Stacey Magers Foshee, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; and nine grandchildren.

No service is planned, and cremation has taken place.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Nature Conservancy or the Quivira Wildlife Refuge, in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.
P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 13, 2008

Vela L. (Kinman) Etchen 1911 – 2007

Vela L. (Kinman) Etchen, 96, of Great Bend, died Dec. 31 at Country Living Place Plus in Hoisington. Born July 15, 1911, in Valeda, she was the daughter of Daniel Shotwell Kinman and Pauline Faye Kinnamon. She married John Baker on Nov. 22, 1941, in Springfield, Mo. He preceded her in death on June 17, 1951. She then married Al Etchen on Nov. 15, 1957, in Denver, Colo. He preceded her in death on Feb. 18, 1982. She was employed for 17 years with Komarek Jewelers.

Mrs. Etchen was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include a daughter, Lynn Hannachi and husband Salah of Tunisia; a grandson, Skander Hannachi; two granddaughters, Rym Hannachi and Imen Hannachi; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a son, Larry Etchen; four brothers, Fred, Ted, Don and Harry Kinman; and four sisters, infant sister Gertrude Kinman, Ida Thorton, Leona Haines and Katie Propes.

Memorial service will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to Southwind Hospice of Pratt in care of Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 13, 2008
Charlene Jo Alsup 1954 – 2008

Charlene Jo Alsup, 53, of Great Bend, died Jan. 12 at Wesley Medical Center, Wichita. She was born Jan. 28, 1954. Arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 13, 2008

Charlene Jo Alsup 1954 - 2008

Charlene Jo Alsup, 53, of Great Bend, died Jan. 12 at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. Born Jan. 28, 1954, at Holyrood, she was the daughter of Dale J. and Emma Sule Klima. She married Jeff Alsup on Oct. 4, 1975, at Great Bend. He survives. A lifetime resident of Barton County, she owned and operated Charlene’s Day Care and formerly worked at TG&Y, the Fuller Brush Company and Wal-Mart.

Mrs. Alsup was a member of the First Southern Baptist Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, Jeff, of the home; a daughter, Stacy Sanders and husband Matthew of Great Bend; mother, Emma Klima of Great Bend; a brother, Dale C. Klima and wife Chris of Great Bend; two sisters, Judy Triplett and husband Ron and Marilyn Dunham and husband Steve, all of Great Bend; and two grandchildren, Cole and Paige Sanders.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at First Southern Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Doyle Smith officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery North. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home with the family receiving friends from 7 to 9 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the American Diabetes Association or First Southern Baptist Church. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 15, 2008

Leona M. Burnett 1918 - 2008

Leona M. Burnett, 89, of Great Bend, died Jan. 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born July 4, 1918. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 15, 2008

William Henry (Bill) Ahlgrim 1927 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — William Henry (Bill) Ahlgrim, 80, died Jan. 14 at his home in Ellinwood. Born April 7, 1927 at rural Ellinwood, he was the son of Henry William and Lettie Donnelly Ahlgrim. He graduated from Ellinwood High School. A lifetime resident of Ellinwood, he was a farmer and stockman. He married Phyllis Spring on Oct. 10, 1948, in Ellinwood. She died Jan. 18, 1994.

Mr. Ahlgrim was a member of the Farm Bureau.
Survivors include three sons, William D. Ahlgrim of Sylvia, Robert A. Ahlgrim of Hutchinson and Rodney W. Ahlgrim of Kansas City, Mo.; two daughters, Trudy Shank of Greensburg and Nancy Straub of Wichita; a sister, Nellie Steadman of Emporia; 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Kenneth, a daughter, Rebecca, a brother, Robert Ahlgrim, and a sister, Betty Kater.

Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. on Friday at Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood with the Rev. John Grumond officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. on Thursday and 9 a.m. to service time on Friday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Kansas Cancer Institute, University of Kansas.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple, Inc. Funeral Home
113 N. Main
P.O. Box 246
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 16, 2008

Tonnie “Diane” Reser 1947 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Tonnie “Diane” Reser, 60, died Jan. 15 at her residence in Ellinwood after fighting a long battle with cancer. Born Oct. 31, 1947, at Sterling, she was the daughter of Walter W. “Walt” Coldwater. A lifetime resident of Barton County, she married Doug Hilton and to this union two children were born, Dale Rex Hilton and Donna Hilton Blazek. They were divorced. She married Charlie Hoffsmith and to this union two children were born, Charleen Hoffsmith Hekele and Cindy Hoffsmith Sandy. They were divorced. She married Tommy Reser on Feb. 14, 2000, in Great Bend. He survives. She was the manager of Sambo’s Restaurant, eventually owning and operating her own restaurant in Hoisington. She was later a dietary manager for Cherry Village. She was also a certified nurse’s aide during various stages of her life.

Mrs. Reser was a member of Victory Church in Chase.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; a son, Dale Rex Hilton of Hutchinson; three daughters, Donna Hilton Blazek and husband Joe of Claflin, Charleen Hoffsmith Hekele and husband Beau of Odin, and Cindy Hoffsmith Sandy and husband Billy of Great Bend; a brother, Danny Coldwater of Hutchinson; two sisters, Connie Sue Rohrig of Salina and Cathy Ruppe of Ellinwood; and eight grandchildren, Danton, Daymon, Brooklyn, Mackenzie, Kylee, Bayle, Kennedy and Aiden.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with Pastor Darlene Weatherman officiating. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today with family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m., and from 9 a.m. to service time on Thursday, all at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Barton County Relay for Life in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 16, 2008

Leona Marie Dinges Herl Burnett 1918 - 2008

Leona Marie Dinges Herl Burnett, 89, of Great Bend, died Jan. 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born July 4, 1918, at Schoenchen, the daughter of Carl and Christina Dreher Dinges. She married Jacob Herl on July 2, 1935, at Schoenchen. He died in 1965. She married Irven Burnett on July 17, 1976, at Great Bend. He died on
April 5, 2005. She was a homemaker and an assistant manager of the TG&Y Store in Great Bend. She was a resident of Great Bend since 1942, coming from Hays.

She was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima, the Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella, Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Donald L. Herl, and wife Henrietta, of Salina; a daughter, Almeda Jurgensen, and husband Merle of Great Bend; a brother, Wendlin “Buddy” Dinges of Hays; two sisters, Henrietta Houser of Great Bend and Elizabeth Wolf of Florida; eight grandchildren, Eddie Jurgensen and wife Cindy of Safford, Ariz., Kimberly Jackson of Salina, Danna Armes and husband Frank of Salina, Derion Herl and wife Barbara of Salina, Jody Imler of Topeka and Brandon Herl and wife Michell of San Antonio, Texas; 21 great-grandchildren, Brandi, Chelsea, Kyla, Katelyn, Andrew, Drew, Hannah, Hayley, Tara and Cody, Travis, Des A Raie, Scott, Donald, Ryan, Tiffani, Amber, Shana, Showna, Caitlin and Kelsey; and nine great-great-grandchildren, Korbin, Parker, Connor, Domonic, Dalton, Donald, McKayla, Gretchen and Christopher. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Alec Dinges and Tony Dinges, and five sisters, Fina Pfiefer, Cecilia Shoemaker, Florentine Rathburn, Bella Koerner and Frannie Koerner.

An Altar Society Rosary will be conducted at 4 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, followed by a 7 p.m. vigil service also at the funeral home. Funeral will be at 1 p.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and from 9 a.m. to noon Friday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital or for the American Diabetes Association may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 16, 2008

January 17, 2008

Irene Riegel DeHaven 1918 - 2008

AUGUSTA — Irene Riegel DeHaven, 89, of Augusta, passed away Jan. 14. Viewing will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday with the family to greet friends from 5 to 7 p.m., and the funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, all at Headley Funeral Chapel, Augusta. Graveside service will be at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at St. Bernard’s Catholic Cemetery, Belpre.

Irene was born in Macksville on Aug. 1, 1918, the daughter of the late Robert Pinkney and Maude Mae (McHugh) Davidson. She worked as a secretary at Hopley Sales in Macksville as well as helping in the family store, Davidson and Riegel in Belpre. In June 1936 she married Hugh Francis Riegel in Belpre and he preceded her in death in 1974. In August of 1977 she married Eugene DeHaven in Belpre and he preceded her in death in 1990.

Irene is survived by daughters, Karen Froetschner and husband Kyrle of Larned and Sharon Wheeler of Augusta; grandchildren, Kraig Froetschner and wife Amy of Garfield, Kerry Froetschner and wife Donna of Rozel, Jimmy Wheeler and wife Kristi of Augusta, Monte Wheeler of Wichita and Sarah Wheeler of Augusta; great-grandchildren Chelsea Townsend and husband Casey of Carney, Okla., Andrew Froetschner of Garfield, and Ashton, Peyton, Madison and Corbin Wheeler of Augusta. She was preceded in death by brothers, Everett, Howard and Gaylord Davidson and a sister, Bonnie Morton, as well. Memorials may be made to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, American Lung Association for asthma research, or to the donor’s choice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Headley Funeral Chapel*
813 State Street
Ted W. Gingrich  1910 - 2008

LARNED — Ted W. Gingrich, 97, died Jan. 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born March 18, 1910, in Hams Prairie, Mo., he was the son of J.E. and Madge Beaven Gingrich. He married Lola Emma Buhrer on Dec. 24, 1932. She died Nov. 18, 1994. A resident of Pawnee County and Edwards County for 70 years, he was a farmer/stockman.

Mr. Gingrich was a member of the United Methodist Church in Larned, the Zook School Board and the Valley Center Township Board.

Survivors include a son, Teddy Gingrich and wife Carol of Larned; two daughters, Martha Guzzo and husband Vince of Overland Park and Vivian Johnston of Lenexa; 15 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Ray, Harold, Charles and Robert; and a sister, Helen Gingrich.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the United Methodist Church, Larned, with Pastor Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Burial will be at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Zook. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Friday at Beckwith Mortuary. Memorials are suggested to the Zook Community Building Fund or the United Methodist Church, both in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Wayne Lee Kimberlin  1950 - 2008

ELK CITY — Wayne Lee Kimberlin, 58, died Jan. 14 at Mercy Hospital. Born Jan. 2, 1950, at Clinton, Mo., he was the son of Jack Kimberlin and Merle Floriene (Mitchell) Kimberlin. He attended schools in the Dayton and Garden City, Mo., areas. After his schooling, he worked as a welder in the Kansas City, Mo., area. He married Lois Fletcher on Feb. 8, 1969, at Clinton, Mo. The couple were later divorced. He joined the United States Army and served in Vietnam from 1969 until his discharge in 1971. He worked as a welder in the Great Bend area at Ralph’s Rig Service until 1991. He moved to the Elk City area in 1995 and worked as a logger.

Mr. Kimberlin was a former member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in Caney and Neodesha.

Survivors include his longtime friend, Dianna Arnett of the home; a son, Dakota Kimberlin of the home; four daughters, Nina Griggs of Great Bend, Salina Schwartz and Angelina Morgan, both of Ellinwood, and Catina Kimberlin of Girard; his mother, Merle Floriene Sehorn of Lee’s Summit, Mo.; two brothers, Bruce Kimberlin of Elk City and Denny Kimberlin of Independence; a sister, Lisa Trainer of Olathe; a stepson, William Pulliam of the home; and 14 grandchildren.

Graveside funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Elk City with the Rev. Jim Wilburn, pastor of the Elk City Christian Church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Penwell-Gabel Webb & Rodrick Chapel of Independence. Military graveside rites will be conducted by a United States Army Detail from Fort Riley. Friends may call from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Dakota Kimberlin Educational Fund in care of the funeral home.
Jerry Ray Witt 1931 - 2008

PACIFIC BEACH, Calif. — Jerry Ray Witt, 76, died Jan. 12 due to a stroke. He was born Nov. 3, 1931, at La Crosse. When three weeks old, he was adopted by Kate and Herman Witt and raised on the family farm outside Hudson. Having developed an intense interest in music, Jerry began piano lessons at age seven, followed by voice and organ lessons in high school. He received a bachelor of music degree from Bethany College, Lindsborg. He moved to California, where he taught piano, organ and voice. He began a 41-year career in church music at Christ Lutheran Church, Pacific Beach, followed by All Hallows Catholic Church in La Jolla and the final 28 years at St. Brigid Catholic Church, Pacific Beach, before retiring in 1995. While organist and choirmaster, Jerry directed parish adult choirs, boys’ and girls’ choirs and children’s choir as well as English Handbell choirs, both at St. Brigid and at St. Madeleine Sophie School for the developmentally disabled.

He served on the Music and Liturgy Commission for the Diocese of San Diego, the boards of directors for both the Spreckels Organ Society and Lyric Opera San Diego, sang in the parish choir at Nativity Church and taught classes for San Diego OASIS.

Survivors include many friends, numerous cousins and Harry Matheny, his soulmate of 35 years. He was preceded in death by his adoptive parents.

A viewing is scheduled from 4 to 8 p.m. PST today at Pacific Beach Mortuary Chapel, 4710 Cass St., with a joyful vigil service of memories at 7 p.m. today. The Funeral Mass will be at Church of the Nativity, 6309 El Apajo, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., at 10 a.m. PST Saturday. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favorite charity or one of Jerry’s: Lyric Opera San Diego, 2891 University Ave., San Diego, CA 92104, Nativity Church, P.O. Box 8770, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067, or San Diego OASIS, 1702 Camino del Rio North, San Diego, CA 92108. Please sign the guest book at obituaries.uniontrib.com.

Anita Louise Gorman 1933 - 2008

Anita Louise Gorman, 74, died Jan. 19 at her residence in Great Bend. She was born May 2, 1933, at Kenwood, Iowa, the daughter of John Bernhardt and Amanda Detlefsen Ludemann. She married Robert G. Gorman on April 18, 1954, at Denison, Iowa. He survives. A resident of Great Bend since 1977, coming from Colfax, Iowa, she was a nurse and 20-year co-owner of Gorman Tarps.

Mrs. Gorman was a member of the First Assembly of God in Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband of the home; four daughters, Deborah Lortz and husband James of Sacramento, Calif., Roberta Guthrie and husband Kerry of Great Bend, Katherine Beattie and husband David of Indianapolis, Ind., Glenda Fox and husband Todd, of Roseville, Calif.; two sisters, Emma Lehman of Conestoga, Pa., and Shirley Nelson of Mora, Minn.; nine grandchildren, Jamie Lortz Pirkey, Jon Lortz, Ryan Guthrie, Shane Guthrie, Tiffany Guthrie, Erin Beattie, Brent Beattie, Taylor Fox and Trevor Fox; and four great-grandchildren, Dylan Guthrie, Hailey Pirkey, Brecken Guthrie and Emmersen Guthrie. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Katherine Ludemann.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday at First Assembly of God in Great Bend, with the Rev. Dwight Dozier officiating. Inurment will be in Great Bend Cemetery in Great Bend. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken
place. Memorials are suggested to Golden Belt Home Health and Hospice or First Assembly of God in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 20, 2008

Ora Ruth Kirchgassner 1929 - 2008

LARNED — Ora Ruth Kirchgassner, 78, died Jan. 17 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. She was born July 25, 1929, in Kinsley, the daughter of Abram Amrine Sr. and Amber Stewart Amrine. On April 21, 1948, she married L.B. “Tiny” Hess Jr. He died Dec. 12, 1968. On May 17, 1969, she married Marvin R. Kirchgassner at Larned. He survives. A longtime resident of Larned, she was a homemaker.

She belonged to the United Methodist Church, Garfield, and Jolly Circle Card Club and TOPS, both of Larned.

Survivors include a son-in-law, David Gilbert, Wichita; one brother, Abram Amrine Jr., Hesston; three sisters, Claribel Pulliam of Laurel, Mont., Beatrice Seba of Larned and Corinne Ingrum of Branson, Mo.; one granddaughter, three great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Charlene Marie Gilbert.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned, with the Rev. Ken Walker presiding. Visitation will be from noon until 6 p.m. today, from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Monday and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Garfield Cemetery, Garfield. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society in care of Morell Funeral Home, Box 124, Larned, KS 67550-0124.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
1021 Broadway
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 20, 2008

Esther R. Wear 1916 – 2008

Esther R. Wear, 91, of Great Bend, died Jan. 18 at Central Kansas Medical Center. Born Aug. 17, 1916, in Rush County, she was the daughter of John and Katherine Moore Kehr. She married Bernard Wear on Sept. 18, 1938, in Dighton. He died June 1, 1978. A resident of Great Bend for 39 years, coming from Alamota, she was a homemaker and a Certified Nurse Aide for the Great Bend Manor.

Mrs. Wear was a member of the Assembly of God Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Byrl Wear and wife Shelly of Claflin; five daughters, Betty Naylor and husband Jewell of Kansas City, Mo., Barbara Abrahamson and Bonnie Jamieson and husband Jim, all of Great Bend, Berdyna Proctor and husband Lou of Plattsburg, Mo., and Belynda Simbala and husband Richard of Colleyville, Texas; a sister, Katherine McKinley of Dighton; a brother, Emmanuel Kehr of Pueblo, Colo.; 15 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three infant sons, a daughter, Beverly Thoreson, and a sister, Sarah Myers.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home with the Rev. Dwight Dozier and the Rev. Jerry Jamieson officiating. Burial will be at 3:30 p.m. at the Dighton Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home with family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the First Assembly of God Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Margaret Opal (Polly) Taylor 1926 - 2008

STAFFORD — Margaret Opal (Polly) Taylor, 81, of Stafford, died Jan. 19 at Leisure Homestead, Stafford. Born May 28, 1926, at Great Bend, she was the daughter of Albert Linden and Myrtle Ruth (McGinty) VanWinkle. A lifelong resident of Seward and Stafford, moving to Stafford in 1947, she was a social worker for the State of Kansas for 43 years, retired. On Sept. 3, 1947, she married Alfred Ervin Taylor at Seward; he died in 1991.

Mrs. Taylor was a member of St. John The Apostle Catholic Church and Altar Society, both of St. John, and the Elks Auxiliary of Great Bend.

Survivors include two brothers, Dr. T.D. VanWinkle, Wichita, and James J. VanWinkle, Winfield; two sisters, Arlene Deighton, Kingfisher, Okla., and Alice Latas, Dodge City; seven nephews and eight nieces.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. John The Apostle Catholic Church, St. John, with Father Rene Guesnier as celebrant. Visitation will be from 1 to 7 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel, St. John, with a Rosary Service at 7 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Burial will be in the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery, Seward.

Memorials to the South Wind Hospice or Leisure Homestead Activities Fund at Stafford, both in care of Minnis Chapel in St. John.

Angelita Haas Bahr

Angelita Haas Bahr, 86, formerly of Great Bend, passed away on Jan. 14 in Illinois. She was the wife of the late Col. Herman J. Bahr (Ret.). She is survived by her sons, William of Bloomingdale, Ill., Robert of Alexandria, Va., and Thomas of Chester, Va., as well as grandsons Jonathan of Woodridge, Ill., and Christopher (LT), currently of Fort Riley. Angelita is also survived by her sisters, Regina Tarpey of Alexandria, Va., and Bernice Dreiling of Hays, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at the Chapel of the Veterans in Leavenworth, with burial at Leavenworth National Cemetery on Friday, Jan. 25. For additional funeral information call (630) 307-3634.
LARNED — Raymon Keith Harris, 75, died Jan. 20 at Stormont-Vail Healthcare in Topeka. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Morell Funeral Home in Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 22, 2008

Lonnie Martin McBride 1952 - 2008

OKEENE, Okla. — A graveside service for Lonnie Martin McBride, 55, was held Monday at Roselawn Cemetery in Okeene, Okla., with Pastor Dave Wesner officiating with arrangements by Lanman Funeral Home, Inc. of Okeene. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.lanmanmemorials.com.

Lonnie Martin McBride was born on Feb. 13, 1952, at Watonga, Okla., to Olinda Nusz McBride and Jimmy McBride and died Jan. 17 at St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center in Enid, Okla. Lonnie attended Loyal School through second grade. In 1961 he moved with his family to Wyoming where they lived until moving to Colorado in 1969. They spent a short time in Kansas and then moved to Okeene where Lonnie attended Okeene High School his senior year, graduating in 1970. After high school Lonnie became a machinist and was employed by Farley’s Machine Shop in Colorado. He later became a shop manager for Farley’s in Great Bend. He later moved back to Oklahoma and worked for BB Machine Shop in Enid.

Survivors include his son, Karie McBride and fiancéé, Sara Baker of Okeene; his parents, Jim and Olinda McBride of Okeene; one stepson, Skyler Wissman of Hays; one stepdaughter, Summer Wissman of Ellinwood, and a stepgrandson. Lonnie was preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia McBride Lee, in 1993. Memorials may be made through the funeral home to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Lanman Funeral Home, Inc.
209 N. Main D
Okeene, OK 73763
580-822-3303
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 22, 2008

Dorothy Ellen Nicolet Slocum 1924 - 2007

THERMOPOLIS, Wyo. — Dorothy Ellen Nicolet Slocum, 83, died Dec. 30 at Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital in Wyoming. Born July 16, 1924, in Abilene, she was the daughter of Emil and Laura (Amrine) Nicolet. She married Roy Dwinell in Elko, Neb., on July 25, 1966. He died in 1997. The couple lived in Thermopolis where they managed the Motel Californian until 1971. She was then employed at Diamond Cleaners. In September of 2005 she moved to the Wyoming Pioneer Home.

Mrs. Dwinell was a member of BPOE Does, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the First Baptist Church.


Memorial services were held at the Pioneer Home where she was a resident. Cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to H.S. Co. Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, 150 E. Arapahoe, Thermopolis, Wyo. 82443.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 22, 2008

Harry Byrd Emerson Jr. 1918 - 2008

CENTENNIAL, Colo. – Harry Byrd Emerson Jr., 89, died Jan. 15 at Porter Hospice in Centennial, Colo. He was born July 18, 1918, at Evanston, Ill., the son of Harry and Marguerite (Downing) Emerson. He played high school football
and wrestled in college at Northwestern University, where he later graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology. On Dec. 23, 1941, he married Marion Lacey Wilson. She died Oct. 30, 1989.

After a period of training in the United States, he served as a meteorologist in the Army Air Force in the Pacific Theater. Following his honorable discharge, he began his 30-year career as a meteorologist. His first assignment was in Madison, Wis. In 1947, he moved to Ypsilanti, Mich. In 1960, Harry and his family were transferred to Denver, Colo.

In 1974, he retired from his career as a meteorologist and moved with Marion to Sedalia, Colo. At Windy Hills, they raised and showed generations of English and Irish Setters. Retirement also allowed him time for service to church and community and the local Irish and English Setter clubs of Colorado.

He was a member of First Church of Christ Scientist, Littleton, Colo., for more than 40 years.

Always independent, he continued to live on his beloved butte, in the company of several dogs and visiting children. In 2005, Harry relocated to Holly Creek Christian Living Community in Centennial to be closer to family, friends and church, where he remained for the rest of his life. He especially enjoyed playing bridge and working in the shop, making wooden cars and trucks for children worldwide.

Survivors include a brother, Frederick Range Emerson, of Wilmington, N.C.; two sons, Fredrick Emerson and wife Lynne of Leland, N.C., and Robert Emerson and wife Nancy of Carbondale, Colo.; two daughters, Cynthia Overton and husband Earmie of Indianapolis, Ind., and Karin Kiewel and husband James of Englewood, Colo.; six granddaughters, Beth Coleman and Diana Hansen, both of Aurora, Colo., Abby Ward of Richmond, Virginia, Nina Carlson of Madison, Wis., Amanda Emerson of Newcastle, Colo., and Lacey Overton of Indianapolis, Ind.; four grandsons, Chris Meese of Aurora, Colo., Daniel Kiewel of Great Bend, Wade Overton of Muncie, Ind., and Michael Emerson of Boulder, Colo.; and three great-grandchildren, Sarah and Ashley Coleman, and A.J. Hansen, all of Aurora, Colo. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marion.

Memorial service was held Jan. 19 at Drinkwine Mortuary Chapel in Littleton, Colo. There was no visitation as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 22, 2008#

Vernon L. Kaiser 1938 - 2008

Vernon L. Kaiser, 69, of Great Bend, died Jan. 21 at Hospice House in Hutchinson. Born July 3, 1938, at Claflin, he was the son of Fred L. and Mathilda Steiner Kaiser. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, he owned and operated Kaiser Insurance Agency, and was a machinist for Great Bend Industries and assistant manager for Buffs Carwash. He was also known for his craftsmanship and woodworking that he had shared with many family members and people of the community.

Mr. Kaiser was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose in Great Bend and the Lake Barton Golf Club, where he served on the Board of Directors.

Survivors include a son, Douglas Lee Kaiser and wife Michelle of Great Bend; a daughter, Lori Diane Crowther and husband Alan of Great Bend; a stepfather, Virgil Stadelman of Hays; two brothers, Ben Kaiser of Mesa, Ariz., and Ken Kaiser of Whittier, Calif.; two sisters, JaNelda Butler of Wichita and Laveda Heider of Harrisonville, Mo.; seven grandchildren, Cody Crowther, Alexis Crowther, Christopher Kaiser, Kyle Kaiser, Brice Kaiser, Cal Kaiser and
Allyson Kaiser; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Fred L. Kaiser, and his mother, Mathilda Steiner Kaiser Stadelman.

Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Heartland Cancer Center, Hospice House of Hutchinson or Prince of Peace Parish in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 22, 2008

Arlyn Edward Bisterfeldt 1938 - 2008

LEAVENWORTH — Arlyn Edward Bisterfeldt, 70, died Jan. 19 at a Leavenworth hospital. He was the son of George Henry Bisterfeldt and Almeda Viola Hutchins Bisterfeldt. He attended school at Bison. He then worked at various jobs. He joined the United States Air Force and served there from 1958 to 1962. Upon his discharge he went to work for Cessna Aircraft until his retirement. He moved to Leavenworth, where he remained until his death.

Survivors include two brothers, Bill Bisterfeldt of Great Bend and Everett Bisterfeldt of Wichita; two sisters, Donna Mayo of Olathe and Betty Showalter of Great Bend; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Ruth Johnson, and a brother, Henry Bisterfeldt Jr.

Military funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Davis Funeral Chapel, Leavenworth, with Chaplain Samford officiating. Burial will be at Leavenworth National Cemetery.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 23, 2008

Marilyn A. Cook 1936 - 2008

DIGHTON — Marilyn A. Cook, 71, died Jan. 19 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. Born Sept. 28, 1936, at Wichita, she was the daughter of Clarence John and Barbara Ann (Strunk) Metzen. She married Albert Cook on Aug. 28, 1956, at Wellington. She graduated with the Class of 1954 at Wellington High School. She attended the Venus Academy of Beauty in Wichita. She lived in Pittsburg for a short time and then moved to Dighton. She started working for Blanche McKelvy at the Green Bonnet Salon in 1960 as a cosmetologist and at the time of her death, was the owner-operator of the Green Bonnet. She enjoyed her garden, canning, making jelly and salsa, quilting, sewing and playing bridge. She had a large collection of bells and Santa figures and enjoyed decorating her home and entertaining for school facility parties and other school and community functions. She was active in her community; among her projects was being a leader on the school track resurfacing project. She also enjoyed her casino trips and sporting events.

Mrs. Cook was a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church of Dighton and St. Theresa Altar Society, Kansas State Hairdressers Association, Advisory Board of Garden City Community College Cosmetology Department, past president of As You Like It Club, and state secretary of G.F.W.C.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; four sons, Randal Cook of Holcomb, Michael Cook of Wichita, Gregory Cook of Tribune and Mark Cook of Herington; three daughters, Rhonda Cook of Norristown, Pa., Rebecca Daniels of North Attleboro, Mass., and Marla Porch of Halstead; stepmother, Sis Metzen of Wellington; a brother, Dennis Metzen of Wellington; two sisters, Betty Lucas of Lawrence and Pat Robinson of Wellington; a stepbrother, John Metzen of Independence, Mo.; a stepsister, Sheryl Shephard of Anaheim, Calif.; two half brothers, Raymond Metzen of
Wellington and Ronnie Metzen of Mayfield; a half sister, Darlene Colburn of Clearwater; 18 grandchildren and three
great-grandchildren.

Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at St. Theresa Catholic Church. Funeral mass will be at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday at
the church with the Rev. Warren Stecklein and the Rev. Benjamin Dande as celebrants. Burial will be at the Dighton
Memorial Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. today at Boomhower Funeral Home in Dighton.
Memorials are suggested to the Marilyn Cook Cosmetology Scholarship Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences
may be e-mailed to farnandfh@sbcglobal.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Boomhower Funeral Home*
145 N. Wichita
Dighton, KS 67839
620-397-5792
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 23, 2008

Michael James Dunavan

PAWNEE ROCK — Michael James Dunavan, 27, died Jan. 22 at his home in rural Barton County. Arrangements are
pending with Morell Funeral Home in Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 23, 2008

Gertrude J. Rziha 1915 - 2008

Gertrude J. Rziha, 92, of Great Bend, died Jan. 21 at Alterra Sterling House, Great Bend. She was born Feb. 28, 1915,
at Odin, the daughter of Emil and Josephine Zorn Schneweis. She married Frank H. Rziha on Aug. 23, 1938, at Odin.
He died Aug. 15, 1989. She was a homemaker and had resided at Sterling House for three years and in Great Bend for
18 years, coming from Odin.

She was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick and Altar Society of Great Bend.

Survivors include five sons, Leonard Rziha and wife Joan of Hoisington, Jim Rziha and wife Jolene, and Robert Rziha
and wife Nancy, all of Great Bend, Gerald Rziha and wife Jeanne of Tampa, Kan., and Larry Rziha of Ponca City,
Okla.; three daughters, Bernice Kaiser and husband Marvin of Hays, Mary Anne Hammerschmidt and husband Ron of
Topeka, and Cecilia Schreiber and husband Gary of Osborne; one brother, Edwin Schneweis and wife Lucille of Great
Bend; one sister, Leona Jenisch of Odin; 27 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren and two stepgreat-grandchildren.
She was preceded in death by a son, Raymond Rziha; a daughter, Carolyn Rziha; five brothers, John Schneweis,
Wilhelm Schneweis, Father Emil Schneweis, Lawrence Schneweis and Leonard Schneweis; five sisters, Gabriella
Habiger, Anna Schneweis, Sister Pauline Schneweis, Christina Demel and Mathilda Boor, and one granddaughter,
Carrie Rziha.

An Alter Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Thursday and a vigil service at 7 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home,
Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father
Reginald A. Urban and Father Pascal Klein officiating. Interment will be at the Holy Family Cemetery, Odin, at 2:30
p.m. Friday. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for
Holy Family Cemetery Fund, Odin, or Holy Family School Endowment Fund, Great Bend, may be made in care of the
funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Raymon Keith Harris  1932 - 2008

LARNED — Raymon Keith Harris, 75, died Jan. 20 at Stormont-Vail Healthcare in Topeka. Born April 6, 1932, in Hammon, Okla., he was the son of Benjamin Franklin and Verda Clark Harris. A resident of Larned, formerly of Pawnee Rock, he was a retired truck driver.

Mr. Harris was a member of the First Bible Baptist Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include a daughter, Phyllis M. Agee of Pawnee Rock; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Ernie Harris; and three brothers, Glenn Hiatt, Reece Harris and Ellis Joe Harris.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned with Pastor Kevin Franklin presiding.
Inurnment will be at a later date at the Pawnee Rock Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Cremation will take place after the funeral. Memorials are suggested to the American Lung Association in care of Morell Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177

John Edward Cole  1944 - 2008

SEWARD — John Edward Cole, 63, of Seward, died Jan. 21 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born April 20, 1944, at Great Bend, he was the son of Herbert and Martha (Weers) Cole. On Sept. 19, 1975, he married Gordonna L. (Amundson) at Denver. She survives, of the home. He was a farmer/stockman and a lifelong resident of the Seward-Great Bend area. He was a 1962 graduate of Great Bend High School and was a medic in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Other survivors include a daughter, Jamie L. Cole, Seattle, Wash.; a brother, Max Cole, Fairbanks, Alaska; three sisters, Marianne Bohner, Eugene, Ore., Jane Greene, Lynch, Neb., and Judy Bayless, Helena, Mont., and 16 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by both parents and by a son, Daniel H. Cole.

There will be no public services, as the body was cremated. Minnis Chapel, St. John, is in charge of local arrangements.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
St. John, KS 67576
620-786-9440

January 24, 2008

Michael James Dunavan 1980 - 2008

PAWNEE ROCK — Michael James Dunavan, 27, died Jan. 22 at his home in rural Pawnee Rock. He was born Nov. 8, 1980, at Fort Riley, the son of Robert and Janice Dunavan. He graduated from high school in Larned in 1999, from Barton County Community College, where he was active in theater and music, and from Fort Hays State University with a bachelor’s degree in communications and a master’s degree in communications with an emphasis in theater. He lived at Fort Riley, Camp Zama, Japan, and in rural Barton County. His life was devoted to entertaining people and his love for animals.
He belonged to the Pawnee Rock Christian Church, where he was a deacon.

He is survived by his parents, of the home; a sister, Diane, and husband Jeffrey Gibson, Larned; a brother, Brian and wife Karen of San Antonio, Texas; a sister-in-law, Melissa Lloyd, Lawrence; seven nieces and nephews, Zachery, Ian, Grant, Joshua, Channing, Chloe and Karalyne.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Pawnee Rock Christian Church, with the Rev. Don Paden and the Rev. Tom Albright officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Burial will be in the Pawnee Rock Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Gideons International or to the Pawnee Rock Christian Church, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway/P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 24, 2008

LaVern F. “Curly” Girard 1942 - 2008

STAFFORD — LaVern F. “Curly” Girard, 65, died Jan. 22 at Stafford District Hospital, Stafford. Born Jan. 23, 1942, at St. Joseph, he was the son of Alfred T. and Stella Marie LaBlanc Girard. He was a Stafford resident since 1957. He married Edwina Lou Rogers at St. John on July 15, 1961. She survives. He was the retired city superintendent for the City of Stafford and was the owner of Girard Repair. He was a member of the Stafford Fire Department and had coached Pee Wee and Little League baseball.

Survivors, besides his wife, include three sons, Tim Girard and wife Lori of Pratt, Kirk Girard and wife Tammy of Prairie View, and Joey Girard and wife Sheri of Claflin; a son-in-law, Craig Caley of Stafford; a brother, Ray Girard of Augusta; a sister, Lucille Trembly of Clifton; seven grandchildren, Ryan Girard, LeAnn Girard, Jordan Girard, Emily Girard, Michaela Girard, Alyson Caley and Kylee Girard; and one great-grandchild, Allen Ross Skeen. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Kimberly Caley, a brother, Leland Girard, and a sister, Lorena Ashley.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Minnis Chapel, Stafford, with Richard Foster presiding. Burial will be at the Stafford Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at Minnis Chapel, Stafford, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Memorial may be sent to the Stafford Fire Department or South Wind Hospice, both in care of the chapel. Online condolences may be made to MinnisChapel.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel*
125 North Main
Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5261
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 24, 2008

Inez Marie Jaco 1908 - 2008

PLAINVILLE — Inez Marie Jaco, 99, died Jan. 19 at Redbud Village in Plainville. She was born on March 8, 1908, in Coffeyville, the daughter of of William Jefferson and Dora Bell (Dunigan) Brown. She married Harry M. Jaco May 21, 1927 Pawhuska, Okla. They moved to Plainville in 1938. He died in 1987.

Mrs. Jaco was a member of the First Christian Church and the Dorcas Club. She was an avid golfer and was active in the Rooks County Ladies Golf Club.

Survivors include two sons, Gene of Plainville and John W. of Great Bend; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson. She was preceded in death by ten siblings.
Memorial service was held on Monday at Mosher-Kemp Funeral Home with Pastor Larry Lyles of the First Christian Church of Plainville officiating. Interment was in the Plainville Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Plainville Christian Church or Redbud Village of Plainville. Contributions may be left at the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Mosher/Kemp Funeral Home
320 SW 2nd
Plainville, KS 67663
785-434-2700

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 24, 2008

January 25, 2008

Robert L. Deines 1943 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Robert L. Deines, 64, died Jan. 23 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born April 9, 1943, in Boulder, Colo., he was the son of Herman F. Deines and Sara A. “Arter” Deines. He married Bernice Niedens on April 16, 1967, in Hoisington. She survives. A lifetime resident of the Galatia-Hoisington area, he was formerly involved in farming and dirt construction and also started Dartmouth Sand, of which he was a co-owner.

Mr. Deines was a member of the Concordia Lutheran Church in Hoisington.

Survivors include his wife, Bernice Deines of Hoisington; a son, Kirk and wife Sarah Deines of Hoisington; a daughter, Renita and husband Dr. Tyler Schremmer of Hoisington; mother, Sara Deines of Otis; a brother, Jim Deines of Wichita; three sisters, Kathryn Ahlvers of Great Bend, Marcia Brewer of Edwardsville, Ill., and Vickie Reidl of Woodward, Okla.; and four grandchildren, Trent and Tricia Schremmer and Blake and Noah Deines. He was preceded in death by his father, Herman F. Deines; a brother, Frank Deines; and a sister, Elizabeth Deines.

Prayer service will be at 7 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Concordia Lutheran Church in Hoisington with the Rev. Mark Lovett officiating. Burial will be at the St. John Lutheran Cemetery near Susank. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home and from 9:30 a.m. to service time on Saturday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Concordia Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 25, 2008

January 27, 2008

Gerald L. Durham 1935 – 2008

LYONS — Gerald L. Durham, 72, died Jan. 25 at Hospice House in Hutchinson. He was born April 20, 1935, at Penalosa, the son of Francis Marion and Carrie Louise Wilson Durham. He married Arlene Good on May 21, 1955, at Fredrick. He graduated from Hutchinson Community College. A longtime Rice and Reno County resident, having lived in Lyons, Sterling and Hutchinson, he was a retired electrician at American Salt Co. of Lyons and retired E-7 from the U.S. Army after 22 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean War.

Mr. Durham was a member of First Christian Church and a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, both of Lyons, and the American Legion in Hutchinson.
Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Jerry Durham, San Jose, Calif., and Frank Durham, Sterling; five daughters, Peggy Peterson, Sterling, Shelly Bauer, Great Bend, Cindy Dupont, Red Lake Falls, Minn., Dorothy Bussard, Sterling, and Carrie Wilder, Lyons; 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three bothers and two sisters.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Lyons with Chaplain Mark Wiens officiating. Burial will be in Lyons Municipal Cemetery, with full military honors conducted by the Fort Riley Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, with family present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial donations to Hospice House of Hutchinson or the American Lung Association may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Homes
214 West Ave. South
P.O. Box 89
Lyons, KS 67554
(620) 257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 27, 2008

Johnny Lynn Debes 1943 – 2008

LITTLETON, Colo. — Johnny Lynn Debes, 64, of Littleton, Colo., passed away peacefully on Jan. 24, after a long battle with cancer. He was a lifelong resident of Great Bend before moving to Denver in 1996.

Johnny was a shuttle driver for Wise Recycling in Aurora, Colo.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Naomi Dupree Debes; two daughters, Kimberly Lynn Hindman and husband Tim of Littleton, and Kerrie Lynn Martinez and husband Damien of Round Rock, Texas; mother, Theda Debes, of Great Bend; brother, Frederick D. Debes and wife Beverly of Derby, and three grandchildren, Alliee Hindman and Christopher and Jacob Martinez.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Horan and McConaty Funeral Home in Lakewood, Colo. Family request that memorials be made to Saint Johns Hospice, 1320 Everett Ct., Lakewood, CO 80215. Share condolences at www.HoranCares.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Horan and McConaty Funeral Home*
3101 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Lakewood, CO 80227
(303) 986-9615
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 27, 2008

Debora Lynn Newcomb 1945 - 2008

Debora Lynn Newcomb, 63, of Great Bend, died Jan. 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born Jan. 13, 1945, at Great Bend, the daughter of Loraine and Frances Ladine Edwards Peterson. A resident of Great Bend, moving from Tulsa, Okla., in 1995, she was a teacher and day-care operator.
She was a member of the United Methodist Church.
On September 13, 1996 in Arkansas, she married James “Russell” Newcomb. He survives.
Other survivors include her mother, Ladine, Ellinwood; two sons, Mark Daubert, Waco, Texas, and Todd Daubert, Washington, D.C.; a stepdaughter, Chelsey Dildine, Muskogee, Okla.; a sister, Lark Peterson, Pawnee Rock; and three grandchildren and three stepgrandchildren.
Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned, with Pastor Darryll Peterson presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday at the mortuary. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery, Larned. Memorials may be sent to the Debora Newcomb Memorial Fund in care of the Mortuary. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
P.O. Box 477
916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 29, 2008

Mary “Rubye” Long 1914 - 2008

Mary “Rubye” Long, 93, of Great Bend, passed away Jan. 27 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Rubye, as she was known to her family and friends, was born April 3, 1914, in Nowata County, Okla., to Clarence and Pearl Brannan Ross. Rubye graduated from Nowata High School in 1933. She married her high school sweetheart, Cleo Everett Long, on April 7, 1937, in Nowata, Okla. During this 50-year union they lived in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Wyoming, with Cleo’s job in the oilfields. Their last residence was in Ellinwood. Rubye was employed as a clerk in various retail businesses and as a bookkeeper/secretary for several oil companies. Her favorite pastimes were oil painting, knitting, sewing and all types of crafts. She loved to dance and loved country music. She was an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation and proud of her Indian heritage. But her greatest joy in life was her family.

Rubye is survived by two daughters, Barbara Herbel of Lawrence and Sharon Bradford and husband James of Hill City; eight grandchildren, Rick Long, Bob Long and wife Donna, Randy Long and wife Dian, all of Ellinwood, Rob Long and wife Teresa of Great Bend, Lori Grimmett and husband Dave and Marci McAntee and husband Doug, all of Emporia, Jaime Weller and husband Phil of Smithville, Mo., and Shari Miller and husband Bill of Hill City; 13 great-grandchildren, six step-great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter and seven nieces and nephews. Rubye was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Francis Ross of Nowata, Okla., her son, Francis Long of Ellinwood, and the love of her life, Cleo.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday with family greeting friends from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Charter Funerals in Great Bend. Funeral services for Rubye will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Charter Funerals. Burial will follow at the Great Bend City Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Great Bend Health and Rehab Heartland Unit.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 29, 2008

January 30, 2008

Ralph Kueffer 1924 - 2008

PRATT — Ralph Kueffer was born Jan. 7, 1924, in Barton County, the son of Ralph Kueffer Sr. and Anna Elizabeth Streck Bridenstein Kueffer, and died Jan. 25 at Pratt at the age of 84. Ralph spent many years at home taking care of his mother, who passed away at the age of 96. After a long illness at home, Ralph was moved to Southwind Hospice House in Pratt. The staff at Southwind was wonderful to him in his last days. Many people spent their time with him and brightened many days for him.

Survivors include a son; two daughters; grandchildren; nieces; great-nieces and a great-nephew; and great-great-nieces.

He will be laid to rest in the spring. No date has been given at this time. Memorials are suggested to Southwind Hospice Home in Pratt.
Funeral arrangements provided by
Ayers-Callbeck Mortuary*
115 E. Fourth
Pratt, KS 67124
620-672-5531
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 30, 2008

Mildred N. Johnston 1921 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mildred N. Johnston, 86, died Jan. 29 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 30, 2008

Joe E. Hastings 1933 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Joe E. Hastings, 74, died Jan. 28 at St. Mary’s Corwin Medical Center in Pueblo, Colo. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 30, 2008

Janice Marie Effertz 1956 - 2008

Janice Marie Effertz, 51, of Great Bend, died Jan. 26 at her home. She was born Sept. 15, 1956, at Williston, N.D., the daughter of Henry Louis and Sharon Joan Grisius Effertz. She was a caregiver for Sunflower Diversified Services. She was a resident of Great Bend since 1990, coming from Wichita.

Survivors include her father, Henry Effertz, and wife Diane, of Great Bend; her mother, Sharon Servi of Littleton, Colo.; three brothers, Steve Effertz and Douglas Effertz, both of Great Bend, and Anthony Effertz of Kansas City, Mo.; a half brother, Jon Servi of Madison, Wis.; and a half sister, Jackie Zube of Littleton, Colo. She was preceded in death by a son, Jason Effertz, an infant brother, Danny LeRoy Effertz, and an infant sister, Patty Jo Effertz.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Donations to a memorial fund for the Golden Belt Humane Society may be made in care of Bryant Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 30, 2008

January 31, 2008

Joseph M. Lichter 1922 - 2008

CENTRALIA, Ill. — Joseph M. Lichter, 85, died Jan. 29 at St. Mary’s Hospital in Centralia, Ill. Born Dec. 23, 1922, in Olmitz, he was the son of John Lichter and Lillian (Mauler) Lichter. He married Irene M. Sell on Feb. 20, 1950, in Timken. A resident of Centralia for 35 years, he retired in 1982 after 36 years as a foreman with Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America.

Mr. Lichter served in the Army during World War II. He was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and American Legion Post No. 446.
Survivors include his wife, Irene M. Lichter of Centralia; a daughter, Carol Siesener and husband, Robert, of St. Louis, Mo.; a brother, Alvin Lichter of Olmitz; two sisters, Rose Mary Linn of Albert and Mary Evelyn Linenberger of Great Bend; three grandchildren, Stephen Siesener and wife Monica of St. Louis, Mo., Angela Wilhite and husband Daniel of O'Fallon, Mo., and Amy Siesener of St. Louis, Mo.; and great-grandchildren, Hannah, Elizabeth, Logan and Daniel Wilhite. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, John R. Lichter and Henry Lichter.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday at St. Mary’s Church in Centralia, Ill., with Father Michael Mbonu officiating. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in Centralia, Ill. Friends may visit after 9 a.m. on Saturday at St. Mary’s Church. Military rites at the graveside will be accorded by the Centralia Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion posts. Memorials in his honor may be made to St. Mary’s School in care of Garnier and Sons Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Garnier and Sons Funeral Home*
235 North Sycamore Street
Centralia, IL 62801
618-535-3523
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008

Joe E. Hastings    1933 - 2008

CANON CITY, Colo. — Joe E. Hastings, 74, died Jan. 28 at St. Marys Corwin Medical Center in Pueblo, Colo. He was born July 24, 1933, in Red Cloud, Neb., to Frederick L. Hastings and Nancy “Benton” Hastings. He married Wilma M. Klusener on Oct. 23, 1955, at Dubuque. She preceded him in death on Dec. 24, 1992. A former resident of Hoisington and Jewell, he was a resident of Canon City, Colo., for the past 10 years. He was a retired City of Hoisington employee, retiring in 1990.

Mr. Hastings was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7428 in Hoisington.

Survivors include a son, Douglas Hastings and wife Joyce of Canon City, Colo.; and two sisters, Violet Thompson of Lawrence, and Elsie. He was preceded in death by a brother, Emery Hastings, and a sister, Rosenia Padgett.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with Pastor Amy Austin, PMA, officiating. Burial will be at the Dubuque Lutheran Cemetery in Russell County with military graveside rites by VFW Post No. 7428 and American Legion Post No. 286. Friends may visit from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to service time Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Dubuque Lutheran Cemetery in care of Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67530
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008

Mildred N. Johnston  1921 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mildred N. Johnston, 86, died Jan. 29 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. She was born April 8, 1921, in Coffeyville, the daughter of Forest B. and Alta Mae “Mills” Manley. She married Alva G. Johnston on April 21, 1940, in Oswego. He died Jan. 9, 2001. She was a homemaker.

She was a member of Assembly of God Church, Hoisington.
Survivors include a daughter, Maybell Smith, Rockford, Ill.; a brother, Gail Manley, Hoisington; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Delbert Manley, and a sister, Dixie B. Manley.

Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Dwight Dozier officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, all at the funeral home. Memorial donations to the charity or organization of the donor’s choice may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008

May Louise Judd 1926 - 2008

LINCOLN — May Louise Judd, 81, died Jan. 28. Born May 23, 1926, in Lincoln, she was the daughter of Clinton and Cora (Chard) Howard. She graduated from Lincoln High School in 1944. She married Lloyd Franklin Judd on Oct. 27, 1946, in Salina. She was a retired beautician.

She and her husband enjoyed many years of boating, camping and traveling with friends in their Winnebago clubs. She will be remembered for the many hours she volunteered working with the church youth group as well as the AFS Club. Among her favorite pastimes were drawing, painting and sewing.

May Louise was a charter member of Eta Tau chapter of ESA sorority. She belonged to the local chapter of PEO and to the United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Franklin, of Lincoln; three daughters, Linda Bray of Great Bend, Connie Liggitt and husband Del of Lincoln and Kelli DiMarino and husband Rocky of Oakland Park, Fla.; a brother, Larry D. Howard and wife Pat of Emporia; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and a son-in-law, Steve Bray.

A celebration of her life will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Hall Chapel in Lincoln. Friends may visit from 1 to 8:30 p.m. today. Family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. today at the chapel. Memorials may be made to the Lincoln Carnegie Library or the Lincoln Art Center in her memory. On-line condolences may be made at hallfuneralhome@yahoo.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hall Funeral Home*
111 Elm Street
Lincoln, KS 67455
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008

Wayne Leroy Kirkman 1932 - 2008

WICHITA — Wayne Leroy Kirkman, 75, died Jan. 25 at his residence in Wichita. Born March 20, 1932, in Great Bend, he was the son of Leroy Kirkman and Hazel Evers. On Dec. 23, 1997, Wayne and Joy Kirkman were united in marriage at Wichita. Together they celebrated 10 years of marriage.

Survivors include his wife, Joy Kirkman; a son, Michael Kirkman; two daughters, Kristie and husband Sheldon Peacock and Kathy and Dave Herman; two stepdaughters, Kim Maples and Karma Lamping; a stepson, Kyle and Gail Antenew; a sister, Wanda Hoberecht; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.
No funeral services are planned. A memorial has been established in his loving memory with Hospice Care of Kansas. Contributions should be mailed directly. To share a memory or to leave condolences, visit www.cornerstoneofwichita.com.

Arrangements provided by
Cornerstone of Wichita*
5318 East 37th Street North
Wichita, KS 67220
316-618-8300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008

William T. “Bill” Roat 1947 - 2008

WICHITA — William T. “Bill” Roat, 60, died Jan. 28 surrounded by his loved ones. Born Aug. 1, 1947, in New Albany, he was the son of Gilford G. and Florence May (Russell) Roat. He was a 1965 graduate of Fredonia (Kansas) High School. He was the manager of Bud Roat Towing Service and also worked at Safelite and various Bud Roat service stations.

Survivors include three brothers, Jim and Doris of Great Bend, Bud and Lois of Wichita, and Butch and Karyn of Edmond, Okla.; two sisters, May and Larry Joe Shinkle of Haysville and Marie and Garry Starmer of Fredonia; adopted family, Billy, Heather, Dustin and Miah Konklin of Mulvane; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral service will be at 12:30 p.m. Friday at Culbertson Smith Mortuary, Wichita. Graveside service will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at Weakley Cemetery in New Albany. Friends may visit from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today with family present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials are suggested to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita, KS 67220. Condolences may be sent and tributes viewed at smithfamilymortuaries.com.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Jan. 31, 2008*

February 01, 2008

Virginia “Faye” Carpenter 1916 - 2008

LARNED — Virginia “Faye” Carpenter, 91, died Jan. 31 at Larned Health Care Center in Larned. Born July 7, 1916, in Pawnee County, she was the daughter of Henry and Sara McClernon Bird. She attended Garfield Public Schools. She married George Simmons on Nov. 11, 1937. He died on July 18, 1980. She married Howard Carpenter on Oct. 25, 1986. He survives. A lifetime resident of Pawnee County, she was a retired activity therapist at Larned State Hospital. She had traveled all 50 states and seven continents.

Mrs. Carpenter was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Altar Society, both of Larned.

Survivors include two daughters, Susann Cooksey of Littleton, Colo., and Elizabeth “Liz” Brickey of Arkansas City; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, George Simmons; a brother, Harold Bird; two half brothers, Eldred and Cecil Bird; a sister, Grace Simmons; and a grandchild.

Rosary will be at 7 p.m. on Sunday at Beckwith Mortuary Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. on Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Larned with Father Bernard Felix as celebrant. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Saturday, and from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the mortuary. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Make a Wish Foundation or the donor’s choice, both in care of the mortuary.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.
P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
Willie Jones, Jr. 1930 - 2008

Willie Jones, Jr., 77, of Great Bend, died Jan. 30 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. He was born Nov. 2, 1930, at Abilene, the son of Willie and Blanche Patterson Jones. He was a maintenance worker for Vernon Nuss and Von Hampton. He was a resident of Great Bend most of his life.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, baptized into Christ Jan. 16, 1966, at Trinity Lutheran Church by Pastor K.W. Behnken, and he served on the Altar Guild for 32 years, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include one son, Cleo Jones, Wichita; one daughter, Darlene Faye Jones, Wichita; one brother, Donald Jones, Albuquerque, N.M.; and two sisters, Marcella James and Blanche Robinson, both of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Diana Jones, eight brothers and two sisters.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for Trinity Lutheran Church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Makinna Ann Krebaum 2005 - 2008

Makinna Ann Krebaum, 2, Great Bend, died Jan. 31 at Wesley Medical Center, Wichita. She was born Dec. 21, 2005. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Sharon K. Roach 1942 - 2008

Sharon K. Roach, 65, of Great Bend, died Jan. 30 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Aug. 21, 1942, at Garden City, she was the daughter of Emanuel and Evelyn Bruce Foos. A resident of Great Bend most of her life, she was a homemaker, partner in farming operations and owned Country Corner Salon. She married Alan Maurice Roach on Nov. 18, 1957, in Lyons. He died Oct. 15, 2006.

Mrs. Roach was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose and Altar Society.

Survivors include two sons, Samuel Roach and Bradley A. Roach and wife T.J., all of Great Bend; a daughter, Cheryl Keener and husband Tom of Great Bend; a brother, Larry Foos and wife Lorraine of Olympia, Wash.; two sisters, Sandra Wilhelm and husband Wayne of Seward and Nancy Dunaway and husband Gary of Kilgore, Texas; five grandchildren, Chris Keener, Kevin Keener, Sierra Jones, Sasha Kirksey and Tucker Roach; and three great-grandchildren.

Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at the funeral home. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Kans for Kids in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Sister Mary Eleanor Penka 1916 - 2008

Sister Mary Eleanor Penka, 91, of Great Bend, died Jan. 30 in the Dominican Sisters’ convent infirmary, Great Bend. Born June 14, 1916, in Odin, as Dorothy Penka, Sister Mary Eleanor was the daughter of the late Emil and Hedwig Heger Penka. She entered the Dominican Sisters’ community July 18, 1931, and pronounced her first vows Aug. 20, 1934. She celebrated 70 years of religious profession in 2004.

Sister Mary Eleanor spent most of her ministerial life as a religious in domestic capacities. Early in her religious life she was a homemaker on the sisters’ missions. She worked in the kitchens of St. Rose Hospital, Great Bend (now Central Kansas Medical Center), and St. Catherine Hospital, Garden City. Since 1952 she had lived and worked in Great Bend, serving at St. Rose Hospital and later at CKMC as sacristan, supervisor of housekeeping, aide, ward clerk and in Central Service. Before her last illness (1993) she worked in the medical center laundry and at the convent as a seamstress.

Sister Mary Eleanor is survived by one brother and one sister: Julius, and Helen Kalina, both of Hoisington; and her Community of Dominican Sisters.

Sister Eleanor’s body was brought to the hospitality area of the Dominican Chapel of the Plains, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend, at 4 p.m. Thursday, where it will lie in state until the Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Saturday, with the Rev. Marvin Reif presiding. A wake service will be held at 7 p.m. today. Burial will be in the Sisters’ Resurrection Cemetery. Both the wake and the funeral will be at the convent. Friends may call at the convent from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. today. Memorials in honor of Sister Eleanor for the Dominican Sisters’ Retirement Fund may be sent to: Dominican Sisters, Office of Mission and Ministry, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530-3692.

Sylvia L. Teichmann 1919 - 2008

HUDSON — Sylvia L. Teichmann, 88, of Hudson, died Feb. 1 at Woodhaven Care Center, Ellinwood. Born June 11, 1919, at St. John, she was the daughter of Martin and Myrtle (Wood) Cooper. On Aug. 14, 1937, she married Walter R. Teichmann at Harper. He preceded her in death on Dec. 27, 2005. A lifelong resident of Hudson, she was a homemaker and a graduate of St. John High School.

She was a member of Peace United Church of Christ and the Church Guild, both of rural Hudson. On August 14, 1937, she married Walter R. Teichmann at Harper. He preceded her in death on Dec. 27, 2005.

Survivors include: two sons, Galen R. Teichmann, Great Bend, and Barry B. Teichmann, Hudson; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a brother, Charles Edward Cooper, and three sisters Fannie Stull, Jessie Conklin and Nellie Stotts.
Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Peace United Church of Christ, rural Hudson, with Pastor Wade Russell presiding. Burial will be in the Peace Church Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Memorials may be given to the Peace United Church of Christ in care of Minnis Chapel, St. John.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel, Inc.
526 E. Fourth Ave.
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-786-9440
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 3, 2008

Makinna Ann Krebaum 2005 - 2008

Makinna Ann Krebaum, 2, of Great Bend, died Jan. 31 at Wesley Medical Center, Wichita. Born Dec. 21, 2005, at Wichita, she was the daughter of Kyle and Tasha Ann Grossardt Krebaum. She was a lifetime Great Bend resident.

She was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick’s. She was baptized on Nov. 25, 2006, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend.

Survivors include her parents, of the home; grandparents, Jim and Judy Krebaum of Great Bend and Roger and Connie Grossardt of Claffin; great-grandparents, Evelyn Schartz of Ellinwood and Bertha Kuhn of Great Bend; aunts and uncles, Kevin and Tammi Krebaum, Kansas City, Mo., Amber Grossardt and Heather Grossardt, both of Salina, and Brandon Grossardt of Rochester, Minn.; and cousins Kade, Megan, Julianna, Devon and Hannah. She was preceded in death by her great-grandparents, Raymond and Mable Krebaum, William Kuhn, Malvern Schartz and Walter and Bernice Grossardt.

A vigil service will take place at 7 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be in the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Donations may be made to the Makinna Ann Hope Foundation (to benefit the special-needs children of Barton County). Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Makinna was a very special little girl who touched the hearts of everyone she met. She brought much love and joy into the world. Makinna was such a strong little girl and fought so courageously against all odds. We love you and we will miss you forever.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 3, 2008

Myrna Flora Miller 1940 - 2008

LARNED — Myrna Flora Miller, 67, died Feb. 1 at her Larned home. She was born Feb. 25, 1940, in Denver, Colo., the daughter of Clarence and Mabel Batman Thomas. A longtime resident of Larned, she was a retired ALCO’s store clerk.

She was of the Christian faith and was a member of the Larned Bingo Club.

Survivors include a son, Ronald Dorland, Wichita; two daughters, Elizabeth Rauen, Larned, and Penny Fletcher, La Monte, Mo.; a brother, Myron Thomas, Larned; one sister, Lanet Farmer, Larned; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and two grandsons, Lance and Keith Dorland.
A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned, with Pastor Ryan Webster presiding. Friends may sign a register from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and from 9 a.m. until service time Tuesday at the funeral home. Inurnment will be in the Larned Cemetery at a later date. Memorials may be sent to the Larned VFW Bingo Fund in care of Morell Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
1021 Broadway/P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 3, 2008

Howard A. Converse

Howard A. Converse, 95, Great Bend, died Feb. 2 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Service arrangements are pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 3, 2008

February 05, 2008

Eva Josephine McGinty 1926 - 2008

TOPEKA — Eva Josephine McGinty, 81, of Topeka, formerly of Great Bend, died Feb. 2. She was born June 1, 1926, in Cooper, Okla., the daughter of Jiles Logan Lackey and Mildred Maple Lackey.

She is survived by two sons, Larry Hendricks and wife Beckie of Topeka, and Michael Cates of Wichita; two grandsons, Lee Hendricks and wife Cara of Lawrence, and Logan Hendricks of Wilmington, N.C.; a great-grandson, Will Hendricks of Lawrence; a sister, Freeda Gable of Wichita, and her daughter, Sandy; a brother, Jack Lackey of Cushing, Okla., and his sons, Bob, Randy, Kenny and David.

Eva was a loyal friend and loved her family.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph Church in Ellinwood. Burial will follow at Great Bend Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Midland Hospice Care, 200 SW Frazier Circle, Topeka, KS 66616 or to a charity of the donor’s choice. Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood is in charge of local arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home*
2801 SW Urish Rd
Topeka, KS 66614
785-272-7888
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Sister Henrietta Schneweis OP 1906 - 2008

Sister Henrietta Schneweis OP, 101, of Great Bend, died Feb. 2 in the Dominican Sisters’ convent infirmary in Great Bend. Born March 16, 1906, in Odin as Mary Anna Schneweis, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Karoline Fonshner Schneweis. She entered the Dominican Sisters’ Community on Sept. 19, 1921, and pronounced her first vows on March 6, 1924. She celebrated 80 years of religious profession in 2004.

Sister Henrietta gave her whole ministerial life to the healthcare ministry, beginning in 1927. After her nursing education, she served as a laboratory tech, Superintendent of Nurses at St. Rose School of Nursing in Great Bend, supervisor of obstetrics and surgery, head nurse, and assistant administrator of Sacred Heart Hospital in Lamar, Colo.,
and of St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City. Following these ministries she was Nursing Service Director, OB supervisor and Central Supply Supervisor at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. Her last ministry in health care was as convent infirmarian at the motherhouse in Great Bend. She retired in 1992.

Sister Henrietta is survived by one sister, Eleanor Prosser of Great Bend.

On Sunday, Sister Henrietta’s body was brought to the hospitality area of the Dominican Chapel of the Plains, 3600 Broadway in Great Bend, where it will lie in state until the Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. today. A wake service was held on Monday. Burial will be in the Sisters’ Resurrection Cemetery. Both the wake and the funeral will be held at the convent. Friends may call at the convent this morning until the time of service. Memorials in honor of Sister Henrietta may be sent to Dominican Sisters Ministry Fund, Office of Mission and Ministry, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530-3692. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Florea June Allen 1941 - 2008

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Florea June Allen, 66, of Fort Smith, Ark. (formerly of Whitefield, Okla.), passed away Feb. 2, in Fort Smith. She was born April 5, 1941, in Whitefield to Bert and Neoma (Ballard) Bidwell. She grew up at Whitefield and received her education at Whitefield and Stigler, Okla. Florea, a registered nurse, earned her degree from Eastern (Okla.) State College. She was a homemaker for many years while raising her children. Later, she drove cross-country for Best Freight Lines and Hwy Express. She then made her home in Fort Smith. She loved fishing, crocheting, cooking, arts and crafts.

Florea also had her favorite charities which she supported and was of the Baptist Faith.

She is survived by a son, Wesley Harp of Cedarville, Ark.; two daughters, Kelly Terry of Great Bend and Valerie Adams of Denver, Colo.; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; four brothers, Jerry Bidwell of McAlester, Okla., Billy Bidwell of Harrison, Ark., Bobby Bidwell of Stigler and Lowell Dale Porter of Owasso, Okla., and a sister, Shirley Porter of Mazie, Okla. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Allen; a sister, Bonnie Webb; her parents, Bert and Neoma Bidwell; former husband, Lit Adams, and stepfather, Charlie Bailey.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. today at R.E. Shearwood Memorial Chapel in Stigler with the Rev. Tommie Parker officiating. Pallbearers will be Linley Bidwell, Dustin Bidwell, Bobby Bidwell, Justin Harp, Joey Shepherd and Lee Terry. Honorary pallbearers include Calvin Barbee, Jerry Neal Baker and Sonny Barbee. Burial will follow at the Whitefield Cemetery under the direction of King & Shearwood Funeral Home of Stigler.

Funeral arrangements provided by
King & Shearwood Funeral Home*
808 E. Main
Stigler, OK 74462
918-967-0044
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Otis E. Ordway 1911 - 2008

ANTHONY — Otis E. Ordway, 96, died Feb. 3 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born March 6, 1911, at Peck, the son of Lindsey Earl and Lucy Mae (Lauterback) Ordway. He married Opal Babcock on May 3, 1926, at Wichita. A longtime Anthony resident, he was retired as manager of Jarvis Auto Supply.
He was a member of the Church of Christ, Anthony; Masonic Lodge No. 200 AF & AM; Order of the Eastern Star, Queen City, No. 138, Winfield.

He is survived by two daughters, Marilyn Preston of Great Bend and Carolyn Keener of Wichita; five grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Opal, on Jan. 13, 1998, three sisters, Ollie Wiens, Marie Rothrock and Lela Jackson, and a grandson, Jay Preston.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Prairie Rose Funeral Home, Williams Chapel, Anthony, with the Rev. Lisa Wiens officiating. Interment, with Masonic graveside services, will be at Forest Park Cemetery, Anthony. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today. Memorial donations may be made to Anthony Hospital Home Health Association, the Church of Christ of Anthony or the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Prairie Rose Funeral Home, Williams Chapel
602 East Main
Anthony, KS 67003
620-842-5142
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Oliver Guy “Stoney” Stone 1926 - 2008

LYONS — Oliver Guy “Stoney” Stone, 81, died Feb. 1 at Lyons District Hospital. Born Dec. 17, 1926, in Manchester, he was the son of Harold E. and Ruby G. Bennett Stone. He graduated from Solomon High School. On Aug. 21, 1955, he married Norma Hanavan in Oakley. He served in the United States Army in Germany immediately following World War II, serving with the Big Red One. A resident of Lyons since 1954, he was a retired telephone man for AT&T in Lyons and Chase and owner of Amatel Communications, installing phones and business systems.

Mr. Stone was a member of the First Baptist Church, a church trustee, and a member of the American Legion in Lyons and Telephone Pioneers of America.

Survivors include his wife, Norma, of the home; two sons, Kelvin Stone and wife Cecelia of Oceanside, Calif.; and Kenneth Stone and wife Kim of Topeka; two sisters, Helen McDonnell of Hope and Mary Vaupel of Salina; four grandchildren, Michelle Stone of Oceanside, Calif., and Allison Stone, Sarah Stone and Melea Stone, all of Topeka. He was preceded in death by his parents and a granddaughter, Amy Marie Stone.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church in Lyons with the Rev. Gary Karas officiating. Burial will be at the Lyons Municipal Cemetery. Friends may visit from 2 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Lyons. Memorials are suggested to the First Baptist Church, Good Samaritan Center or the donor’s choice, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home*
214 W. Ave. South
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Howard A. Converse 1912 - 2008

Howard A. Converse, 95, of Great Bend, died Feb. 2 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born April 18, 1912, in Great Bend, the son of Charles Wesley and Effa May Rice Converse. A lifetime Pawnee County resident, he was a farmer.

He was a member of the Pawnee Rock United Methodist Church and First United Methodist Church, Great Bend. He served on Farm Bureau, the Radium Co-op Board and as treasurer of the Pawnee Rock United Methodist Church
Board. He also worked with the Pawnee County Extension. On Oct. 17, 1937, he married Heloise Eloise Kelsey in Larned. She died March 12, 1992.

Survivors include two daughters, Betty Karen Converse, Los Angeles, Calif., and Barbara Jo Converse Stevens, Downs; three grandsons, Michael Todd Colburn, Fresno, Calif., Joshua Brant Converse Stevens, Pawnee Rock, and Seth Lee Converse Stevens, Great Bend; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by five brothers, Percy, Glenn, Merle, Paul and Harvey.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Gary Brooks presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m to 8 p.m. today at Beckwith Mortuary, Larned. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to Elder Care or the First United Methodist Church of Great Bend, both in care of the Mortuary. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
921 Main/P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

Keith E. Davidson 1932 - 2008

LARNED — Keith E. Davidson, 75, died Feb. 3 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born Sept. 18, 1932, at Shields, the son of Marvin G. and Alice Hatler Davidson. On Aug. 28, 1955, he married Ardith Ann Dumler at Utica. A resident of Larned since 1968, moving from Utica, he was a heavy equipment operator.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, and a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, all of Larned.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; a son, Brock, Pratt; three daughters, Crystal Schmidt, Pawnee Rock, Julie Scott, Pratt, and Melinda Hammond, Newton; a brother, Marvin Meril Davidson, Joplin, Mo.; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the church in Larned with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Wednesday at Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned. Cremation has taken place. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery with military honors. Memorials may be sent to the Food Pantry in care of Beckwith Mortuary. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
921 Main/Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 5, 2008

February 06, 2008

Walter Fredrick Stueckemann 1926 - 2008

HUTCHINSON — Walter Fredrick “Walt” Stueckemann, 81, passed away Feb. 3 at the Kansas Soldiers Home at Fort Dodge.

He was born March 3, 1926, in Great Bend, the son of Gustav and Augusta Junghaertchen Stueckemann. He graduated from Ellinwood High School in 1943. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant Junior Grade during World War II. He graduated from Notre Dame University and received the doctorate in jurisprudence (Laws and Letters) from the
University of Kansas in 1950. He practiced law in Jetmore from 1950 until he retired in 1990. He moved to Hutchinson in 1998. He attended Westbrook Baptist Church, Hutchinson.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Jetmore, Past Potentate of Elkora Shrine and part of the Clown Unit, Hutchinson Breakfast Lions and a past district governor of Lions, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He had been very active during his life in Scouting and had received the Silver Beaver.


He is survived by two sons, Bill Stueckemann and his wife Jan, Hutchinson, and Dan Stueckemann and his wife Cathy, Bonner Springs; two daughters, Linda Kay Taylor and her husband Tuffy, Colby, and Pam Seapy and her husband Chuck, Norman, Okla.; 11 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and a sister, Johanna Stueckemann, Apple Valley, Minn. He was preceded in death by his parents, two infant sons and a brother, Adolph.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Westbrook Baptist Church, 2005 Hendricks, with Pastor Andy Addis and Pastor Robert Shelton officiating. Memorials may be given to the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation or the University of Kansas School of Law in care of the funeral home. Private inurnment with Military Honors will be held at Lakin-Comanche Cemetery, Ellinwood. There will be no visitation. To leave a special message online, visit: www.PenwellGabel.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home and Crematory*
300 E. 30th Ave.
Hutchinson, KS 67502
620-662-1201
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 6, 2008

Larry E. Oberle 1940 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Larry E. Oberle, 67, died Feb. 4 at his home in Ellinwood. Born Oct. 27, 1940, in Great Bend, he was the son of George B. and Edna Bertha Blazek Oberle. He married Sharon K. Juby on March 15, 1959, in Hoisington. She survives. A lifetime resident of Ellinwood, he was a diesel mechanic for Central Power Systems and Services (formerly Detroit Diesel).

Mr. Oberle was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Ellinwood.

Survivors include his wife, Sharon Oberle of the home; two sons, Larry Ray Oberle and wife Tamy of Chase and Jerry Lee Oberle of Ellinwood; three daughters, Cindy Kay Fothergill and Vickie Sue Hoffman and husband Vann, all of Ellinwood, and Toni Lynn Hicks and husband Jeff of Ellsworth; a sister, Marlene Schwartz and husband Leo of Houston, Texas; a sister-in-law, Linda K. Oberle of Kansas City, Kan.; and 10 grandchildren, Christopher Lamb, Angela Hicks, Colt Oberle, Derrye Werner, Ashli Fothergill, Michael Oberle, Megan Werner, Raven Oberle, Katlynn Werner and Kymberle Werner. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Robert G. Oberle.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Calvary Baptist Church in Ellinwood with Pastor Jason Winget officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today with family to receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Larry E. Oberle Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 6, 2008
Mary L. Boxberger  1911 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mary L. Boxberger, 96, died Feb. 3 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born Dec. 27, 1911, in Barton County, she was the daughter of John B. Springer and Mary “Seidl” Springer. A resident of Hoisington since 1935, coming from the Olmitz community, she was a homemaker. She married William Boxberger on June 1, 1935, in Great Bend. He preceded her in death on Oct. 3, 1975.

Mrs. Boxberger was of the Lutheran faith.

Survivors include two nephews, Ernest Bittner and Larry Schafer; nine nieces, Shirley Harrison, Leona Marbut, Caroll Burnett, Barbara Thorne, Cathy Smith, Barbara Allen, Gloria Meyer, Margaret Allan and Wanda Turner. She was preceded in death by three brothers, John, Adolph and Tony Springer, and six sisters, Mollie Jamison, Josephine Kaiser, Anna Kuhn, Rose Smith, Hattie Jennings and Helen Schafer.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to service time today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Clara Barton Foundation or Sunflower Diversified Services in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 6, 2008

February 07, 2008

Olinda Wegele  1921 - 2008

GALATIA — Olinda Wegele, 86, died Feb. 6 at Elms Haven Nursing Home in Thornton, Colo. She was born Sept. 20, 1921, in Barton County, the daughter of John and Mary (Dumler) Niedens. She married J. Ernest Wegele on Feb. 23, 1941, in Milberger. He died Dec. 15, 1999. She was a homemaker and a lifetime resident of the Galatia and Otis area.

She was a member of United Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Milberger.

Survivors include a daughter, Elaine Zavodny, and her husband, Tom, of Silverthorne, Colo.; a son, Allen Wegele, and his wife, Delores, of Chandler, Ariz.; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by nine brothers, Henry, Alex, George, Fred, Jake, Ed, Rudy, Sam and Emanuel Niedens, and three sisters, Tilly Dumler, Rosie Dumler and Alvina Deutsch.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at United Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Milberger, with Pastor Amy Austin officiating. Burial will be at Milberger Cemetery in Milberger. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and from 11:30 a.m. until service time Saturday at the church. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association or to the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorder Association. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Bernard “Buck” George Hazen, 84, of Great Bend, went home to be with the Lord on Feb. 5 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born May 23, 1923, in Neosho County, the son of George Jacob and Idella Beggs Hazen. He married Catherine Rose Nienke on Aug. 16, 1944, in Erie, at Buck’s parents’ home. She survives. He was an oilfield pumper, roustabout and carpenter.

Mr. Hazen served in the U.S. Army during World War II, receiving the Bronze Star. He was a member of the American Legion, the VFW and the Christian Motorcycle Association.

Survivors, besides his wife, include a son, Kenneth Ray Hazen and wife Nancy of Cunningham; a daughter, Brenda Sue Johnson and husband Arlon of Great Bend; three brothers, Paul Hazen of Great Bend, Robert Hazen of Holton, Mo., and Ralph Hazen of Mount Airy, N.C.; two sisters, Shirley Spousta of Independence, Mo., and Ethel Markham of Erie; four grandchildren, Tammy Carson of Pawnee Rock, Shelly Hosman of Joplin, Mo., Brian Hazen of Wichita and Angela Berry of Aurora, Colo.; one stepgrandchild, Christy Tustin of Dundee; and five great-grandchildren, Casey Carson and Kylan Carson, both of Pawnee Rock, and Skyler Berry, Makenna Berry and Brooklyn Berry, all of Aurora, Colo.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend. Interment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery, Great Bend. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Charter Funerals, Great Bend, and on Saturday before the service, at the church. The family will greet friends and family from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Friday. A special service of remembrance will take place at 7 p.m. Friday. Memorial donations may be made for the Hazen Grandchildren or for Trinity Lutheran Church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 7, 2008

Loretta B. Querry

LARNED — Loretta B. Querry, 85, died Feb. 6 at Larned Health Care Center, Larned. Service arrangements are pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 8, 2008

Myrl G. Williams, 98, died Feb. 7 at Wheatridge Park Care Center in Liberal. He was born Aug. 6, 1909, at Gustine, Texas, the son of William Wilburn and Signora (Williams) Williams. He attended rural schools in Erath County, Texas, and graduated from Stephenville High School, Stephenville, Texas. On Aug. 13, 1961, he married Georgia Headrick Hill. She died April 26, 2005. He moved to Liberal in 1941 with the civil service, working at the Liberal Army Airfield. He worked as a machine operator for Northern Natural Gas Co., retiring in 1974.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and a former member of the Liberal Noon Lions Club, both of Liberal. His hobbies included fishing, and playing dominos, checkers and cards.
He is survived by a son, Kenneth Dale Williams and wife Nancy of Great Bend; two stepdaughters, Mary Downs and husband Richard of Liberal, and Winifred Kiddoo and husband Charles of Henderson, Nev.; one stepson, Delbert Hill and wife Joyce of Topeka; 12 grandchildren, Julie Foster, Greg Downs, Debbie Eshbaugh, Kurt Williams, Karl Williams, Rebecca Ford, Susan Hankin, Gina Langdale, Matt Hill, Justin Kiddoo, Kelli Smith and Kevin Downs; 26 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents, five brothers and three sisters.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at the First United Methodist Church, Liberal, with the Rev. Ken Hathaway presiding. Burial will be at Liberal Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 5 p.m. today at Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home, Liberal. Memorials may be sent to the First United Methodist Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to the family via www.brennemanfuneralhome.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home*
1212 W. 2nd
Liberal, KS 67901
620-624-5647
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008


MANHATTAN — William R. “Bill” Warner, 69, died Feb. 6. at Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan. Born Sept. 3, 1938, in Larned, he was the son of Rodney O. and Agnes M. (Kirkpatrick) Warner. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Kansas State University in 1960 and his master’s from Emporia State Teacher’s College in Emporia in 1964. He was a science teacher in Junction City for two years prior to moving to Manhattan, where he taught science for 32 years in the junior high/middle schools. He was awarded the Kansas Master Teacher Award in 1979. On Jan. 30, 1960, he married Barbara M. Birzer in Larned. This union was blessed with three children, Debbi, Mark and David. Barbara preceded him in death on Aug. 17, 2007.

Mr. Warner was a member of Seven Dolors Catholic Church, KNEA, Phi Delta Kappa and the Manhattan Municipal Band where he played percussion for 47 years. He enjoyed lapidary, fishing, geology, model ships and Kansas State sports. He served as an usher for many years at Kansas State sporting events. His love of music was best expressed through playing with various bands and giving drum lessons to many local youth.

Survivors include three children, Debbi DeVenuto of St. George, Mark A. Warner and wife Laura of Manhattan and David P. Warner of Prairie Village; two sisters, Barbara Vratil of Fort Collins, Colo., and Janet Miller of Portland, Ore.; two granddaughters, Christa M. and Grace E. Warner; and many other family and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Seven Dolors Catholic Church, with Father Joseph Popelka as celebrant. Cremation will follow the services with private family interment in Sunset Cemetery. The family of Mr. Warner will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m. today at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. A Christian Wake service will follow the visitation at 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made either to the Manhattan Municipal Band or the Manhattan Public Library. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home Web site at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home*
1616 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-539-7841
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008

Rhonda Renee Dobbs 1957 - 2008
BEDFORD, Texas — Rhonda Renee Dobbs, 50, passed away Feb. 8, 2008 in Bedford, Texas. She was born Dec. 11, 1957, in Plainville. She graduated from Great Bend High School, class of 1976. Rhonda was a creative, artistic individual who enjoyed making people laugh. Her greatest enjoyment in life was her four girls and their friends. She was preceded in death by her in-laws, Wayne and Norma Dobbs.

She is survived by her husband, Dallas Dobbs, four daughters, Ashley, Susan, Haley, and Jessica Dobbs; parents, Doyle and Gwen Cook; two sisters, Jana Murray and husband Tom, Sheryl Mauler; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be 10 a.m. Tuesday at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Chapel in Colleyville, Texas. Burial will follow at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials contributions be made to Lupus Foundation of America, Inc., P.O. Box 631047, Baltimore, MD 21263-1047.

Funeral arrangements in provided by
Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home*
5725 Colleyville Blvd.
Colleyville, TX 76034
(817) 498-5894
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008

Carolyn Bidwell 1935 - 2008

Carolyn Bidwell, 72, of Great Bend, died Feb. 9 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center at St. Francis in Wichita. Services are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, 1425 Patton Road, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008

Ralph A. Horner 1915 - 2008

Ralph A. Horner, 93, of Great Bend, died Feb. 7 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008

Bowen Patrick Dino 1974 - 2008

Bowen Patrick Dino, 33, of Great Bend, died Feb. 8 at Great Bend. Services are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, 1425 Patton Road, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2008

Herbert E. Tyler 1926 - 2008

LA CROSSE — Herbert E. Tyler, 81, died Feb. 7 at Hays Medical Center in Hays. He was born Aug. 18, 1926, at Cedar Point, the son of Edgar Lloyd and Opal E. Heckendorn Tyler. He married Mary Gladys Rigby on May 25, 1979, at Great Bend. She died Oct. 1, 2007. He had lived in La Crosse four years, having moved from Great Bend, where he was a resident for 23 years. He was a cowboy in the cattle industry before his retirement.

Mr. Tyler was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, Ellinwood; and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3111, Great Bend. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in France during World War II.

Survivors include two sons, Herbert Tyler Jr., Las Vegas, Nev., and Roy DeConto, Gainesville, Fla.; five daughters, Joyce Blake, El Dorado, Jacque Blair, Scott City, Mary Willems, Granby, Colo., Linda Riedel, La Crosse, and Tina
Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at the Janousek Funeral Home Chapel in La Crosse, with the Rev. Warren Prochnow officiating. Burial will be at 3 p.m. Monday at the Great Bend Cemetery, with Pastor Don Paden officiating. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine, P.O. Box 550
La Crosse, KS 67548
(785) 222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2007

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Janousek Funeral Home Chapel, La Crosse, with the Rev. David Bolz officiating. Interment will be in La Crosse City Cemetery. There will be no visitation. Memorials may be made to Rush County Nursing Home, La Crosse.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine, P.O. Box 550
La Crosse, KS 67548
(785) 222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 10, 2007

February 12, 2008

Betty L. Miller 1927 - 2008

Betty L. Miller, 80, died Feb. 10 at her residence in Great Bend. Born Dec. 28, 1927, in Ritchie, Mo., she was the daughter of Clyde Earl and Bertha Ona Mitchell Douthitt. She was a 1945 graduate of Pierce City High School. She had been married to Marion L. (Les) Burke and later married Leonard J. Miller on Sept. 21, 1968, at Great Bend. He survives. A resident of Great Bend for 63 years, she was the matriarch of her family and always ready with a smile. She will be sincerely missed. Among jobs, other than being a great wife and mother, she worked at J.C. Penney’s from 1963 to 1971 and then Commercial Credit as a loan manager, where she retired in 1987. Betty and her husband Leonard enjoyed cooking, gardening and entertaining lots of friends and family, traveling and spending time together as a couple.

Mrs. Miller was a member of Central Baptist Church in Great Bend, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and was an officer in the Business and Professional Women for three years.

Survivors include her husband, Leonard J. Miller of Great Bend; two sons, Lester L. Burke of Ellinwood and Gary G. Burke of Great Bend; three daughters, Dana D. Abrams, Belinda Peters and Karla K. Engler, all of Great Bend; 11
grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, J.D. Douthitt and Glenn Douthitt; and five sisters, Naomi Hudson, Joan Reat, Helen Roark, Jeannie Fijak and Clydene Tate.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the graveside at Great Bend Cemetery, with Pastor John Grummon officiating. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. and from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, all at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Golden Belt Home Health and Hospice in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Phyllis Kay Whelan 1920 - 2008

Phyllis Kay Whelan, 88, of Great Bend, died Feb. 11 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. She was born Feb. 5, 1920, at Springfield, Ohio, the daughter of John and Mary Kohler Niswonger. She married Don Whelan in June 1947 at Great Bend. He survives. She was a homemaker. Before her marriage she was a ladies’ sportswear buyer and model for Lazres Department Store in Columbus, Ohio. She was a Great Bend resident since 1947, coming from Ohio.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, Don, of the home.

A graveside service will be at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Great Bend Cemetery with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Visitation will be from 3 to 9 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for the Don and Phyllis Whelan Academic Scholarship Fund at Barton County Community College may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Carolyn J. Bidwell 1935 - 2008

Carolyn J. Bidwell, 72, of Great Bend, died Feb. 9 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. Born April 17, 1935, at El Dorado, she was the daughter of Charles and Eunice Singleton Welty. She married William Arthur Bidwell on June 19, 1954, at Chelsea Methodist Church in El Dorado. He died April 5, 2007. A resident of Great Bend since 1961, coming from El Dorado, she worked in the dietary department at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend for 25 years.

Mrs. Bidwell was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Great Bend and served in numerous church positions. She was also a volunteer at the Central Kansas Medical Center Gift Shop.

Survivors include a son, Michael Bidwell and wife Diane of Wichita; two daughters, Linda Lickey and husband Ernest of Wichita and Susan Wagener and husband Mark of Clovis, N.M.; five grandchildren, Matthew Bidwell, Jenny Vinson, Adam Wagener, Amanda Wagener and Spencer Lickey; three great-grandchildren, Alexis Vinson, Jacob Vinson and Deven Tinsley; and three sisters, Melda Johnson and Shirley Sander, both of El Dorado, and Dorothy Tillock of Galva.
Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Trinity United Methodist Church in Great Bend with Pastor Julie Shields officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to Trinity United Methodist Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Gerald L. Reifschneider 1938 - 2008

HUTCHINSON — Gerald L. Reifschneider, 69, died Feb. 10 at Hospice of Reno County in Hutchinson. Born Oct. 13, 1938, in Windsor, Colo., he was the son of Henry Reifschneider and Bertha Karb Reifschneider. A resident of Hutchinson since 2003, he was formerly a resident of Concordia and Great Bend. He married Phyllis Renfro on Dec. 7, 1958, in Ellinwood. He was in the healthcare industry for 44 years, working at Great Plains Health Alliance in Phillipsburg as the Area director and Central Kansas Medical Center as executive vice president.

He had a bachelor’s degree from St. Mary of the Plains, Dodge City, and a master’s degree from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Reifschneider was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Hutchinson, the Methodist Men’s Association and a past Rotarian.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis, of the home; two sons, Jon Reifschneider of Arlington and Tom Reifschneider of Fort Scott; a daughter, Lori Reifschneider of Larned; a brother, Dale Reifschneider of St. George; two sisters, Betty Stetham of Goodland and Cheryl Broaderway of Great Bend; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Paul Reifschneider; and a brother, James Reifschneider.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Trinity United Methodist Church in Hutchinson with the Rev. Pat Ault-Duell officiating. Committal will be at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to the Trinity United Methodist Men in Hutchinson or to Camp Lakeside in Scott City.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home
113 N. Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Bowen Patrick Dino 1974 - 2008

Bowen Patrick Dino, 33, of Great Bend, died Feb. 8 in Great Bend. Born Aug. 31, 1974, at Great Bend, he was the son of Gary P. Dino and Helen Davis James. A resident of Great Bend since 1989, coming from Houma, La., he was employed in the oilfield.

Survivors include his father, Gary Dino, and stepmother Mary of Great Bend; mother Helen James and stepfather Dodd of Houma, La.; two sons, Tylen Kurth and Brannan Dino, both of Great Bend; a daughter, Aubryanna Kurth of Great Bend; two half brothers, Dustin James and Justin James, both of Houma, La.; three half sisters, Brandi James, Jewel James and Danielle James, all of Houma, La.; and a maternal grandfather, Lonnie Davis of Houston, Texas. He was preceded in death by a half brother, Tyler Dino.
Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Burial will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Great Bend. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m., at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Bowen Dino Expense Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

August “Gus” J. Demel 1925 - 2008

ODIN — August “Gus” J. Demel, 82, died Feb. 10 at Clara Barton Hospital in Hoisington. Born Aug. 28, 1925, in rural Odin, he was the son of Joseph A. and Mary (Lamatsch) Demel. He married Katherine Hickel on May 18, 1948, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, north of Ellinwood. She survives. A lifetime resident of Odin, he was a farmer and stockman.

Mr. Demel was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus No. 2630 and a past conservation award winner.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine Demel, of the home; seven sons, Vernon Demel and wife Janice of Moundridge, Gary Demel and wife Wanda of Great Bend, David Demel and wife Jodee and Maurice Demel and wife Lois, all of Claflin, Dale Demel of Odin, Kurt Demel and wife Cindy of Larned and Kirby Demel and wife Amy of Wichita; two daughters, Carol Nichol and husband Daryl of Lakewood, Colo., and Sharon Eichkorn and husband Bill of Hutchinson; two brothers, Stephen Demel of Odin and Jerome Demel of Rose Hill; two sisters, Viola Axman of Olmitz and Irene Mattas of Wilson; 21 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Norman Eugene Demel; two brothers, Clarence and Edward Demel; and six sisters, Mary Gerritzen, Margaret Neuschafer, Ann Wondra, Mathilda Schneider, Eleanor Fiedler and Theresa Demel.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Family Catholic Church in Odin with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at Holy Family Cemetery in Odin with military graveside rites conducted by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7428 and American Legion Post 286. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today with a vigil service at 7 p.m. followed by a Knights of Columbus Rosary, all at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Holy Family Repair Fund or Claflin Ambulance Service. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 148
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Eleanor “Ella” M. Ficker 1912 - 2008

MT. ANGEL, Ore. — Eleanor “Ella” M. Ficker, 95, died Feb. 2 in Newberg, Ore. Born Nov. 7, 1912, in Beaver, she was the daughter of Frank and Addie (Reif) Lang. She moved to Mt. Angel after marrying in 1941. She was a homemaker.

She was a member of the church community and was well-known by young and old for her unique gift of bridging the generation gap.
Survivors include two sons, Leon Ficker of Seattle, Wash., and Robert Ficker of Newberg, Ore.; a daughter, Jeanne Leonard of La Grande, Ore.; a sister, Marie Miller of Hoisington; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Ficker; four brothers, Frank, Walter, Elmer and Joseph; and a sister, Addie Prosser.

Funeral service was held Feb. 7 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Mt. Angel. Burial was at the Calvary Cemetery in Mt. Angel. Memorials are suggested to St. Mary’s Parish in Mt. Angel or the American Heart Association.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Ronald Joseph Kubitscheck Sr. 1944 - 2008

WHITE HOUSE, Tenn. — Ronald Joseph Kubitscheck Sr., 63, of White House, Tenn. died Feb. 8. He was born Oct. 2, 1944, in Gorham. He had lived in White House since 1999. Mr. Kubitscheck was employed with Cooks Pest Control.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley Kubitscheck; three children, Ronald Kubitscheck Jr., Royia Grizzell and Rusty Kubitscheck; five grandchildren, Dakota Kubitscheck, Quinton Kubitscheck, Kevin Kubitscheck, Brianna Grizzell and Spencer Grizzell; two sisters, Jolene Hampton and Sharon Radke, both of Bryan, Texas; and two brothers, Larry (Sharon) Kubitscheck and Jon Kubitscheck, both of Great Bend. Visitation will be at Cole & Garrett Funeral Home, White House, on Thursday, where the family will receive friends from 4 to 7 p.m.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Cole & Garrett Funeral Home*
212 Highway 76
White House, TN 37188
615-672-3936
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

John F. “Dale” Denney 1921 - 2008

LAWRENCE — Funeral services for John F. “Dale” Denney, 87, Lawrence, will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Warren-McElwain Mortuary in Lawrence. Graveside services will be at noon on Friday at the La Crosse Cemetery in La Crosse. He died Feb. 9 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Mr. Denney was born Jan. 3, 1921, in Chase, the son of Clyde W. and Hattie Webster Denney. He was a World War II veteran. He served from November 1939 to August 1945 with the Kansas National Guard 35th Division. He participated in the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge with Patton’s 3rd Army, with a rank of 1st Sergeant.

His career began in 1949 in law enforcement. He served as an officer, motorcycle officer and detective in Great Bend. He was also a police officer and chief of police in La Crosse from 1961-1968. He was chief of police in Russell from 1968-1978. He worked for the Division of Weights and Measures (operating a mobile truck scale) with the Kansas Highway Patrol from 1982-1992. After retirement, he worked in the Wal-Mart furniture department from 1993-1998.

Mr. Denney married Manetta M. Krug on April 9, 1941. She preceded him in death in December 1992. He married Mary Cunningham Burton on Nov. 11, 1995, and she survives, of the home.

Other survivors include two sons, James R. and wife Sandy Denney of the home and John Dale Denney of Lawrence; three sisters, Ethel Mae Baldwin and Helen Moos, both of Great Bend, and Mary Seeley of Santa Rosa, Calif.; a stepson Bob Burton of Lawrence; four stepdaughters, Beth Barnes and Darlene Thompson, both of Lawrence, Patty Barnes of Pomona and Shirley McNear of Columbia, Mo.; a grandson, Brian Denney, a granddaughter, Elisa Hill, 17 stepgrandchildren and 30 stepgreat-grandchildren.

He will lie in state from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the mortuary. The family suggests memorials in his name to the American Cancer Society or to Cottonwood, Inc., and they may be sent in care of the mortuary. Online condolences may be sent to www.warrenmcelwain.com — Subject: Denney.
Funeral arrangements provided by
Warren-McElwain Mortuary*
120 West 13th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044
785-843-1120
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Ned Monroe Keeler

ELLINWOOD — Ned

Monroe Keeler, 61, died Feb. 11 at his rural home south of Ellinwood in Stafford County. Arrangements are pending with Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Anahy Maria Garay 2005 - 2008

Anahy Maria Garay, 2, of Great Bend, died Feb. 10 at Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Mo. Born Feb. 17, 2005, in Kansas City, Mo., she was the daughter of Benjamin Garay and Viviana Flores.

She was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, Great Bend.

Survivors include her parents, of the home.

A Rosary Service will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Wesley Schawe officiant. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund, the Anahy Maria Garay Expense Fund, may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 12, 2008

Helen E. Morgenstern 1919 - 2008

Helen E. Morgenstern, 88, of Great Bend, died Feb. 11 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born April 22, 1919, in Barton County, she was the daughter of Jacob and Hanah “Templing” Margheim. She married Luther Morgenstern on Aug. 23, 1949, at Hoisington. He survives. She was a homemaker, and a resident of Great Bend since 1994, moving from Hoisington and Galatia.

She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, Luther Morgenstern of Great Bend. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Rudolph and Marvin Margheim, and a sister, Viola Warner.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with Pastor James Strasen officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and from 9 a.m. until service time Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Heartland Cancer Center in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
February 13, 2008

Ralph A. Horner 1915 - 2008

Ralph A. Horner, 93, died Feb. 7 at Cherry Village Nursing Home in Great Bend. Born Feb. 5, 1915, in Ash Grove, he was the son of Harry and Irene Johnson Horner. He married Edna M. Stewart on Aug. 31, 1942, in Salina. A resident of Great Bend since 1951, coming from Ellsworth, he was a production foreman for Phillips Petroleum and Birmingham Bartlett for 30 years. He retired in February 1980.

Mr. Horner was a World War II veteran, serving with the Army Air Force with the rank of master sergeant. He was awarded the Commemorative Medal “The 50th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War” (World War II) on behalf of President Boris Yeltsin and the Russian government. He was a member of the Community of Christ, formerly Reorganized Church of the Latter-day Saints, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3111, American Legion Argonne Post 180, Lions Club and Central Kansas Association of the Visually Impaired.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Albert Horner and wife Terri and Jerry Horner and wife Jerri, both of Great Bend; two daughters, Carolyn Oetken and husband Dellane of Albert and Hazel Crane and husband Danny of Great Bend; a brother, Everett Horner of Goshen, Ind.; 10 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jay Horner and Harry Horner, and a sister, Elsie Miller.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with Pastor Roy Julius officiating. Inurnment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery with military honors conducted by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the Barton County Relay For Life in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 13, 2008

Herman Edward “Pete” Watson 1925 - 2008

ST. JOHN — Herman Edward “Pete” Watson, 82, of St. John, died Feb. 11 at Leisure Homestead, St. John. Born April 17, 1925, at Noble, Mo., he was the son of Benjamin E. and Martha (Loftis) Watson. He attended Thornfield (Mo.) High School. On May 23, 1948, he married Barbara L. Schroeder at Seymour, Mo. A resident of St. John since 1951, coming from Seymour, Mo., he was a retired Stafford County appraiser and Stafford County fire chief.

He was a member of the First Southern Baptist Church, St. John.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Randy Watson, St. John, and Rex A. Watson, Peabody; a sister, Erma Moore, Aurora, Mo., eight grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.
He was preceded in death by a son, Rudolph H. Watson, four brothers, Benjamin Jr., Hiram, Doin and Clayton Watson, and two sisters, Ida Hamilton and Dolly Piland.

Graveside service will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John, with the Rev. Ron Miller presiding. There will be no public visitation. Memorials may be sent to Sunflower Diversified Services or First Southern Baptist Church, both in care of Minnis Chapel, St. John.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
P.O. Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-786-9440
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 13, 2008

Sharlene A. Reichard 1940 - 2008

Sharlene A. Reichard, 67, Great Bend, died Feb. 9 at her residence. She was born June 17, 1940, at Great Bend, the daughter of A.F. “Louie” and Elizabeth A. “Betty” Ackerman Gerritzen. She married George A. Art Reichard on Sept. 25, 1963, at Great Bend. He died June 12, 2003. She formerly worked in dry cleaning and later was a cook for the senior center. She was a lifetime Barton County resident.

She was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick and its Altar Society, of Great Bend.

Survivors include three sisters, Carol Davis of Dodge City, Marilyn M. Post of Hutchinson and Janet Weseloh of Sylvan Grove. She was preceded in death by a sister, Joanne Hamm, and two brothers-in-law, Leon Hamm and Floyd Davis.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Thursday and a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., both at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at the Claflin Cemetery, Claflin. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for the American Diabetes Association may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 13, 2008

Ned Monroe Keeler 1946 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Ned Monroe Keeler, 61, died Feb. 11 at his rural home south of Ellinwood in Stafford County. Born Oct. 23, 1946, in Larned, he was the son of Howard Keeler and Leona Kasselman Keeler. A lifetime resident of Stafford County, he was a rancher.

Mr. Keeler was a former member of the Santa Fe Saddle Club and First Baptist Church of Ellinwood.

Survivors include his mother, Leona Keeler of Ellinwood; a sister, Judy Hayes of Raymond; and two nephews, Hank Hayes and Jimmy Hayes, both of Ellinwood. He was preceded in death by companion Bonnie Wagenseller and his father.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Ellinwood with the Rev. Larry Young officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to the Ellinwood District Hospital X-ray machine.
February 14, 2008

LaVerne J. Unruh  1919 - 2008

LARNED — LaVerne J. Unruh, 88, died Feb. 12 at Newton Medical Center, Newton. Born Dec. 28, 1919, in Pawnee Rock, he was the son of Jacob J. and Anna Dirks Unruh. He married Lois B. Unruh on Nov. 26, 1941, in Pawnee Rock. She died Aug. 6, 2003. A lifetime resident of the Larned area, until moving to Hesston three years ago, he was a farmer.

Mr. Unruh was a member of Bergthal Mennonite Church in Pawnee Rock.

Survivors include three sons, Gary Unruh of Hesston, Lyonell Unruh of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Virlon Unruh of Steinbach, Manitoba, Canada; five grandchildren and one great-grandson. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Harvey and John Unruh, and five sisters, Mabel Unruh, Alvena Unruh, Gladys Rudiger, Evalena Unruh and Laura Mae Freeburg.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home with Pastor Lynn Schlosser officiating. Burial will be at the Mennonite Memorial Cemetery in Pawnee Rock. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m., at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Bergthal Mennonite Church. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 14, 2008

Cindy Lou Leech  1967 - 2008

WICHITA — Cindy Lou Leech, 40, died Feb. 11 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, in Wichita. Born Oct. 4, 1967, in Great Bend, she was the daughter of Morris Jr. and Reva Sackett Leech. A resident of Wichita since 1993, coming from Great Bend, she was a home health aide and caregiver.

Survivors include her parents, Morris Jr. and Reva Leech of Great Bend; a son, Morris F. Leech III of Wichita; a daughter, Adruonia L. Leech of Wichita; three brothers, Toby Leech and Tyler Leech, both of Great Bend, and Todd Leech of Hoisington; and two sisters, Connie Daniels and Christy Leech, both of Great Bend. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Latoya Leech; a brother, Terry Leech; and a sister, Carla Leech.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Burial will be at the Golden Belt Cemetery in Great Bend. Friends may visit from 1 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time Friday at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Cindy Leech Funeral Expense Fund. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
CLINTON, Mo. — Connie Wayne Thornburg, 66, of Clinton, died Feb. 10 at the Overland Park Regional Medical Center in Lenexa, Kan. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the Consalus Funeral Home in Clinton with the Rev. Don Eaton presiding. Burial will follow in the Shady Grove Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. today. Memorial contributions may be made to help cover the expenses of the funeral and may be left in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at www.consalusfuneralhome.com.

Connie Thornburg had a very rich and fulfilling life as a father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend to all he met. Connie was born on June 26, 1941, in Clinton, Mo., to John and Cora Belle (Taylor) Thornburg. His adult years were spent as a truck driver for the Hilty Rock Quarry. Among his many activities was his association with the Wind Rider Motorcycle Club. A cheerful and fun-loving man, he could make the best out of any situation and always seemed to see the bright side of life. Most importantly, he had a special gift for making each person whom he met feel like they were the most important person in his life at that moment.

Connie liked to hunt and fish and he truly never had to tell a story about the “one that got away” because it seemed no fish ever did! He loved the water and being on the lake on his pontoon boat. He also liked to mushroom-hunt, ride four-wheelers and restore old cars. Mostly, however, he was a man who simply loved and lived for his family and for the people around him.

Connie had three sons who survive, John Thornburg of Clinton, Curt Thornburg of Cole, Mo., and Chris (Judy) Thornburg of O'Fallon, Mo.; one stepson, Willie (Fran) Hixon of Warsaw, Mo.; three daughters, Lisa (John) Menzer of Ellinwood, Cyndi Delp of Lincoln, Mo., and Lori Krom of Puyallup, Wash.; one sister, Norma Kay (Steve) Staab of Wichita; 20 grandchildren, two great-granddaughters, plus numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. His parents and three brothers, Johnny, Tim and Robert Thornburg, preceded him in death.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Consalus Funeral Home*
209 South Second St.
Clinton, MO 64735
660-885-3421
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 14, 2008

February 15, 2008

Joyce Meyer

ELLINWOOD — Joyce Meyer, 77, died Feb. 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Funeral arrangements are pending with Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood.

Viola Mae Hoge

Viola Mae Hoge, 89, of Great Bend, died Feb. 13 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Born March 25, 1918, at Great Bend, she was the daughter of Lewis A. and Clara E. Fleming Palmer. She married James L. Hoge on Nov. 10, 1941, at McPherson. He died Aug. 3, 1990. She formerly was a nurse aide for Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

She was a member of First Christian Church, the VFW Auxiliary and Eagles Auxiliary, all at Great Bend.
Survivors include one son, Thomas A. Hoge, Salina; one daughter, Kathryn Jones, Eureka Springs, Ark.; seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, John Palmer and Lewis A. Palmer, Jr., and four sisters, Lois Palmer, Loretta Johnson, Gertrude Cuzick and Clara Ellen Palmer.

A graveside service will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Great Bend Cemetery with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to memorial funds for the American Heart Association or Barton County Relay For Life may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 15, 2008

Lavella Marie Laughlin 1929 - 2008

Lavella Marie Laughlin, 78, of Great Bend, died Feb. 14 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Born Nov. 14, 1929, at Beaver, she was the daughter of Valentine and Anna Feltes Kramer. She married Clyde Orrin Laughlin on Jan. 29, 1949, at Great Bend. He died Oct. 1, 2004. She was a homemaker and worked as a circulation secretary for the Great Bend Public Library. She had lived in Great Bend since 1939.

Survivors include two daughters, Patria Johnson of Great Bend and Susan Gray and husband Gary K. of Radium; three sisters, Susie Ward, Eleanor Wilkinson and Elizabeth Nightengale, all of Great Bend; and three grandchildren, Gary Lynn Gray, Scott Johnson and Peni Lofland. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Valentine Kramer, Nicholas Kramer and Ambros Kramer, and three sisters, Katherine Kramer, Dorothy Reed and Anna Magie.

A graveside service will be at 9 a.m. Saturday at Golden Belt Cemetery, Great Bend, with the Rev. John Grummon officiating. Visitation will be from noon to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for the Alzheimer's Association may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 15, 2008

February 17, 2008

Ralph E. Barnes 1926 - 2008

GARDEN CITY — Ralph E. Barnes, 81, died Feb. 15, at his home in Garden City. He was born March 8, 1926, in Lakin, the son of Martin and Chloe (Greeson) Barnes. He married Gertrude “Trudy” Fabel on June 1, 1956, in North Bergen, N.J. She died on July 13, 1985. He married Betty A. Watkins on Sept. 25, 2005, in Garden City. He was a public service bus driver in New Jersey, before moving to Garden City in 1960, where he was employed at Big R. He later became a school crossing guard for 13 years.

Mr. Barnes was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II as a fire fighter. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, the Eagles Lodge and John J. Haskel Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2279 of Garden City.
Survivors include his wife of the home; two daughters, Vera Orosco of Garden City and Mona Tursini of Pratt; one stepson, Mark Maler of Garden City; one brother, Daryl Barnes of Minneola; two sisters, Doris Adams and Wilda Tallant, both of Lakin; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a stepson, Monte Maier; two brothers, Virgil and Vernon; and two sisters, Vada McMichael and Vera Barnes.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at First United Methodist Church in Garden City, with the Rev. David Bell and the Rev. Brenda Fluellen officiating. Burial will be at Lakin Cemetery in Lakin. Visitation is from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, with the family present from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Garnand Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Finney County Senior Center or First United Methodist Church in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Garnand Funeral Home
412 North 7th St.
Garden City, KS 67846
620-276-3219
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Phyllis J. Wintholz
1936 - 2008

Phyllis J. Wintholz, 71, of Great Bend, died Feb. 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born March 3, 1936, at Hays, the daughter of Walter Willis “Bill” and Irene Gloria Rupp Montgomery. She married Louis C. Wintholz on May 8, 1954, in Hernon. He survives. She was a homemaker and a lunchroom attendant for USD 428, Great Bend. She was a resident of Great Bend since 1967, coming from Hays.

She was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, the Altar Society and the Panther Booster Club, all in Great Bend.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, of the home, include four sons, Bradley Wintholz and wife Joni, Mark Wintholz and wife Jaimie, Michael Wintholz and wife Kelly, and Adam Wintholz, all of Great Bend; two daughters, Rebecca “Becky” Sander and husband Glen and Deborah “Debbie” Farmer and husband Jerry, all of Great Bend; four brothers, Bill Montgomery, Dale Montgomery and Tom Montgomery, all of Hays, and Richard Montgomery of Independence, Mo.; five sisters, Carolyn Leiker of Gardner, Darlene Grover of Madison, Wis., Judy Lovenstein of Bonner Springs, Jeanetta Snyder of La Crosse and LaVana Neptune of Overland Park; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by an infant grandson, Robbie Shanks, and a sister, Wilma Adams.

An Altar Society Rosary will be conducted at 4 p.m. today and a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., both at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for the Great Bend United Way may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Harold Vincent ‘H.T.’ Tomlin
1924 - 2008

Harold Vincent “H.T.” Tomlin, 83, of Great Bend, died Feb. 15 at Great Bend. He was born June 9, 1924, at Great Bend, the son of F.E. and Maggie Bigge Tomlin. He married Katherine Gutierrez on Oct. 14, 1947. They later divorced. He married Rozena “Rosy” Brown on Aug. 31, 1990, at Great Bend. She survives. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, he was a field supervisor in the oil field for N.L. Baroid for 41 years. He retired in May 1985.
Mr. Tomlin was an Army veteran, serving in World War II. He was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose Catholic Church in Great Bend. He raised seven wonderful children and enjoyed telling stories about his work in the oil field and other life experiences. He loved to dance and listen to country music and loved cars. He adored his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of the home; six sons, Douglas Tomlin of Lewisburg, Paul Tomlin of Oklahoma City, Okla., Mark Tomlin and wife Shirley of Great Bend, Bruce Tomlin and wife Carol of Branson, Mo., Adrian Tomlin and wife Carla of Great Bend and Howard Tomlin and wife Lisa of Los Lunas, N.M.; one daughter, Lissa Kern and fiancé Max “Omar” Knopp of Salina; two stepsons, Lonnie Brown and wife Amy of Great Bend and Martin Brown of Atlanta, Ga.; one stepdaughter, Elwanda Stiles and husband Joy of Great Bend; 11 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; and one stepgranddaughter. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Jay Tomlin and Virgil Tomlin; one sister, Vivian Stewart; and a grandson, Christopher Kern.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. A Vigil Service will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery in Great Bend, with military honors conducted by Ft. Riley Honor Guard. Visitations are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Great Bend Senior Center in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Lillian Courtright 1909 - 2008

Lillian Courtright, 99, of Great Bend, died Feb. 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. She was born on Jan. 23, 1909, in Sumner County, the daughter of William Lyman and Maude Myrtle (Duffey) Bacon. She married Charles Richard Courtright on Sept. 20, 1927, in Sumner County. He died on May 21, 1968. She worked at Montgomery Wards in Great Bend and in the kitchen at the hospital in Baxter Springs. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include a son, William Vance Courtright of Baxter Springs; two daughters, Jo Ann Macurdy of Great Bend and Linda Seip of Pueblo, Colo.; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three sisters and four brothers.

There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Private family services will be held at a later date.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Parsons Funeral Home
307 N. Lincoln
Ellsworth, KS 67439
620-472-3861
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Darrell Dean Bittner 1931 - 2008


Mr. Bittner was a U.S. Army veteran, enlisting in 1948 and serving six years in the Korean War. He received a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and several other medals.
Survivors include his wife of the home; three daughters, Judy Bunch and husband Danny, and Debra Underwood, all of Great Bend, and Pamela Huff and husband Larry of Wichita; two brothers, Robert and Donald both of Abion, Neb.; two sisters, Francis Johnson of Albuquerque, N.M., and Marjorie Johnson of Newman Grove, Neb.; 14 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; one daughter, Patricia Bittner; and two grandsons, Jessi James Bittner and Steven Thayer.

A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned, with the Rev. John Grummon officiating. Burial will be at a later date in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Darrell Bittner Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Melvin F. Hammeke 1916 - 2008

LARNED — Melvin F. Hammeke, 92, died Feb. 16 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. He was born Jan. 20, 1916, in Belpre, the son of Joe F. and Katherine K. Schwamborn Hammeke. He married Loraine K. Torline on Sept. 8, 1943, in Windthorst. She survives. A longtime Larned resident, he was a retired farmer and stockman.

Mr. Hammeke was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and Farm Bureau, all in Larned.

Survivors include his wife of the home; four sons, Michael and wife Patricia of Marshfield, Wis., Kenneth and wife Orena of Larned, Thomas and wife Sharon of Milwaukee, Wis., and David and wife Kathy of Belpre; one daughter, Susan Werth and husband Jim of Hays; three sisters, Mary Ellen Huschka of Garden City, Margaret Ann Sullivan of Wichita and Maxine Herman of Larned; 14 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Paul; two brothers, Leroy and James; and two sisters, Rita Miller and Inez Wasinger.

Parish Vigil Service and Knights of Columbus Rosary will be at 7 p.m. on Monday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with Father Bernard Felix officiating. Burial will be in Belpre Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Virginia Lewis Johnson 1919 - 2008

LARNED — Virginia Lewis Johnson, 89, died Feb. 14 at the Larned Health Care Center, Larned. She was born Feb. 13, 1919, at Beagle, the daughter of Thomas Virgil and Verna Beamer Lewis. A 64-year resident of Larned, moving from Dighton, she was an office manager for the Larned Tiller & Toiler from 1942 to 1984.

She was a member of the Church of Christ, past state president of BPW, Daughters of the American Revolution, Garden Club, Fort Larned Historical Society (served as a director and secretary), all of Larned. She was also active with Bob Dole in Washington, D.C., and a former stockholder in the Larned Tiller & Toiler newspaper.

Survivors include one daughter, Nancy Adams and her husband, John, Larned; two grandchildren, Kevan Adams and Amy Seeman and husband Mike, all of Larned; and four great-grandchildren, Lyndse Adams, Tayler Ann Adams, Sam Adams, all of Olathe, and Katie Seeman, Larned.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned, with the Rev. Jimmie Keas presiding. Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery, Larned. Memorials may be sent to the Church of Christ or the Alzheimer’s Association, both in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
P.O. Box 477/916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 17, 2008

Floyd D. Kelly 1929 - 2008

PHILLIPSBURG — Floyd D. Kelly, 78, died Feb. 11 at the Phillips County Hospital. Born Aug. 29, 1929, in Rooks County, he was the son of Amanda Turnbull Kelly and James F. Kelly. He attended school in Stockton, where he enjoyed playing football. Following his graduation in 1948, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada, where he served as a fire and crash rescuer. Upon the death of his father he returned to the family farm in Rooks County. On July 13, 1951, he was united in marriage to Maxine L. Stanton in Downs. Floyd worked as a truck driver for Halliburton in the oil fields for several years. He then became a custodian for the Logan School District, where he took great pride in his shiny floors and sharp-looking football field. One of his greatest joys was when he worked on the “chain-gang” at the football games with close friends. During these years, Floyd volunteered his time to serve as a Boy Scout leader and started one of the first Explorer posts in Kansas. In 1979 Floyd was given the opportunity to take a supervisory position with the Great Bend School District as head of maintenance and custodians. With this position he had supervision of one high school, two middle schools and eight elementary schools. He served in this capacity until his health forced his early retirement in 1990. In 1993 he and Maxine returned to Logan where they resided for 14 years. Working with woodcrafts became his favorite hobby. His children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and numerous other individuals are the proud recipients of his works. Some of his happiest moments were when all his kids, grandchildren and great-grandchildren would get together. His greatest joy was time spent visiting with family and friends. He enjoyed assisting Maxine making quilts and collected pens and hats. During this time, he served on the city council at Logan and was always available to help friends that needed any assistance. They then moved toPhillipsburg.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine; six children, Michael Lynn and wife Sheila of Greeley, Colo., Marilyn Jo and husband Larry Donahey of Norton, Jacalyn Lea and husband Richard Bostick of Ellensburg, Wash., Jaynelle Rae and husband Ronald McCreery of Phillipsburg, Kevin Duane and wife Shawn of Lake Park, Iowa, and Jamie Dea and husband Ray Fischer of Claflin; 16 grandchildren, Michael O'Shawn Kelly and wife Sarah of Loveland, Colo., Kevin Patrick Kelly and wife Kelly of Greeley, Colo., Nathan Scot Donahey and wife Kerri of Norton, Amanda Leigh Donahey of Salina, Richard Neill Bostick and wife Vanessa of North Bend, Wash., Kelly Lynn and husband Andy Bacon of Ellensburg, Wash., Stephanie LeAnn and husband Patrick Bedore and J.R. McCreery, all of Stockton, Ben Reverts and wife Jamie of Spirit Lake, Iowa, Abby Reverts, Logan Kelly, Shelby Van Hunnick, Adrienne Van Hunnick and Kevin N. Kelly, all of Lake Park, Iowa, Nicole Van Hunnick of Eugene, Ore., and Charles Edward Fischer of Claflin; 11 great-grandchildren, Ronan Michael Kelly of Loveland, Colo., Kash Kelly of Greeley, Colo., Louisa, Jordyn and Dallas Gosselin and Kelly, Kayla and Austin Donahey, all of Norton, Hope and Hailey Bostick of North Bend, Wash., and Delanee Jean Bedore of Stockton.

Funeral service was Saturday Feb. 16 in the Logan Christian Church in Logan, with the Rev. Delbert Stanton officiating. Burial followed in the Mt. Vemon Cemetery in Rooks County. Memorial contributions may be given to the Phillips County Hospital or the Logan School Athletic Department and sent in care of the funeral home at 102 E. Church St., Logan, KS 67646.
ELLINWOOD — Joyce M. Meyer, 77, died Feb. 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center. Born Sept. 5, 1930, in Great Bend, she was the daughter of Phillip and Ruby DeWerff Schrader. A lifetime resident of Stafford and Barton counties, she taught in a one-room school in Stafford and was a homemaker. She was a 1948 graduate of Hudson High School and received her teacher’s certification at Kansas State Teacher’s College in Emporia and attended Kansas State University. She married Milton Meyer on July 22, 1951, at the First Baptist Church in Ellinwood. She enjoyed gardening and sewing.

Mrs. Meyer was a member of the First Baptist Church in Ellinwood, the Jolly Worker’s 4-H Club in Stafford County, the KSU Pride Program, was a leader of Comanche Lucky 4-H Club in Ellinwood, and was active in Women’s Ministry and mission work.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; a son, Dan and Kathy Meyer of Wichita; three daughters, Carolyn and Lee Schneider and Sharon Sturgis, all of Ellinwood, and Janell Meyer of Avon, Colo.; two brothers, Mervin Schrader of Ellinwood and Rex Schrader of Morgan, Texas; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church in Ellinwood with the Rev. David Wesner officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Friends may visit from 6 to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, all at Kimple Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the First Baptist Missions or Samaritan’s Purse, Operations Christmas Child.

HUTCHINSON — Lloyd Dean Musick, 80, died Feb. 17 at Hospice House. He was born Sept. 5, 1927, at Hutchinson, the son of Leslie V. and Opal H. Lambert Musick. He married Lenora V. Miller on Dec. 31, 1949, in Hutchinson. He was a 1946 graduate of Hutchinson High School and attended Hutchinson Community College. A lifetime Hutchinson resident, he worked for 16 years at Carey Salt and was a car salesman for both Davis Child and Bob Bottomly.

He was a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. He was a World War II veteran, serving with the 21st Ordnance of the 8th from 1946 to 1948.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Michael Musick and wife Kristen and David Musick and wife Amy, all of Hutchinson; a daughter, Katharine Budreau of Hutchinson; a sister, Delores Musick of Great Bend; and six grandchildren, Danielle, Trenton, Alexis and Lauren Musick and Megan and Madison Budreau. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Elliott Chapel, Hutchinson, with Pastor Kim Biery officiating. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today and Wednesday at the mortuary,
with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Memorial donations for Hospice of Reno County or Families of S.M.A. may be sent in care of the mortuary. Personal condolences may be sent to www.elliottmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elliott Mortuary*
1219 North Main
Hutchinson, KS 67501
620-663-3327
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 19, 2008

Louis James 1927 - 2008

LARNED — Louis James, 80, died Feb. 17 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. He was born July 24, 1927, in Stockton, the son of Glenn Martin and Mary Ella Macy James. He married Carol V. Darnell on Sept. 16, 1956, in Osborne. He was a practicing attorney and a member of the Kansas Bar Association for more than 50 years.

He was an active member of the First Christian Church in Larned, serving on the church board, elders and deacons, and was a longtime choir member. He was valedictorian of the Stockton High School Class of 1945. He was a Rotarian member for more than 50 years, a Kansas State University alumnus, a Washburn University alumnus, a Boy Scout master and a licensed ham radio operator. He had served as an assistant attorney general for the State of Kansas, the county attorney for Osborne and Pawnee counties, and the Larned city attorney.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; three sons, Andrew of Belton, Mo., Eric of Citrus Heights, Calif., and Bradley of Larned; a sister, Nola Cooper of Tonganoxie; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Lee Thomas, and a brother, Glenn Richard James.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday at the First Christian Church, Larned, with Pastor Dan Lundgren and the Rev. Ron Keith presiding. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at Beckwith Mortuary, Larned. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Alzheimer’s Association or the First Christian Church, both in care of Beckwith Mortuary. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 19, 2008

Rosalee Inez Bieber 1915 - 2008

BISON — Rosalee Inez Bieber, 92, died Feb. 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. Born Nov. 9, 1915, at Bison, she was the daughter of Henry Clarence and Nellie Odessa (McClellan) Kleweno. She was a graduate of Bison Rural High School. A lifelong resident of Rush County, she was a homemaker. She married William J. Bieber on Oct. 6, 1935, in Bison. He died on Nov. 11, 1999.

Mrs. Bieber was a member of the United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women and the Joy Club, all in Bison.

Survivors include two sons, Arlyn C. Bieber and wife Nayola of San Diego, Calif., and Richard A. Bieber and wife Carol Bieber of Great Bend; a daughter, Margaret J. Oborny and husband Edward of Bison; three sisters, Berniece Childress of Springfield, Mo., Erma Wulz of Wichita and Frances Helms of Nathrop, Colo.; seven grandchildren, Christine Mendoza, Diane Thurston, Gregory Oborny, Jenifer Oborny, Tim Oborny, Brent Bieber and Candice Hirsh; and six great-grandchildren, Lydia Mendoza, Rebecca Mendoza, Joseph Thurston, Sophia Thurston, Audra Oborny, Easton Hirsh, Garrett Hirsh and Gavin Hirsh. She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Lloyd Kleweno and John Kleweno; a sister, Oleta Yoki; and an infant sister, Sherri Kleweno.
Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the church in Bison, with the Rev. Linda Bolz officiating. Burial will be at the Lone Star Cemetery in Bison. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church in Bison.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home*
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 19, 2008

Roland E. Willson 1918 - 2008

ST. JOHN — Roland E. Willson, 89, of St. John, died Feb. 16 at Leisure Homestead, St. John. Born Dec. 9, 1918, at Quinter, he was the son of Ralph E. and Mable (Bailey) Willson. On Oct. 20, 1939, he married Marie Lucille Jenkins at Hoisington. She preceded him in death. He was a retired oil-well driller and machinist for Great Bend Industries. He was a member of the Assembly of God Church and a resident of St. John for 59 years, coming from rural Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Darrell Willson, Hutchinson; two daughters, Elaine Gillespie, St. John, and Rosalie Pavia, Waupaca, Wis.; two sisters, Mildred Carson and Wilma Meljo, both of Hoisington; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Kenneth, Dean, Melvin and Robert Willson.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Minnis Chapel, St. John, with Pastor Joel Pavia presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel. Burial will be in the Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John. Memorials are suggested to South Wind Hospice or Leisure Homestead, both in care of Minnis Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel Inc.
526 E. 4th Ave.
P.O. Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-549-3556
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 19, 2008

Paul Allen O’Dell 1928 - 2008

ROZEL — Paul Allen O’Dell, 79, died Feb. 16 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. Born Aug. 19, 1928, in Ottumwa, Iowa, he was the son of Morris Carl and Inez Mabel Ross O’Dell. A resident of Rozel since 1950, he was a propane delivery man for Burdett Cooperative. He married Juanita M. Brooks at Corning, Ark., on July 26, 1949.

Mr. O’Dell was a member of the First Baptist Church in Rozel and the Rozel City Council.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two daughters, J. Carolyn Saurwein of Cimarron and Leora H. Michael of Joplin, Mo.; a sister, Oda White of Jetmore; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Wayne; and a sister, Hazel Harding.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned with Pastor John Hester presiding. Burial will be at the Browns Grove Cemetery in Burdett. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time on Wednesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the City of Rozel or Burdett EMS, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
Burdeett — Judith Ann Crawford, 65, died Feb. 17 at her home in Burdett. She was born April 10, 1942, at Kilgore, Neb., the daughter of Wallace Owen and Isabell Jane Miles Hamit. A resident of Kansas since 1988, moving from Tucson, Ariz., she was MHDD at Larned State Hospital.

She was a member of the Faith Fellowship Church, Burdett.

Survivors include two sons, Martin Alan Gardiner of Stafford and Jerry Lynn Gardiner of Burdett; her mother, Isabell Hamit, of Stafford; two brothers, Nichols O. Hamit, Great Bend, and Larry Ray Hamit of Missouri; five sisters, Isla Dawn Hamit of Cody, Neb., Barbara June Hamit of St. John, Caryl Rose Hamit Rodrigues of California, Polly Jo Hamit Burfiend, of Wyoming, and Linda Kay Hamit Ehlers of Missouri; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by a son, Gary Dean Gardiner, her father and a brother, David D. Hamit.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel in Larned with the Rev. Roger Alford presiding. Burial will be at Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to service time Wednesday at the mortuary. Memorials may be sent to the Breast Cancer Awareness Fund of Southwind Hospice, both in care of the mortuary.

Funeral arrangements provided by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.
916 Main
P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550

Goodland — Dolores F. Corke, 86, died Feb. 17 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. Survivors include her husband, Ken, and six children, Carlotta McDermott of Colby, Marian Corke and Marlene Regehr, both of Great Bend, Clarence Corke of San Jose, Calif., Rodney Corke of Goodland and Roger Corke of Fort Worth, Texas; a sister, Darlene Johnson of Longmont, Colo.; five grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren, one great-granddaughter and one stepgreat-grandson. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. MST Thursday at Bateman Funeral Home, Goodland. Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials should be directed to the National MS Society South Central and Western Kansas Division or First Baptist Church of Goodland.

Funeral arrangements provided by Bateman Funeral Home
Box 278
Goodland, KS 67735
785-890-6600

Holyrood — Margaret Mary Boeken, 82, died Feb. 16 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. She was born Feb. 12, 1926, in Santa Paula, Calif., the daughter of Clark A. and Vera Asher Burrows. A lifetime Holyrood resident, she married Dallas E. Boeken Sr. She was retired as a registered nurse at Larned State Hospital.
She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and St. Mary’s Catholic Church, both of Holyrood.

Survivors include three sons, Clark E. Boeken of San Antonio, Texas, Dallas Edwin Boeken II of Great Bend and Rocky S. Boeken of Holyrood; a daughter, Jean Marie Boeken, of Holyrood; three grandchildren, Clark A. Boeken, Ramona Peterman and Crystal Podlena, and two great-grandchildren, DJ and Jacque. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dallas.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Parsons Funeral Home, Ellsworth. Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Holyrood, with Father David Metz officiating. Interment will be at Ellsworth Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Ellsworth County Senior Center.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Parsons Funeral Home*
Ellsworth, KS 67439
785-472-3861
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 19, 2008

February 20, 2008

Debra E. Hulstine 1954 - 2008

Debra E. Hulstine, 53, died Feb. 18 at Great Bend. Services are pending with Bryant Funeral Home.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 20, 2008

Dolores F. Corke

GOODLAND — Dolores F. Corke, 78, died Feb. 17 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. Survivors include her husband, Ken, and six children, Carlotta McDermott of Colby, Marian Corke and Marlene Regehr, both of Great Bend, Clarence Corke of San Jose, Calif., Rodney Corke of Goodland and Roger Corke of Fort Worth, Texas; a sister, Darlene Johnson of Longmont, Colo.; five grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren, one great-granddaughter and one stepgreat-grandson. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. MST Thursday at Bateman Funeral Home, Goodland. Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials should be directed to the National MS Society South Central and Western Kansas Division or First Baptist Church of Goodland.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bateman Funeral Home
Box 278
Goodland, KS 67735
785-890-6600
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 20, 2008#

Leroy James McClain 1919 - 2008

PEORIA, Ariz. — Leroy James McClain, 88, passed away on Feb. 17 in Peoria, Ariz. He was born Dec. 4, 1919, in Great Bend, to Grover and Iris McClain. He had lived in Arizona for more than 54 years. Before retiring in 1984 he worked as a buyer for A J Bayless Markets. He served in the Army during World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He served in England, Holland, Belgium and Germany and was awarded five Battle Stars.

He attended North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church and served as a deacon there. He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Lynn, a son, James McClain and his wife Johanna, a daughter, Nancy Hilmo and her husband Max, brothers Jack and wife June McClain and Galen McClain and Marcia McClain, sister Shirley Rich and grandchildren Jamie, Jennifer and Sterling, and many nieces and nephews.
Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85012. Memorial contributions may be made to the church. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend and will be missed by everyone who knew and loved him.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Arrowhead Funeral Center/Hansen Mortuary*
8314 N. 7th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
(602) 944-1561
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 20, 2008

February 21, 2008

Leonard E. Klusener

Leonard E. Klusener, 75, of Great Bend, died Feb. 19 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 21, 2008

Mark Ray Patrick 1952 - 2008

Mark Ray Patrick, 56, of Great Bend, died Feb. 18 at his home. Born Feb. 13, 1952, in Hays, he was the son of Cooper Lloyd and Irma Jaqueline Akers Patrick.

Survivors include his mother, Irma Jaqueline Gibbs of Wilson, Okla.; stepfather, Burt Gibbs of Ardmore, Okla.; and a brother, Kenneth Patrick of Great Bend.

There will be a private family inurnment service in the Hoisington Cemetery at a later date. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the Mark Ray Patrick Funeral Expense Fund in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 21, 2008

Thelma A. Jewell 1907 - 2008

KANOPOLIS — Thelma A. Jewell, 100, died Feb. 18 at Good Samaritan Retirement Village, Ellsworth. She was born Aug. 22, 1907, in Geneseo, the daughter of Benjamin James and Viola Taylor Fisher. She married Ray Alfred Jewell Dec. 1, 1926, at Lyons. She had been the operator of the Jewell Cafe in Kanopolis and cook for the Kanopolis School.

She was a founding member of the Kanopolis American Legion Auxiliary, the Rebekah Lodge, and the United Methodist Church at Kanopolis.

Survivors include a son, Rodney Jewell, of Kanopolis; a daughter, Beverly Jewell, of Ellsworth; six grandchildren, five stepgrandchildren, six great-grandchildren, 10 stepgreat-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren and six stepgreat-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray, on April 4, 1984, by a son, Jim, June 3, 2006, and by eight siblings.
A graveside memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Kanopolis Cemetery with Pastor Stephen Holmes officiant. There will be no visitation, as the body has been cremated. Memorial donations may be made to the Kanopolis United Methodist Church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Parsons Funeral Home
307 N. Lincoln Ave.
Ellsworth, KS 67439
785-472-3861
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 21, 2008

M. Ford Farber 1935 - 2008

NORTON — M. Ford Farber, 72, died Feb. 18 at his home. Born Oct. 4, 1935, near Hoxie, he was the son of Willard and Eula Hamilton Farber. He married Shirley Sealock on Aug. 21, 1955, in Hoxie. They lived in Norton for the last 34 years. He graduated from Fort Hays State University with a bachelor’s degree and later a master’s in industrial arts. He was a teacher and coach at the junior high, senior high and junior college levels for 39 years.

Mr. Farber was a member of the Quarter Horse Association and the Fort Hays State University Alumni Association.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley, of Norton; five sons, Alan of Denver, Colo., Curt of Ellinwood, Bruce and Eric, both of Norton, and Scott of McCook, Neb.; a brother, Kyle; three sisters, Joan Taylor, Rose Wagoner and Linda Randolph; nine grandchildren and six stepgrandchildren.

Memorial service will be at 2:30 p.m. today at the Methodist Church in Norton and at 10:30 a.m. on Friday at the Methodist Church in Hoxie. Inurnment will be at the Hoxie Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Ford Farber Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home
Box 235
Hoxie, KS 67740
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 21, 2008

Pauline A. Berscheidt 1912 - 2008

Pauline A. Berscheidt, 95, Great Bend, died Feb. 19 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born July 26, 1912, in Barton County, she was the daughter of Peter J. and Emma Koett Kimpler. She married Frederick J. Berscheidt on May 10, 1933, in Ellinwood. He died Nov. 21, 1980. A lifetime resident of Barton County, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Berscheidt was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick and the Altar Society, both in Great Bend.

Survivors include, two sons, Gordon Berscheidt of Wichita and Paul Berscheidt of Great Bend; a sister, Kitty Cranton of Phoenix, Ariz.; seven grandchildren, Kathy Green of Hutchinson, Karen Befort and Kristie Hansen, both of Wichita, Kurt Kennedy and Kim Schenk, both of Great Bend, Kevin Berscheidt of Marlow, Okla., and Michael Berscheidt of Gardner; 13 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Constance Kennedy, a brother, Arthur Kimpler, and a sister, Duwaine Pinkard.

Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. today followed by a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., all at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Great Bend with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Holy Family School Endowment Fund or The Restoration of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, both in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 21, 2008

February 22, 2008

Rita Hickert Law

ELLINWOOD — Rita Hickert Law, 79, died Feb. 20 at her daughter Therese’s home in Seattle, Wash., after a lengthy illness. Arrangements are pending with Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 22, 2008

Debra E. Hulstine 1954 - 2008

Debra E. Hulstine, 53, of Great Bend, died Feb. 18 in Great Bend. She was born Dec. 12, 1954, at Salinas, Calif., the daughter of James Abel and Bonnie Jean Rosenthal Morgan. She married James J. Hulstine at Salinas. He died in 1993. A homemaker, she had lived in Great Bend nine years, coming from Salinas, Calif.

Survivors include two sons, Moses Hulstine and Adam Hulstine, both of Great Bend; two daughters, Stephanie Lewis of Phoenix, Ariz., and Joanne Bartolome of Salinas, Calif.; two brothers, Jimmy Morgan and Michael Morgan, both of Salinas; one sister, Diana Morgan, of Salinas; and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Stanley Morgan. There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Memorial contributions to Debra’s funeral expense fund may be made in care of Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 22, 2008

Lois J. Scheuerman 1952 - 2008

RUSSELL — Lois J. Scheuerman, 55, died Feb. 20 at Hays Medical Center in Hays. Born May 11, 1952, in La Crosse, she was the daughter of Melvin and Bonnie (Ficken) Decker. She married Alan Scheuerman on July 25, 1970, at Otis. He survives. She was public relations director for USD 428, Great Bend. She was a resident of Bison for 27 years, moving to Russell in 2005.

She was a member of KASPERA, KASB and the Bison Museum, and owner of Design Unlimited in Bison. She graduated from Otis-Bison High School in 1970. She received her bachelor of science degree in graphic design from Fort Hays State University, graduating summa cum laude in 1991.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, of the home, include a daughter, Amber Merriman, of Ellis; her mother, Bonnie Decker, of La Crosse; a brother, Dennis Decker, of Atlanta, Ga.; three sisters, Sharon Klein of Bison, Sheryl Fischer of Council Grove and Donna Jay of Topeka; and a granddaughter, Kiandra Merriman. She was preceded in death by a son, Corey.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the United Methodist Church in Bison, with the Rev. David Bolz and the Rev. Joel Maiorano officiating. Burial will be at Lone Star Cemetery in rural Rush County. Visitation will be from 1 to
Leonard E. Klusener, 75, of Great Bend, died Feb. 19 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. Born May 22, 1932, in Redwing, he was the son of Edward and Mary Feltes Klusener. He married Evelyn C. Gomez on July 2, 1957, in Lyons. She survives. A resident of Great Bend since 1946, coming from Dubuque, he was a retired carpenter for WHB Rental and Development.

A U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, he served with the rank of sergeant. He was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose and the American Legion Argonne Post 180.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Klusener, of the home; a son, Edward Klusener of Great Bend; five daughters, Virginia Mascarenas of La Junta, Colo., Katrina Evers of Great Bend, Mary McVey of Woodstock, Ga., Donna Stueve of Turon and Brenda McNary of Smith Center; four sisters, Christina Klusener of Laquey, Mo., Bernadine Homolka and Delores McDowell, both of Great Bend, and Mildred Prideaux of Dayton, Ohio; 17 grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three brothers, August Klusener, Richard Klusener and Marion Klusener, and a granddaughter, TaCoa Stueve.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with Father Wesley Schawe officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit today from 9 a.m. to service time. Memorials are suggested to the Renal Care Group or Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 22, 2008
Scott was preceded in death by his sister, Angela Wade.

Visitation will be from 3 to 5 p.m. today at Baker Funeral Home, 100 S. Cedar, Valley Center. Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Lifepoint Church, 400 S. Abilene, Valley Center. Memorials designated to “Scott Holt Family Memorial” may be sent in care of Baker Funeral Home, PO Box 242, Valley Center, KS 67147.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Baker Funeral Home*
100 S. Cedar
Valley Center, KS 67147
316-755-2731
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 24, 2008

Elsie Mildred Massey 1921 - 2008

Elsie Mildred Massey, 86, of Great Bend, died Feb. 23 at Pioneer Manor in Hugoton. Born Dec. 14, 1921, at Pendennis, she was the daughter of Glen L. and Olive Russell Wheatcroft. She married Elton Edwin Massey Aug. 15, 1942, in Great Bend. He died Oct. 21, 2007. A homemaker, she was a resident of Great Bend since 1958, coming from Redwing.

She was a member of First Assembly of God in Great Bend.

Survivors include one brother, Glen L. Wheatcroft, Jr., of Liberal; and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. She was preceded in death by a brother, Kenneth Wheatcroft, as well as her husband.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at First Assembly of God, Great Bend, with Pastor Dwight Dozier officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. A memorial fund has been established for First Assembly of God. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 24, 2008

LeRoy B. Gerstenkorn 1928 - 2008

LeRoy B. Gerstenkorn, 79, of Great Bend, died Feb. 22 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. Born Oct. 7, 1928, at Odin, he was the son of Phillip and Louise Schremmer Gerstenkorn. He married Patricia Campbell Aug. 10, 1949, in Great Bend. She survives. He was co-owner of City Ice in Great Bend. He was a lifetime resident of Barton County, moving to Great Bend from Beaver.

He was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick and the Knights of Columbus.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include a son, Kevin Gerstenkorn and wife Colleen, of Wichita; four daughters, Deborah Daniel and husband Mark, Sue Hemphill and husband Brad, Lisa Seiwert and husband Bernie, and Jennifer Hoskins and husband Kendall, all of Great Bend; four sisters, Gemelia Esfeld of Great Bend, Joan Gorman of Salina, Alice Birch of Topeka and Patsy Lang of Lancaster, Calif.; 10 grandchildren, Brandon Hemphill, Matthew Daniel, Brett Hemphill, Kendra Hoskins, Tyler Gerstenkorn, Hannah Seiwert, Kayla Hoskins, Emily Seiwert, Braden Gerstenkorn and Breann Gerstenkorn; and one great-granddaughter, Adalyn Hemphill. He was preceded in death by one brother, Gerald Gerstenkorn, and one sister, Helen McAllister.
A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, with Knights of Columbus Rosary, at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home. Donations to memorial funds for Southwind Hospice, Inc., or The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 24, 2008

February 26, 2008

Gladys Wade 1916 - 2008

Gladys Wade, 91, of Great Bend, died Feb. 24 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Born April 30, 1916, in Lyons, she was the daughter of John David and Olive Lodema Manwarren Wright. She married Leslie B. Wade on Dec. 7, 1938, in Lyons. He died June 13, 1970. A resident of Great Bend since 1957, coming from Lyons, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Wade was a member of the First Christian Church, Martha’s Group and Dinamo Club, all in Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Farrel Wade and wife Melody of Wichita; a daughter, Karen Miller of Great Bend; a sister, Ruth Wagner of Wichita; three grandchildren, Scott Miller and Justin Miller, both of Great Bend, and Stephanie Osborne of Wichita; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Carl Wright and Walter Wright, and a sister, Elsie Reents.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the First Christian Church in Great Bend with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiating. Interment will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Lyons Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to the First Christian Church Building Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Edward Thomas Morgan 1942 - 2008

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. — Edward Thomas Morgan, 65, of North Platte, passed away Feb. 23 at the Grand Island Veteran’s Home. He was born Sept. 11, 1942, in Hastings, Neb., to Earl and M. Jane Beatty Morgan. He graduated from North Platte High School in 1961, later joining the U.S. Army. He served in Germany in the postal department of the Army. He was honorably discharged from the service and went on to work various jobs. In 1968 he moved to Kansas and worked in the postal service. On March 7, 1970, he married Martha L. Derrickson in Phillipsburg, and to this union three children were born. On June 20, 1983, he went to work for the Venture Asphalt Paving Corporation in Great Bend as a diesel mechanic. He was later promoted to head diesel mechanic. He retired from the Venture Corporation for health reasons on June 6, 2002, and returned to North Platte. He worked part-time at the north-side Dollar General and at the Farmer’s Market selling his vegetables. He lived in his garden until the NASCAR races were on; he also loved to watch Nebraska football. He enjoyed fishing, cooking out on the grill and spending time with his family and friends (especially his grandchildren.)
Edward was a member of VFW Post 1504; he attended the Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by a daughter, Angelia Morgan; two sons, James Morgan and Anthony (Melissa) Morgan, all of North Platte; father Earl Morgan of North Platte; one sister, Dorothy Simants of North Platte; one brother, Robert Morgan of North Platte; a granddaughter, Paige Morgan, and a grandson, Brandon Morgan, both of North Platte; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother and one brother-in-law, Lawrence Simants.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Adams & Swanson Chapel with the Rev. James Hawley officiating. Burial will follow at Fort McPherson National Cemetery with Military Honors. Visitation will be today and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Adams & Swanson Funeral Home. A memorial has been established for the Victory Junction Gang Camp for Children and online condolences can be made at www.adamsswanson.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Adams & Swanson Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 489
North Platte, NE 69103-0489
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Dr. Morris J. Niedenthal

CHICAGO — Dr. Morris J. Niedenthal of Chicago, Ill., 76, formerly of Russell, died Feb. 8. He was born in Hays on May 21, 1931, to Ferdinand and Isabella Niedenthal. He grew up in Russell and graduated from Russell High School, where he was a State Champion debater. He graduated from Northwestern University in 1953 and from Chicago Lutheran Seminary in Maywood, Ill., in 1956. The next year he studied at the University of Manchester, England, as a Fulbright Scholar.

He was ordained in June of 1957 in Russell. He served as a mission developer for the United Lutheran Church, organizing St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church in Columbia, Mo., which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year.

After teaching at the Lutheran School of Theology for 36 years, he retired in 1996, having touched the lives of hundred of students.

A special delight for Morry, during the 40 years he lived in Hyde Park Chicago, was the chance he got every year to spend the summer at the Niedenthal Wisconsin farm. The peaceful farm life energized and invigorated him. Through the years he often preached in rural parishes while their pastors were away and developed warm relationships with many of the congregation.

He was united in marriage to Corrine Helmke in 1955. They are the parents of Simon and wife Tina Maria Whitman, and Paula, and husband Markus Brauer, and grandparents of Camilla, Adrian, Sebastian and Benjamin. He is also survived by his sister, Dora Lee Starks of Dodge City, and three nephews, Greg Starks, Kirk Starks and Jon Starks. He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant brother, Gary Dean, and an infant sister, Judy K.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at St. John Lutheran Church of Russell. There will be no visitation. Memorials have been established with St. John Lutheran Church and the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. Contributions and condolences may be left with St. John Lutheran Church. Condolences may also be sent via email at www.pvpmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 N. Maple
Russell, KS 67665
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Harry H. Fairchild 1910 - 2008
LARNED — Harry H. Fairchild, 97, died Feb. 25 at Hospice House of Reno County, Hutchinson. He was born Dec. 8, 1910, in Garfield, the son of William H. and Annie Haney Fairchild. On Sept. 11, 1943, he married Lena Marie Dirks at Pawnee Rock. She died Feb. 6, 2001. A lifetime resident of Pawnee County, he was a retired farmer and custodian for the Jordaan Memorial Library in Larned.

He attended the First Christian Church and was a member of the Fort Larned Lions Club, both of Larned, and was a member of Eagles Lodge No. 646 of Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Steven, of Hutchinson; a daughter, Annie Marie Boman, Hutchinson; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Janice Elaine McCaslin, two brothers, William and Jim, and five sisters, Ethel Dugger, Marietta Vratil, Alice Aggson, Mildred Hanshew and Lois Dick.

Funeral will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned, with Pastor Dan Lundgren presiding. Visitation will be from noon until 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Jordaan Library or Good Samaritan Village in care of Morell Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Juanita M. Smith 1921 - 2008

LARNED — Juanita M. Smith, 86, died Feb. 24 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. Born May 27, 1921, in Larned, she was the daughter of Conrad H. and Anna K. Leinberger Woelk. A lifetime resident of Larned, she was a homemaker and cook at Larned State Hospital. She married Raymond Howard Smith in Albert on Oct. 14, 1940. He died Nov. 13, 2000.

Mrs. Smith was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Lutheran Women’s Matthew Circle and the Larned Food Pantry for 10 years, all in Larned.

Survivors include her son, Billy, of Larned; a daughter, Beverly Wilson of Larned; a brother, John Woelk of Rozel; two sisters, Marjorie Peter and Jean Miller, both of Tribune; four grandchildren, Trace Smith, Lana Smith, Sid Smith and Lori Ploeger; and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, LeRoy “Jimmy” Woelk; and a sister, Virginia Lee Smith.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Grace Lutheran Church with Pastor Richard Boyer presiding. Burial will be at the Point View Cemetery in Radium. Friends may visit from noon until 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, all at Morell Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the church or to Larned Food Pantry in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177

Great Bend (Kan.) Feb. 26, 2008

Kathleen “Sherry” Denton 1962 - 2008
Kathleen “Sherry” Denton, 45, of Great Bend, died Feb. 24 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born April 10, 1962, at Great Bend, she was the daughter of Arthur Lee and Geneva Hazel Simmons Barton. She married Jay Denton on Aug. 3, 1981, at Great Bend. He survives. She was a homemaker and a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

She was baptized in Calvary Baptist Church in Ellinwood.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, Jay, of the home, include a son, Dalton Denton, of the home; two daughters, Brenda Graves and husband Cecil of Great Bend and Nicole Krom and husband Matthew of Seattle, Wash.; three brothers, Roy Lee Barton of Delhi, N.Y., Richard Lee Barton of Great Bend and Fred B. Barton of Claflin; two sisters, Dorothy May Bedard of Hutchinson and Janice Ann Zrubek of Salina; and seven grandchildren, Dylan and Jocelyn Krom of Seattle, and Erika, Nathan, Klara, Zachary and Gabrielle Graves, all of Great Bend. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Arthur Leon Barton and Everett Don Barton.

Funeral service will be at 11:30 a.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with Pastor Curtis Reinhardt officiant. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday with the family to receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Donations to a memorial fund for the Golden Belt Humane Society may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Charles W. Lynam

BURDETT — Charles W. Lynam, 86, died Feb. 25 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. Service is pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Dale Eugene Schartz 1957 - 2008

Dale Eugene Schartz, 50, of Great Bend, died Feb. 24 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born March 22, 1957, at Great Bend, he was the son of LeRoy and Theresa Herrman Schartz. He married Rita Brack on Dec. 10, 1977, at Great Bend. To this union a son, Justin Lee Schartz, was born. They later divorced. On May 29, 1982, he married Carol Salmans at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ellinwood. She survives. He was a fourth-generation farmer and rancher and a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ellinwood and a Third-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus at Seward.

Dale was always willing to lend a helping hand and never passed up an opportunity for conversation. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Survivors, besides his wife, Carol, of the home, include his parents, of Ellinwood; two sons, Justin Lee Schartz of Great Bend and Derek Eugene Schartz of the home; two daughters, Andrea Diane Schartz of Wichita and Nicole Marie Schartz, of the home; three brothers, LeRoy Schartz, Jr., and Kyle Schartz and wife Bonny (McLeland) Schartz, all of Great Bend, and Kevin Schartz and wife Rhea (Applegate) Schartz of Ellinwood; two sisters, Betty Riggs and husband Dale and Lana Brown and husband Greg, all of Great Bend; a granddaughter, MiKayla Renee Schartz; and nieces and nephews, Brent, Brian and Breanne Riggs, Joe, Christie, Shannon and Leslie Schartz, Aaron and Seth Schartz, Bailey and Kaleb Schartz and Tanner, Kaycee, Marcus and Layton Brown. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Leo and Catherine Wurm Schartz and Wendelin and Dorothy Herl Herrman, and an infant brother, Joseph LeRoy.
Vigil Service with Knight of Columbus Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Thursday. Service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ellinwood, with Father Charles Mazouch officiant. Interment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Great Bend. Visitation will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Contributions to a memorial fund for the Dale E. Schartz Scholarship Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home *
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

Verlin Smith 1931 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Verlin Smith, 76, died Feb. 25 at the KU Medical Center, Kansas City, Kan. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 26, 2008

February 27, 2008

Esther Leona Bitter 1916 - 2008

GARDEN CITY — Esther Leona Bitter, 91, died Feb. 25 at Garden Valley Retirement Village in Garden City. Born June 16, 1916, in Russell County, she was the daughter of Samuel and Lena Karst Radke. She married Gerhardt Bitter on Jan. 7, 1940, in Hoisington. He died Dec. 2, 2007, in Garden City. A Garden City resident since 2003, moving from Galatia, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Bitter was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Galatia.

Survivors include a son, Jerry Bitter and wife Donna of Garden City; two grandsons, Jason Bitter and wife Amy of Overland Park, and Gregg Bitter and wife Natalie of Olathe; a granddaughter, Tracy Wapp and husband David of Bloomington, Ill.; and two great-grandchildren, Brevin and Avery Wapp, both of Bloomington, Ill. She was preceded in death by a brother, Hubert Radke, and a sister, Rachael Keister.

Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Galatia with Pastors Lyle Stuehrenberg and Adam Wutka presiding. Interment will be at the Fairview Township Cemetery in Galatia. Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Price & Sons Funeral Home in Garden City. Memorials are suggested to the Esther Bitter Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.priceandsons.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Price and Sons Funeral Home*
620 N. Main St.
Garden City, KS 67846
620-276-2364
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Joe Pat Miller 1944 - 2008

STERLING — Joe Pat Miller, 63, died Feb. 25 at Hutchinson Hospital. Born Aug. 17, 1944, in Sterling, he was the son of Joseph F. and Theda N. Ray Miller. A lifelong resident of Sterling, he graduated from Sterling High School and received his diesel mechanic degree from Pittsburg State University. He was a diesel mechanic for Sterling Trucking and retired from being shop foreman for the Rice County Highway Department. He was a retired volunteer from the Sterling Fire Department, where he served for 40 years.
Mr. Miller was a member of Ducks Unlimited, Rice County Chapter, where he served as past chairman.

Survivors include a son, Chy Miller of Sterling; two daughters, Loranne McNutt of San Diego, Calif., and Alicia Meer of New York, N.Y.; his father, Joseph F. Miller, Sterling; two sisters, Kay Miller of Corpus Christi, Texas, and Caralinn Getty of Sumter, S.C.; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the United Methodist Church in Sterling with the Rev. Nancy Goddard officiating. Burial will be at the Sterling Community Cemetery. Friends may visit from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Sterling. Memorials are suggested to Ducks Unlimited in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Homes
214 W. Ave. South
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Evelyn A. Davis

WICHITA — Evelyn A. Davis, 90, homemaker, peacefully went to be with The Lord after a nine-year battle with cancer on Feb. 24. She was born in Ellinwood.

Survivors include a son, Terry, and wife Connie Davis of Wichita; a sister-in-law, Alma Hauser of Wichita; three grandchildren, Christie Kessler of Goddard, Shelley (William) Ramsey of Viola and Scott Davis of Andover; nine great-grandchildren, Schilar and Jessica Kessler, William, Brett, Lindsey and Cole Ramsey, and Derrick, Dominik and Darren Davis. She was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn E.; a son, Ernest Eugene Davis; father, Ernest “Pop” Hauser; mother, Anna (Lebbin) Hauser; stepmother, Garnett Hauser; brothers, William Hauser, Gilbert “Gib” Hauser, Floyd Hauser and Vernon Hauser; and sister, Dorothy Hancock.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. today at Resthaven Mortuary in Wichita. A memorial has been established with Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Resthaven Mortuary*
11800 West Hwy. 54
Wichita, KS 67209
316-722-2100
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Lois L. Dove 1926 - 2008

Lois L. Dove, 82, of Great Bend, died Feb. 25 at Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall, Mo. Born Feb. 7, 1926, she was the daughter of Ed and Edna Dolechek Bradstreet. She married DeVere “Dee” Dove Jr. on Sept. 15, 1946, in Topeka. He died Oct. 2, 2003. A resident of Great Bend since 1957, coming from Dodge City, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Dove was a member of the First Christian Church, P.E.O. Chapter FS of Great Bend and a former board member of the Barton County Community College Foundation.

Survivors include a son, DeVere “Rob” Dove III of Great Bend; two daughters, Deborah V. Rosen of Louisville, Ky., and Mary B. Keller of Marshall, Mo.; a sister, Barbara Bradstreet Boltz of Phoenix, Ariz.; seven grandchildren, Breanna Rosen, Mindy North, Kristi Lawrence, Andy Dove, Rachel Keller, Madelyn Keller and Rebecca Keller; and one great-grandchild, Ava Lawrence. She was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Bradstreet, and a grandson, Creed Rosen.
Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the First Christian Church in Great Bend with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the First Christian Church, Barton County Community College Foundation, P.E.O. Education Fund or Frazier Spinal Chord Research Foundation, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Harold E. Meier 1920 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Harold E. Meier, 87, died Feb. 25 at Kansas Heart Hospital in Wichita. Born March 24, 1920, at Bunker Hill, he was the son of John George Meier and Katherine Ehrlich Meier. A lifetime resident of Russell and Barton County, he was a roustabout superintendent for Phillips Petroleum Company. He married Margaret L. Hoffman on March 2, 1946, in Claflin.

Mr. Meier was a World War II U.S. Army veteran. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, of Ellinwood; a son, Dwayne Meier and wife Melva of Salina; two daughters, Darlene Feist and Angel Reyes of Northglenn, Colo., and Jean McAtee and Terry of Great Bend; a brother, Paul Meier of Great Bend; six grandchildren, Jena Berschauer and Eric, Travis McAtee and Carol, Trent McAtee and Jenny, Elizabeth Davidsen and Chris, Adam Feist and Amy, and Linda Marquez and Evan; eight great-grandchildren, Reed, Keyton and Gage McAtee, Chance and Cason Berschauer, Grant McAtee, Marcus Feist and Eva Davidsen. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Carl Meier, Clarence Meier and Leslie Meier, and a sister, Lorena Hoffman.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood. Burial will be at the Claflin Municipal Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Kimple Funeral Home with the family receiving friends from 6 to 9 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Claflin Ambulance Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home, Inc.*
113 North Main
P.O. Box 246
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

LaVeda Frances Mayers 1924 - 2008

LEAVENWORTH — LaVeda Frances Mayers, 84, of Leavenworth, died Feb. 22 at Golden Living Center in Lansing.

She was born Feb. 6, 1924, to Walter and Kathryn (Gunn) Mayers in Great Bend. She attended high school in Great Bend. After graduation, she attended the University of Dubuque, Iowa, and the College of Emporia, obtaining various degrees. She served as director of Christian Education for churches in several different locations from 1952 to 1965. She then received her teaching certificate from Emporia Teacher’s College and taught for many years within the Leavenworth School System.

She was a Presbyterian, serving on various committees and volunteer groups.

She is survived by many relatives and friends.
Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Belden-Larkin Funeral Home in Leavenworth with Pastor Ron VanSchenkhof presiding. Friends may visit from 9:30 to 11 a.m. prior to the service. Inurnment will take place at a later time. Memorials are suggested to First Presbyterian Church, 407 Walnut St., Leavenworth, Kan.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Belden-Larkin Funeral Home and Cremation Services
707 S. 6th
Leavenworth, KS 66048
913-682-2820
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Raleigh Verlin Smith 1931 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Raleigh Verlin Smith, 76, died Feb. 25 at the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kan. He was born May 24, 1931, in Douglass, the son of Lloyd and Hazel B. (Zoth) Smith. He married Janet Herbel on April 1, 1951, at Hoisington. He was the owner/operator of Hoisington Well Service for 25 years and retired as a contract pumper in 2001. He was a longtime Hoisington resident.

He was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, commander of the American Legion Post No. 286 and member of VFW Post No. 7428, a volunteer driver of the Hoisington Trolley, a former American Legion and Little League baseball umpire, church coordinator of Thrivent Financial, and a former church financial secretary.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; three daughters, Patty Stueder and husband Bill of Claflin, Becky Griffith of Overland Park and Cindy Schrader and husband Keith of Sturgis, Mich.; and seven grandchildren, Justin Griffith and wife Elizabeth of Seattle, Wash., Lindsay Griffith of Lawrence, Derek and Nickolas Schrader and Michael and Rachal Stueder. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Bud and Lloyd Smith Jr., and a sister, Geraldine Iannitti.

A special prayer service will be at 8 p.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington, with the Rev. Steven Little officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery with military graveside rites conducted by American Legion Post No. 286 and VFW Post No. 7428. Visitation will be from 1 to 5 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, and 9:30 a.m. to service time Friday at the church. Memorials are suggested to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church or the American Heart Association, both in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Susan Joan Clark 1972 - 2008

Susan Joan Clark, 35, of Great Bend, died Feb. 26 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. She was born March 24, 1972, at Dodge City, the daughter of Michael D. and Pamela J. Stinchcomb Clark. She was a lifetime resident of Great Bend and a 1990 graduate of Great Bend High School.

She attended Extreme Hope Fellowship and was a member of Bright Horizons.

Survivors include her parents, of the home; a brother, Michael Craig Clark, of Great Bend; a grandmother, Thelma Clark, of Shawnee Mission; three nephews and a niece. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Warren and Lida Clark and Edgar and Mary Klotz.
Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with Pastor Mike Joiner officiant. Interment will be at 4:45 p.m. Friday at Lakin Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. to service time Friday at Bryant Funeral Home. Donations to a memorial fund for Saline County Dialysis may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Dorothy Ann Judy  1932 - 2008

SOUTH HUTCHINSON — Dorothy Ann Judy, 75, died Feb. 25 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. She was born July 5, 1932, at Wamego, the daughter of Clarence Albert and Clara Luella McKowen Tanner. She married J.W. Judy on Nov. 8, 1952, in Wamego. He died Nov. 18, 1990. She was a longtime Great Bend resident, moving to South Hutchinson in February 2004. She was a graduate of Wamego High School and of beauty school in Dodge City. She was a homemaker, and had retired as director of the Great Bend Housing Authority after serving 17 years in that capacity.

She was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, South Hutchinson, and of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and Harvest House.

Survivors include two sons, Linford Judy and wife Peggy of Broomfield, Colo., and Ron Judy and wife Nancy of Hutchinson; a daughter, Kala Skolaut and husband Mike of Wichita; a brother, Darrell Tanner of Larned; a sister, Betty Volz of Dodge City; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by seven brothers and three sisters.

A Parish Rosary service will be at 7:30 p.m. today at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, South Hutchinson. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the church, with Father Brian Nelson officiating. A graveside service will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday in the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 4 p.m. today at Elliott Mortuary, Hutchinson. Memorials for Victory in the Valley may be sent to Elliott Mortuary. Personal condolences may be sent to www.elliottmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elliott Mortuary*
1219 North Main
Hutchinson, KS 67501
620-663-3327
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Minnie Madgeline Felke  1911 - 2008


Mrs. Felke was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Altar Society and Church Choir, all of Seward; Daughters of Isabella, Silver and Gold Club, Ladies Sewing Club and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, all of Great Bend; and St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Kansas City, Kan.

Survivors include three sons, Franklin J., Billings, Mont., Gerald J., Sioux Falls, S.D., and Donald R., Peyton, Colo.; a daughter, Nadine P. Penka, Kansas City, Kan., and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in
death by both parents; a son, Maurice E. Felke; three sisters, Helen Johns, Susie Schlochtermeier and Therese Ross; and two brothers, Bill and Irvin Debes.

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Seward, with Father Rene Guesnier as celebrant. Visitation will be from 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Rosary service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral chapel. Memorials to the church may be made in care of Minnis Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
P.O. Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

**February 28, 2008**

Dorothy Florence Peterson 1925 - 2008

Dorothy Florence Peterson, 82, of Great Bend, died Feb. 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born June 3, 1925, in Ellsworth County, the daughter of Frank and Effie (Am) Warta. She married Cloyd A. Peterson on June 6, 1944, at Salina. He died on June 3, 2006. She was a cook for Great Bend High School and a day-care provider. She had lived in Great Bend since 1961, coming from Salina.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Great Bend.

Survivors include three sons, Lugene “Gene” Peterson and wife Carolyn, Salina, Doug Peterson and wife Elaine, Wichita, and Warren Peterson and wife Cheryl, Great Bend; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Frank Warta, Jr., Lawrence Warta and Richard Warta.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiant. Interment will occur at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Brookville (Kan.) City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home. Donations to a memorial fund for First United Methodist Church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 28, 2008

Esther Leona Bitter 1916 - 2008

GARDEN CITY — Esther Leona Bitter, 91, died Feb. 25 at Garden Valley Retirement Village in Garden City. Born June 16, 1916, in Russell County, she was the daughter of Samuel and Lena Karst Radke. She married Gerhardt Bitter on Jan. 7, 1940, in Susank. He died Dec. 2, 2007, in Garden City. A Garden City resident since 2003, moving from Russell, she was a homemaker and loved cooking and making quilts for her family and church projects.

Mrs. Bitter was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Galatia.

Survivors include a son, Jerry Bitter and wife Donna of Garden City; two grandsons, Jason Bitter and wife Amy of Overland Park, and Gregg Bitter and wife Natalie of Olathe; a granddaughter, Tracy Wapp and husband David of Bloomington, Ill.; and two great-grandchildren, Brevin and Avery Wapp, both of Bloomington, Ill. She was preceded in death by a brother, Hubert Radke, and a sister, Rachael Keister.
Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Galatia with Pastors Lyle Stuehrenberg and Adam Wutka presiding. Interment will be at the Fairview Township Cemetery in Galatia. Visitation took place Wednesday at Price & Sons Funeral Home in Garden City. Memorials are suggested to the Esther Bitter Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.priceandsons.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Price and Sons Funeral Home*
620 N. Main St.
Garden City, KS 67846
620-276-2364
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 27, 2008

Zara Folkerts 1915 - 2008

LARNED — Zara Folkerts, 92, died Feb. 20 at the Geneva Care Center in Geneva, Ill., after a short battle with leukemia. She was born April 12, 1915, at McKinney, Texas. She graduated from high school in Oklahoma City, joined the WACS in January 1943 and was discharged in May 1945 at Hamilton Field, Calif. She married Raymond Folkerts on Sept. 30, 1944, at the Hamilton Field Chapel. He died Sept. 1, 2000.

A resident of Larned for 50 years, she belonged to Grace Lutheran Church, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Larned Garden Club.

Survivors include a daughter, Suzanne Kerner and her husband Ron of St. Charles, Ill.; a granddaughter, Reidun Allen of St. Charles, and a grandson, Jason Kerner of Valparaiso, Ind.; two great-grandchildren; two sisters including her twin sister, Patricia Frahm of Dallas, Texas, and Louiezon Young of Oklahoma City, Okla.; several nieces and nephews and a sister-in-law, Joan Josefiak of Rozel.

Cremation has taken place and there will be a family memorial service at the Kerner home in St. Charles, Ill.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 28, 2008*

February 29, 2008

Margaret I. Rice

LARNED — Margaret I. Rice, 95, died Feb. 27 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Morell Funeral Home in Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 29, 2008

Peter Janatello 1920 - 2008

Peter Janatello, 88, of Great Bend, died Feb. 27 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. He was born Feb. 1, 1920, in New York, N.Y., the son of Antonio and Maria Compelonga Janatello. He married Gloria Angelica Scotti on Dec. 25, 1943, at Great Bend. She survives. He had been a salesman for Coca-Cola for 11 years and for Western Southern Life Insurance Company for 23 years. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1946. He was a veteran of World War II, serving with the U.S. Army Air Corps.

He was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, American Legion Argonne Post No. 180, VFW Post 3111 and the Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 646.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria, of the home; a son, Anthony Pete Janatello and wife Betty of Middlebury, Ind.; two grandchildren, Dan Janatello and wife Colleen and Dominic Janatello and wife Robin; and five great-grandchildren, Alexis, Anthony, Aidan, Matthew and Andrew. He was preceded in death by nine brothers and sisters.
A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiant. Interment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Great Bend, with military honors. Visitation will be from 4 to 9 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, at Bryant Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Prince of Peace Parish or St. Jude Children’s Hospital, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 29, 2008

Marie M. Pickle 1922 - 2008

Marie M. Pickle, 85, of Great Bend, died Feb. 28 at Great Bend Health & Rehab. Marie was born May 25, 1922, the daughter of Floyd and Anna Goldsmith Tucker, in Esther, Mo. Marie married Arthur Pickle in Union, Mo. He died in 1975. Marie retired from Jacksonville State Hospital, after 25 years in 1987. She was active in Red Cross, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Republican Party, which she also served as county chairwoman and committeewoman. She moved to Great Bend in 1991.

Marie is survived by one son, William (Bill) Pickle and daughter-in-law Cheryl; one brother, Virgil Tucker of Dittmer, Mo.; one sister, Mrs. Robert (Ann) Leach of Ellisville, Mo.; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Viewing and visitation will be held at Charter Funerals, Great Bend, from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and again from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday at Gillham Buchanan Funeral Home in Jacksonville, Ill., with a graveside service following at East Cemetery, Jacksonville. The family requests, in lieu of flowers, that memorials be made to the Great Bend Senior Center.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, Feb. 29, 2008

March 2, 2008

Marie M. Pickle 1922 - 2008

Marie M. Pickle, 85, of Great Bend, died Feb. 28 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. She was born May 25, 1922, the daughter of Floyd and Anna “Gold-smith” Tucker in Esther, Mo. Marie married Arthur Pickle in Union, Mo. He preceded her in death in 1975.

Marie retired from Jacksonville State Hospital, after 25 years, in 1987, moving to Great Bend in 1991. She was active in Red Cross, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Republican Party, serving as both county chairwoman and committeewoman.

Marie is survived by one son, William (Bill) Pickle and daughter-in-law Cheryl; one brother, Virgil Tucker of Dittmer, Mo.; one sister, Mrs. Robert (Ann) Leach of Ellisville, Mo.; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.
Marie was preceded in death by her parents, one son, Raymond Pickle, a stepdaughter, Lucille Pickle, two brothers, Lloyd “Bud” Tucker and Anthony “Tony” Tucker, one sister, Rosaline Henson, and a great-grandson, Jody Charles.

Viewing and visitation were at Charter Funerals, Great Bend, Saturday, and will also be from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday at Gillham Buchanan Funeral Home in Jacksonville, Ill., with a graveside service following at 1 p.m. in the East Cemetery, Jacksonville, Ill.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials be made to the Great Bend Senior Center.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-2161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Johnnie G. Ratzlaff 1913 - 2008

TOPEKA — Johnnie G. Ratzlaff, 94, of Topeka, died Feb. 29 at Rolling Hills Health Center. She was born on March 22, 1913, in Hartshorne, Okla., the daughter of John and Dolly (Christian) Dixon. Johnnie was one of the women who helped change America’s history. During World War II she went to work for Boeing Aircraft in Wichita as a riveter on the assembly line making B-29s. After the war she continued to work outside the home, as a restaurant owner in Topeka and Great Bend, and retired about 1980.

She was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church in Great Bend.

Johnnie resided in Great Bend for more than 40 years before moving to Topeka in 2005.

She is survived by her daughter, Twilla Standerfer McKee, of Topeka, and son, Bobby (Carole) Standerfer, of Marlow, Okla.; eight grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren. Johnnie was preceded in death by her husbands, Dean H. Ratzlaff in 2004, Louis E. Bessette in 1973 and Roy Standerfer. She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Steina J. Bessette, in 2005 and grandsons, Eldon L. Bessette in 1992 and Bobby Standerfer Jr. in 2007.

Family and friends will gather at Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home on Monday prior to a procession to Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, where graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Midland Hospice Care, Inc. and sent in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be made to www.brennannmathenafh.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Brennan-Mathena Funeral Home*
800 SW 6th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66603
785-354-7706
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Luella P. Schwager 1922 - 2008

Luella P. Schwager, 85, Great Bend, died Feb. 29 at her residence. Born Dec. 29, 1922, in Stafford County, she was the daughter of Paul and Bertha Langrehr Burhenn. She married George Joseph Schwager on Nov. 7, 1940, at Great Bend. He died May 25, 2002. A homemaker, she was a resident of Great Bend since 1960, coming from Stafford County.

She was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, the Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella and a 60-year member of the Social Circle Club.
Survivors include five sons, Robert Schwager, Roger Schwager, Ricky Schwager and wife Kathy and Ronald Schwager and wife Michelle, all of Great Bend, and Raymond Schwager and wife Donita of Hays; three daughters, Jeanette Soper, and Diana Sanders and husband Robert, all of Great Bend, and Shirley Headley of Albert; two brothers, Irvin Burhenn of El Dorado and Virgil Burhenn of Great Bend; two sisters, Evelyn Schartz of Ellinwood and Flossie Dewey of Great Bend; 21 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Vernon Burhenn, and a grandson, Jerry Emerson.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Monday and a vigil with Daughters of Isabella Rosary at 7 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for the American Diabetes Association or Prince of Peace Parish may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Venita K. Schrott 1930 - 2008

RUSH CENTER — Venita K. Schrott, 77, of Rush Center, died Feb. 29 at Rush County Nursing Home, La Crosse. She was born May 5, 1930, in Rush County, the daughter of Clarence V. and Dortha (Keener) Murphy. She married Buddie D. “Bud” Schrott on Oct. 12, 1951, at Nekoma. He died Dec. 14, 2005. She was a homemaker and a lifelong resident of Rush County. She was a 1948 graduate of Alexander High School. She attained her teaching certificate from Fort Hays State College in 1951.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church, La Crosse, and a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include a son, Bruce D. Schrott, and his wife, Peggy, of Sanford, Mich.; three daughters, Brenda Legleiter and her husband, Roger, of McCracken, LoRee Schrott of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Lela Schrott of Wichita; a sister, Frances Sigurdson, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; and four grandchildren, Michael Schrott, Claire Schrott, Lisa Legleiter and Brian Legleiter. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Mark A. Schrott, a brother, Samuel Murphy, and a sister, Merlyn Hirst.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the United Methodist Church, La Crosse, with the Rev. David Bolz and the Rev. Linda Bolz officiating. Interment will be at Locust Hill Cemetery, Rush Center. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Janousek Funeral Home, La Crosse, with the family receiving friends from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; and from 1 to 1:55 p.m. Monday at the church. Memorials may be made to the Walnut Valley Senior Center, Rush Center, or the Rush County Nursing Home, La Crosse.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home*
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Rita Hickert Law 1928 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Rita Hickert Law, 79, died Feb. 20 at Seattle, Wash. She was born Aug. 1, 1928, at New Almelo, the daughter of John and Mary (Fink) Hickert. She married Dr. Findley Law in June 1948. He died July 3, 2007. She was a 1945 graduate of Girls Catholic High School in Hays. She graduated from Fort Hays State University, after attending
Mt. St. Scholastica College, Loretta Heights College and the University of Kansas. A licensed pilot and accomplished golfer, she enjoyed hunting and fishing on Kansas lakes.

A fifty-year resident of Ellinwood, she managed the family farming interests near Hill City. She supported many charitable organizations especially the American Indians, Christian Children’s Fund and Mennonite Disaster Relief.

Mrs. Law was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Daughters of Isabella and Altar Society, all of Ellinwood, Barton County Medical Auxiliary and Grove Park Golf Club of Ellinwood.

Survivors include two sons, Mark Law of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Thomas Law of Houston, Texas; two daughters, Ann Hopkins of Atherton, Calif., and Dr. Therese Law of Seattle; four brothers, Jay Hickert, Urban Hickert, Lewis Hickert and Paul Hickert; four sisters, Ruth Browne, Rosemary Lewis, Regina Wasinger and Roberta Lees; and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Bernard Hickert and a sister, Rachel Mindrup.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Ellinwood, with Father Charles Mazouch officiating. A Vigil Service will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday at the church. An Altar Society Rosary will be held at 3 p.m. followed by a D of I Rosary, both at Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, S. D., in care of the funeral home.

Evelyn M. Bahr 1931 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Evelyn M. Bahr, 76, died March 1 at Clara Barton Hospital in Hoisington. She was born May 12, 1931, in Odin, the daughter of August A. and Martha (Penka) Schneweis. A longtime Hoisington resident, she worked as a seamstress at Suburban Laundry in Hoisington 28 years, retiring in 1994.

She was of the Catholic faith.

Survivors include two daughters, Donita and husband Bob Crutcher of Hoisington and Marcia Webb of Carl Junction, Mo.; a sister, Catherine Bahr of Olmitz; two brothers, Ambrose Schneweis of Hutchinson and Arthur Schneweis of Odin; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by a son, Mark Bahr, and two sisters, Martha Ann Zecha and Thelma Klug.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with family present from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, and 9 a.m. to service time on Tuesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Hoisington Library in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Helen Rosa Bender 1923 - 2008
Helen Rosa Bender, 84, of Great Bend, died Feb. 29 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. She was born Sept. 5, 1923, in Barton County, the daughter of David and Mollie Zimmermann Templing. She married Ernest Herbert Bender on Sept. 1, 1946, at Russell. A sales clerk and cashier for Gibsons Discount Store, she was a resident of Great Bend since 1961, coming from Russell County.

She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include a daughter, Judy McGreevy and husband Dennis of Great Bend; a son, Gary Bender and wife Kathy of Charlotte, N.C.; a sister, Dorothy Justice of Mountain Home, Ark.; three grandchildren, Heidi Martin, Jeremy Bender and Coy McGreevy; two stepgrandchildren, Jarrod Severide and Tobie Andrews; and five great-grandchildren, Brady Martin, Bailey Martin, Ryan Bender, Parker Bender and Finley Andrews. She was preceded in death by a brother, Edwin Templing.

Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. on Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Great Bend, with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiating. A prayer service will take place at 3 p.m. today at the funeral home, with family receiving friends following the service. Burial will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to noon on Monday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Rita Farthing 1923 - 2008

Rita Farthing, 84, of Great Bend, died Feb. 29 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. She was born March 7, 1923, at Middlesborough, England, the daughter of George W. and Elizabeth Mary Forrest Spencer. She married Dale M. Farthing on Sept. 14, 1945, at Peterborough, England. He died Sept. 11, 1991. A resident of Great Bend since 1981, coming from El Dorado, Ark., and Carmi, Ill., she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Farthing was of the Methodist faith.

Survivors include three sons, Gary M. Farthing of Oakland, Calif., William D. “Bill” Farthing of Hays and James A. Farthing of Houston, Texas; two daughters, Linda K. Saenz of Great Bend and Susan D. Brown of Woodward, Okla.; a brother, George Spencer of Australia; 13 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, David S. Farthing, a brother, Allan Spencer and two sisters, Anne Hobson and Elsie Edwards.

Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend, with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Burial will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. on Monday and 9 a.m. to service time on Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center Alzheimer’s Unit in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

Margaret I. Rice 1912 - 2008
LARNED — Margaret I. Rice, 95, died Feb. 27 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. She was born July 14, 1912, near Ellsworth, the daughter of Harry and Edna Lindquist Remley. On Dec. 22, 1932, she married Benton Rice at Wichita. He died April 11, 1998. A resident of Larned since 2000, formerly of Great Bend, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Rice belonged to First Presbyterian Church, the United Presbyterian Women, Liberty Extension Unit and the American Legion Auxiliary, all in Great Bend.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Otte and husband Dale of Larned; six grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Judy Kirby; a brother, Claude Remley; two sisters, Harriet Erhardt and Helen Pflughoeft; and a granddaughter, Jennifer Finger.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned, with Pastor Dennis Scheibmeir officiating. Burial will be in the Ellsworth Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday and from 9 a.m. to service time on Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be sent to the Presbyterian Foundation in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 2, 2008

March 4, 2008

Stephen Francis Hoss Sr. 1924 - 2008

FAIRVIEW, Texas — Stephen Francis Hoss Sr., 83, a resident of Fairview, Texas, passed away Feb. 28. He was born in Seward to Charles Francis Hoss and Ottilia Fehrenbach Hoss on June 4, 1924.

Stephen served in the United States Navy in World War II on the USS Iowa and he was a “plankowner” (meaning that he was aboard the ship when it was commissioned). Stephen worked in the oil and gas industry for more than 40 years. He was a member of the SPE, SPWLA, LAGCOE, Veterans Association of the USS Iowa, Boy Scouts of America, and the American Legion, Post No. 96 in McKinney, Texas.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Dolly Hoss; sons: Stephen Hoss Jr. and wife Katie, Richard Hoss and wife Maria, Christopher Hoss, Thomas Hoss and Shawn Hoss and wife Denise; daughters: Peggy Huard and husband Claudy, Michelle Mazzini and husband Christophe, brothers: Paul Hoss and Phillip Hoss; sisters: Anne Bauer, Angela Geil, and Agatha Berryhill, 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Carl and Basil Hoss, and sister, Irene Evers.

Rosary was held Sunday, March 2, at 3 p.m. at Charles W. Smith and Sons Funeral Home, in McKinney, Texas. Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, March 3, at 10 a.m. at St. Michael’s Catholic Church in McKinney. Father Bierschenk officiated. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Stephen’s name to: The USS IOWA Memorial, c/o Paul Ogg, 7233 Standford Court NW, Bremerton, WA 98311, or Saint Michael’s Catholic Church, 411 Paula Rd., McKinney, TX 75069.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charles W. Smith and Sons Funeral Home*
601 S. Tennessee Street
McKinney, TX 75069
972-562-7788
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 4, 2008

Kenneth Richard Fischer 1925 - 2008
Kenneth Richard Fischer, 82, died Feb. 29 at his residence in Great Bend. Born Oct. 28, 1925, in rural Stafford County, he was the son of Alvin Theodore and Marie Alvina Oncken Fischer. A resident of Great Bend for five years, spending most of his life on a farm at Hudson, he was a farmer and stockman. He married Frances Virginia Trego on June 1, 1947. at Greeley, Colo. She died Sept. 19, 2004.

Mr. Fischer was a member of the Peace Church, Peace Church Consistory, Peace Church Cemetery Board and the church choir, all in Hudson, the St. John Lions Club, the St. John/Hudson School Board, the Stafford County Soil Conservation Board, the Great Bend Masonic Lodge No. 15, and the Silver Cougar Club.

Survivors include three daughters, Alice Whitmer and husband Eldon of Wilson, Pamela Stuewe and husband Ervan of Alma, and Marsha DeHart and husband Steven of Olsburg; a sister, Patricia Moore of Lawrenceville, Ga.; and six grandchildren, Christopher Whitmer, Jonathan Whitmer, Brooke Herrera, Morgan Stuewe, McKenna DeHart and Jacob DeHart.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the First United Methodist Church in Great Bend with the Rev. Gary Brooks and the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. There will be a private family interment at a later date at Peace Cemetery in Hudson. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday with the family receiving friends from 7 to 8 p.m., at Bryant Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations to Peace Church, First United Methodist Church or Sterling College, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed by www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 4, 2008

Edward “Ed” Hans Jurgensen 1927 - 2008

WICHITA — Edward “Ed” Hans Jurgensen, 80, entered eternal peace, surrounded by his family, on March 2. Visitation with the family will be 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Downing & Lahey West in Wichita.

Service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Ascension Lutheran Church, 842 N. Tyler. Graveside service will follow at 3 p.m. at St. John Cemetery in Russell.

Born July 30, 1927, in Barton County, Ed worked many years at Misco Industries, retired from USD 259, and was an active member of Ascension Lutheran. He was preceded in death by parents, Ed and Lena; brothers, Leonard and Donald; and sisters, Edna Orebaugh and Alverna Holopirek.

Survivors include his loving wife of 59 1/2 years, Norma; children, Karen (Roger) Schlechte of Lakewood, Colo., Karla (Scott) Hamilton of Derby, Kaelene (Tyrone) Artz of Valley Center, and Kirk (Gina) Jurgensen and Kevin (Kim) Jurgensen, all of Wichita; grandchildren, Tammy (Chris) Greiving, Heather (Bobby) Nixon, Iain and Abby McHugh, Mycah and Daxton Jurgensen, Baylie and Caleb Jurgensen, Kevin Lamm, Ryan (Flower) Souter and Amanda Souter; great-grandchildren, Taylor, Tanner, Tara and Tessa Greiving, Ali Sanchez, Keagan Nixon and Brayden Souter; great-great-grandson, Landon Greiving; brother, Merle (Almeda) Jurgensen; numerous nieces, nephews and friends. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Hospice Care of Kansas and Ascension Lutheran Church. www.dlwichita.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Downing & Lahey Mortuary West Chapel*
10515 West Maple
Wichita, KS 67209
316-773-4553
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 4, 2008
Helen Rosa Bender, 84, died Feb. 29 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born Sept. 5, 1923, in Barton County, she was the daughter of David and Mollie Zimmerman Templing. She married Ernest Herbert Bender on Sept. 1, 1956, at Russell. A resident of Great Bend since 1961, coming from Russell County, she was a sales clerk and cashier for Gibson’s Discount Store.

Mrs. Bender was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; a son, Gary Bender and wife Kathy of Charlotte, N.C.; a daughter, Judy McGreevy and husband Dennis of Great Bend; a sister, Dorothy Justice and husband Dick of Mountain Home, Ark.; three grandchildren, Heidi Martin and husband Cory, Jeremy Bender and wife Misha, and Coy McGreevy; two stepgrandchildren, Jarrod Severeide and Tobie Andrews and husband Brandon; five great grandchildren, Brady Martin, Bailey Martin, Ryan Bender, Parker Bender and Finley Andrews; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a brother, Edwin Templing.

Funeral service was at 2:30 p.m. Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiating. Burial was at the Great Bend Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

DeWayne D. Keiswetter, 67, died Feb. 29 at his home in Great Bend. He was born Jan. 12, 1941, in Norton.

Survivors include his five daughters, Charlotte Keiswetter, Debbie Amador and husband Brian, Becky Kirkpatrick and husband Mike, Diane Mayberry, and Laura Wharton and husband Mat; five grandchildren, Alisha Bouse, Blake Amador, Erika Kirkpatrick and Brady and Grant Wharton. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers.

His family is honoring a celebration of his life with a memorial service to be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. today at Farmers Bank, 1612 Main St., Great Bend.

Dorothy R. Butler, 94, died March 2 at the Good Samaritan Center in Lyons. Born April 27, 1913, in rural Bushton, she was the daughter of Charles and Martha Schultz Plautz. She graduated from Bushton High School in 1932 and attended Ghode School of Cosmetology of Lincoln, Neb. She married O.W. Butler on April 25, 1941, in Alva, Okla. He died June 22, 1968. A longtime Sterling resident, she was a homemaker, owned and operated Butler’s Café in St. John for 14 years, managed the Drive Inn in Sterling for six years and was a florist at Four Seasons in Sterling for eight years.

Mrs. Butler was a member of the United Methodist Church, J B Club, and Friends of Keystone, all of Sterling; and a member and past matron of the Queen Esther Chapter 32 Order of the Eastern Star in Lyons.
Survivors include a brother, Roger Plautz, of Bushton; a stepgrandchild; a stepgreat-grandchild and two stepgreatgreat-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a stepson, O.W. Butler, Jr.; three sisters, Marvella Startzman, Leona Smith and Ruth Stout; and a stepgranddaughter.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Sterling with an Eastern Star Service, with the Rev. Glenn Chambers officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. at Salem United Methodist Church Cemetery in Bushton. Friends may visit from 2 to 5 p.m. today at Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Sterling and from 9 a.m. until service time on Wednesday. Memorials are suggested to the Salem United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund in Bushton or the United Methodist Church in Sterling, all in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home
214 W. Ave. South
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 4, 2008

March 5, 2008

Dilton “Cleo” “Shorty” Myers 1915 - 2008

Dilton “Cleo” “Shorty” Myers, 92, went home to be with the Lord on March 4 at the Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Born Oct. 8, 1915, in Hickman County, Ky., he was the son of Erastus Pinkney and Dora Lee Cooper Myers. A resident of Great Bend, he was employed with Revell Trucking, Esfeld Trucking and Westhoff Sand Company. He married Leeoda D. Myers on July 13, 1935.

Survivors include his son, Randy Myers and wife Char of Great Bend; four daughters, Wilma Pettijohn and husband Jim and Elsie Darr and husband Jeff, both of Great Bend, Liz and Trapper Calp of Hoisington, and Carolyn Casey of Burlington; 18 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, two sons, Jim and Don, and three grandchildren, Brenda Myers, Shyra Palacio Shyrock and Paul Shyrock.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Charter Funerals in Great Bend, with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Burial will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Friends may visit from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, with the family receiving friends from 6:30 to 7 p.m. A special service of remembrance will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Memorials are suggested to Pratt South Wind Hospice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 5, 2008

Janice Marie Effertz 1956 - 2008

Janice Marie Effertz, 51, died Jan. 26 at her home in Great Bend. Born Sept. 15, 1956, in Williston, N.D., she was the daughter of Henry Louis Jr. and Sharon Joan Grisius Effertz. A resident of Great Bend since 1990, coming from Wichita, she was a caregiver for Sunflower Diversified Services.

Survivors include her father, Henry Effertz and wife Diane of Great Bend; her mother, Sharon Servi of Littleton, Colo.; three brothers, Steve Effertz and wife Cindy and Doug Effertz, all of Great Bend, and Anthony Effertz of Kansas City, Mo.; a half brother, Jon Servi of Madison, Wis.; a half sister, Jackie Zube and husband John of Littleton, Colo.; two stepbrothers, Ryan Brack and wife Jane of Huntsville, Ala., and Landon Brack and wife Amanda of Hoisington; a
stepsister, Alana Blessing and husband David of Great Bend; and companion, Mike McMullen of the home. She was preceded in death by a son, Jason Effertz; an infant brother, Danny LeRoy Effertz; and an infant sister, Patty Jo Effertz.

Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. on Friday with Father Dwight Birket officiating, at Bryant Funeral Home. Burial will be at the Hillcrest Memorial Park in Great Bend. Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Golden Belt Humane Society. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 5, 2008

Edna Enerson 1921 - 2008

STANLEY, N.D. — Edna Enerson, 86, of Stanley, died March 3 in a Stanley nursing home. Funeral services will be held at American Lutheran Church, Stanley, at 11 a.m. Saturday. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery, Stanley. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at Springan Funeral Home.

Edna was born to John and Wilhemina (Hemken) Ummen on Nov. 30, 1921, at Great Bend. She was baptized and confirmed at Peace Lutheran Church, Great Bend. She attended schools in Kansas and became a dental technician at Wycoffy Dental Laboratory for four years. She married Orvin Enerson on June 20, 1948, at Peace Lutheran Church in Great Bend. In 1954, they purchased the Nels Evans farm near Lunds Valley, N.D., where they farmed and raised their family. In 1982, they retired and moved into Stanley. Orvin passed away Feb. 17, 1989, and Edna continued to make her home in Stanley, until she entered the Mountrail Bethel Home.

Edna was a member of American Lutheran Church and WELCA, of Stanley, Rural Mailcarriers Auxiliary, Lunds Valley Homemakers Club and the Bethel Home Auxiliary.

Survivors include a son, Dale (Mary) Enerson, Jamestown, N.D.; a daughter, Dalaine (Kevin) Uran, New Town, N.D.; grandchildren Beth (Aaron), Katie (Josh), Tyler, Sara (Casey), Lars (Eileen) and Nels; and great-granddaughter Joceilyn. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Orvin, one brother and one sister.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Springan Funeral Home*
22 First Ave. SE
Stanley, ND 58784
701-628-3323
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 5, 2008

Anna Ruth Laudick 1924 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Anna Ruth Laudick, 84, died March 3 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, in Wichita. Services are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 5, 2008

DeWayne D. Keiswetter 1941 - 2008

DeWayne D. Keiswetter, 67, died Feb. 29 at his home in Great Bend. He was born Jan. 12, 1941, in Norton.
Survivors include his four daughters, Debbie Amador and husband Brian, Becky Kirkpatrick and husband Mike, Diane Mayberry, and Laura Wharton and husband Mat; five grandchildren, Alisha Bouse, Blake Amador, Erika Kirkpatrick and Brady and Grant Wharton. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers.

His family honored a celebration of his life with a memorial service from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Farmers Bank, 1612 Main St., Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 5, 2008#

March 6, 2008

Chester Roy Watkins 1921 - 2008

Chester Roy Watkins, 86, of Great Bend, died March 4 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. He was born June 10, 1921, at Stockton, the son of Roy and Grace Hulse Watkins. He married Viola Vera Suchy on Nov. 27, 1943, at La Crosse. She died Aug. 10, 2006. He was an oilfield worker and a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

Survivors include four daughters, Ruth Weber and husband George of Great Bend, Charlotte Lackey and husband Bill of Blue Springs, Mo., Sandy Byers of Hutchinson and Pamela Davidson of Rogers, Ark.; three brothers, Loyd Watkins of Hays, Cleo Watkins of Great Bend and Jesse Watkins of Florida; 12 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and six stepgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Jerald Dean Watkins, a sister, Thelda Juarez and a great-grandson.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home, with the family to receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Donations to a memorial fund for Barton County Relay For Life may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 6, 2008

Charles Douglas Gunn 1939 - 2008

WOOSTER, Ohio — Charles Douglas Gunn, 68, died March 2 at his home of ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). He was born in Great Bend, May 5, 1939, to Charles and Elizabeth Gunn. He graduated from Great Bend High School and earned a B.A. in English literature from Kansas State University in 1961. He married Virginia Lee Railsback on Aug. 19, 1961, in Manhattan. He received a B.D. (bachelor of divinity) from Yale Divinity School in 1964 and a doctorate in Religious Studies from Yale University in 1969. He taught history of religions at Syracuse (N.Y.) University from 1969 to 1971, and at the College of Wooster from 1971 to 1975. Following his teaching career, he established his own rare and out-of-print book business, operating the Rowsburg Bookstore, as well as an Internet sales presence, GunnBooks.

Doug was active in the Boy Scout movement in Wooster as Scoutmaster of Troop 62. He was a member of the Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society (NOBS), edited their newsletter for several years and was honored by being named a Fellow of the Book. He served as president of the Friends of Ashland University Library and was a longtime enthusiastic supporter of the AAUW book sale. He was a member of the Century Club and of Trinity United Church of Christ. Most recently, he served as CEO of his breakfast club.

He is survived by his wife Virginia of Wooster, son Eric Gunn of Athens, Ohio, son and daughter-in-law Peter and Mariela Gunn of Auburn Hills, Mich., and his mother Elizabeth in Kansas. His father Charles and a daughter Lucy Elizabeth preceded him in death.
His life was blessed and enriched by his family and the wonderful friends he met and enjoyed in all his educational, professional, avocational and community endeavors.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at the McIntire, Davis and Greene Funeral Home, Wooster, at 3 p.m. Saturday with the Rev. Diane Johnson officiating. The family will receive friends following the service. Those who wish may make contributions to the charity of the donor’s choice in his memory.

Funeral arrangements provided by
McIntire, Davis & Greene Funeral Home*
216 E. Larwill Street
Wooster, OH 44691
(330) 262-7771
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 6, 2008

Sister Sophia Vesecky OP 1915 - 2008

Sister Sophia Vesecky, 92, died March 4 at the Dominican Sisters’ convent infirmary in Great Bend. Born Aug. 3, 1915, in Timken as Clara Bernadine Vesecky, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Sophia Blazek Vesecky. She entered the Dominican Sisters’ Community on Aug. 20, 1933, and pronounced her first vows on Aug. 10, 1936. She celebrated 70 years of religious profession in 2006.

Sister Sophia ministered in domestic work in the Sisters’ hospitals and missions in Kansas and Oklahoma for more than 50 years before she retired at the motherhouse in the early 1990s.

Sister Sophia is survived by one nephew and four nieces: John Vesecky, Mary Boone, Rosalee Reitcheck, Margaret Klassen and Lois Niemann.

Sister Sophia’s body was brought to the hospitality area of the Dominican Chapel of the Plains, 3600 Broadway in Great Bend, on Wednesday, where it will lie in state until the Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. on Friday. A wake service will be held at 7 p.m. today. Burial will be in the Sisters’ Resurrection Cemetery. Both the wake and the funeral will be held at the convent. Memorials in honor of Sister Sophia may be sent to Dominican Sisters Ministry Fund, Office of Mission and Ministry, 3600 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530-3692. Friends may call at the convent from 9 a.m. until the time of the wake service at 7 p.m. today.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 6, 2008

A.J. “Jack” Joiner 1925 - 2008

A.J. “Jack” Joiner, 82, of Great Bend, died March 5 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. He was born May 10, 1925, at Bridgeport, Ill., the son of Andrew Jackson and Dollie Fern Pettijohn Joiner. He married Mildred Louise Campbell on Dec. 27, 1945, at Carmi, Ill. She died Oct. 23, 1977. He married Mary Frances Cannon on Nov. 25, 1978, at Ellinwood. She survives. He was a Kansas oilman and owner of Midway Operating. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the United States Navy. He was a lifetime resident of Great Bend and Ellinwood.

He was a member of Extreme Hope Christian Fellowship, Ellinwood Masonic Lodge, Isis Shrine Temple of Salina, American Legion, Elks Lodge, API, and Society of Professional Engineers.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include three sons, Jack Joiner and wife Patricia of Weatherford, Okla., Don Joiner and wife Rosie of Ellinwood and Mike Joiner and wife Ruth of Great Bend; one daughter, Chris Gresham...
and husband Gordon of Wichita; one sister, Belva Fortner of Lake Okeechobee, Fla.; 16 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Kevin Ray Joiner, and a sister, Maxine Andre.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with Pastor Mike Joiner officiant. Interment will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home, with the family to receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Donations to a memorial fund for the Barton County Humane Society may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 6, 2008

Anna Ruth Laudick 1924 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Anna Ruth Laudick, 84, died March 3 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. Born Feb. 1, 1924, at Geneseo, she was the daughter of Jesse J. and Josephine S. (Rose) Hurt. She married Leslie Laudick on July 6, 1968, at Lyons. He survives. A resident of Hoisington for 35 years, she was a homemaker. She was of the Catholic faith.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, include two sons, Robert Adams and his wife, Connie, and Dale Adams, all of Wichita; four daughters, Connie Weber and her husband, Dave, of Wichita, Julie Tubbs and her husband, Ray, of Levant, Marla Breitenbach and her husband, Mike, of DeSoto, and Denise Adams of Overland Park; two stepsons, Steven Laudick and his wife, Kim, of Larned, and Alan Laudick and his wife, Brenda, of Lakin; a stepdaughter, Lesley Neill, and her husband, Claude, of Clion, Iowa; 17 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Gene Adams, and a son, William (Bill) Adams.

A rosary service will be at 7 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiant. Burial will be at St. Mary Cemetery, Chase. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to St. John the Evangelist Church in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 6, 2008

March 7, 2008

Helen Rosa Bender 1923 - 2008

Helen Rosa Bender, 84, died Feb. 29 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born Sept. 5, 1923, in Barton County, she was the daughter of David and Mollie Zimmerman Templing. She married Ernest Herbert Bender on Sept. 1, 1946, at Russell. A resident of Great Bend since 1961, coming from Russell County, she was a sales clerk and cashier for Gibson’s Discount Store.

Mrs. Bender was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; a son, Gary Bender and wife Kathy of Charlotte, N.C.; a daughter, Judy McGreevy and husband Dennis of Great Bend; a sister, Dorothy Justice and husband Dick of Mountain Home, Ark.;
three grandchildren, Heidi Martin and husband Cory, Jeremy Bender and wife Misha, and Coy McGreevy; two stepgrandchildren, Jarrod Severide and Tobie Andrews and husband Brandon; four great-grandchildren, Brady Martin, Bailey Martin, Ryan Bender and Parker Bender; one stepgreat-grandchild, Finley Andrews; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a brother, Edwin Templing.

Funeral service was at 2:30 p.m. Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiating. Burial was at the Great Bend Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home#
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 7, 2008

Chester Roy Watkins 1921 - 2008

Chester Roy Watkins, 86, of Great Bend, died March 4 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. He was born June 10, 1921, at Stockton, the son of Roy and Grace Hulse Watkins. He married Viola Vera Suchy on Nov. 27, 1943, at La Crosse. She died Aug. 10, 2006. He was an oilfield worker and a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

Survivors include four daughters, Ruth Weber and husband George of Great Bend, Charlotte Lackey and husband Bill of Blue Springs, Mo., Sandy Byers and fiancé Ken Scofield of Hutchinson and Pamela Davidson of Rogers, Ark.; three brothers, Loyd Watkins of Hays, Cleo Watkins of Great Bend and Jesse Watkins of Florida; 12 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and six stepgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Jerald Dean Watkins, a sister, Thelda Juarez and a great-grandson.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Rose Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home, with the family to receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Donations to a memorial fund for Barton County Relay For Life may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 7, 2008

Robert E. Adams Jr. 1959 - 2008

Robert E. Adams Jr., 48, of Great Bend, died March 4 at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. Born June 26, 1959, in Great Bend, he was the son of Robert E. Adams Sr. and Darlene A. (Basgall) Adams. He was a 1978 graduate of Hays High School. A six-year resident of Great Bend, moving from Independence, he was employed by Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc.

Mr. Adams was a member of Assembly of God Church and Bright Horizons Inc., both of Great Bend.

Survivors include two brothers, Dwayne S. Adams of Great Bend and James A. Adams of Overland Park. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family will conduct a memorial service at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Assembly of God Church in Great Bend with Pastor Dwight Dozier officiating. There will be a private burial. Memorials are suggested to the National Kidney Foundation or Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc.
Florence Ochs 1911 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Florence Ochs, 96, died March 5 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. Born June 16, 1911, in northeast Barton County, she was the daughter of Joseph Rexroat and Maude “Simms” Rexroat. She married Paul P. Ochs on Oct. 23, 1936, in Liberty, Mo. He died Nov. 20, 1992. A longtime resident of Hoisington, coming from the farm, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Ochs was a member of the Hoisington Bible Church.

Survivors include a son, Duane Ochs and wife Rita of Wichita; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Ruth Bentley, and a brother, James Rexroat.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home with Pastor Gary Clark officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Friends may visit from 1 to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until service time on Saturday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the donor’s choice in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Norbert H. Riebel 1919 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Norbert H. Riebel, 89, died March 5 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. Born Jan. 16, 1919, at Schoenchen, he was the son of Clemens and Anna Dinges Riebel. He married Mary A. Weilert May 13, 1946, at Ness City. She died Feb. 15, 1975. He then married Twila Bisbee Grossardt July 19, 1977, at Great Bend. She survives. Norbert served in the U.S. Army as a medic during World War II. He was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. After the war he farmed in Ness County before becoming production foreman for Alpine Oil of Ellinwood.

Mr. Riebel was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of Great Bend, include a daughter, Carol Horton and husband Larry of Great Bend; a son, Jim Riebel and wife Dee of Lubbock, Texas; two stepdaughters, Ivonne Burmeister and husband Ferdinand of Galatia and Darlene Plymell and husband Larry of Hays; six brothers, Paul Riebel of Wichita, John Riebel of Minneola, Victor Riebel of Ness City, Wilbert Riebel of Alamota, Melvin Riebel of Preston, Mo., and Leon Riebel of Las Vegas, Nev.; four sisters, Sister Florentia Riebel of Enid, Okla., Sister Leona Riebel of Washington, D.C., Sister Barbara Riebl of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Arlene Drake of Great Bend; 12 grandchildren, Laura Brown, Carla Rodie, Kathy Schwager, Chris Burmeister, Daniel Burmeister, Kurt Burmeister, Molly Jacobsen, Sherry Kinderknecht, Courtney Britton, Kelsey Montgomery, Eric Riebel and Kate Riebel; 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one brother, George Riebel, and one sister, Sister Winifred Riebel.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at the
Great Bend Cemetery. Military honors will be conducted by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for the Claflin Ambulance Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 7, 2008

Shirley Ann Schartz 1934 - 2008

HAYS — Shirley Ann Schartz, 73, died March 7 at Hays Medical Center. She was born Aug. 21, 1934, in Hays, the daughter of Walter C. and Philomena (Fisher) Ross. On June 10, 1953, she married Gerald N. Schartz in Hays. He died July 16, 2004. She was an inspector at Travenol for many years, and was a very accomplished artist.


Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hays. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Friends may call at the church on Monday from 1 p.m. until service time. Memorials are suggested in her name to the Reed Center, in care of Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home*
20th and Pine
Hays, KS 67601
(785) 628-1009
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 9, 2008

Mary Brazda 1930 - 2008

Mary Brazda, 77, Great Bend, died March 6 at Hutchinson Hospital in Hutchinson. She was born Dec. 12, 1930, at Great Bend, the daughter of Dr. George F. and Florence E. Weber Kutina. She married Marion “Mark” Marcotte on Oct. 2, 1953, in Great Bend. He died Aug. 30, 1968. She married Morris F. Brazda on Aug. 5, 1979, in Great Bend. He died April 7, 2004. She was a registered nurse for USD 428. She was a Great Bend resident for most of her life, moving to Vinita, Okla., in 2002.

Mrs. Brazda was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, all of Great Bend, and Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Vinita.

She is survived by four sons, Dr. Alan D. Marcotte of Winfield, Dr. John A. Marcotte of Vinita, Okla., Morris Jay Brazda of Timken, and Dennis Brazda of Hays; five daughters, Christina R. Colombo of Strong City, Cynthia Barcotte Stamer of Plano, Texas, Connie K. Rehberg of Fort Collins, Colo., Sandy Hartman of Lincoln, Neb., and Debbie Cochran of Sioux City, S.D.; a goddaughter, Susan McLemore of Colby; one brother, Dr. Loren J. Kutina of Great Bend; and 17 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a sister, Carol Ann Haselhorst.
An Altar Society Rosary will be said at 4 p.m. Monday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. A vigil service with a Daughters of Isabella Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Victory in the Valley or Barton County Relay for Life in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 9, 2008

James Lee Keeley 1926 - 2008

LARNED — James Lee Keeley, 81, died March 6 at Bob Dole Veterans Administration Hospital in Wichita. He was born July 4, 1926, at Larned, the son of James E. and Leeta McConnaughhay Keeley. He was a farmer and stockman. He moved to the Kansas Soldiers Home after retiring.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, a life member of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion posts, and past commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, all of Larned; USN Construction Battalion Seebees of Second Marine Division, and a decorated veteran; and a member of the Kansas Cattleman’s Association.

Survivors include: two brothers, Thomas M., Dodge City, and John (Pat) and wife Phyllis of Kingston, Okla.; one sister, Marrilee Hester, Auburn, Calif.; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Terry and Justin.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel in Larned with the Rev. Johnny Augmon presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Beckwith Mortuary. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery, with military graveside rites provided by the Navy and National Guard. Memorials may be sent to the VFW of Larned or the Fort Dodge Soldiers Home in Dodge City, both in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
P.O. Box 477, 916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 9, 2008

Bruce L. Harders 1953 - 2008

GYPSUM — Bruce Lynn Harders, 54, of rural Gypsum, died March 6. He was born Aug. 11, 1953, in Great Bend. He married Sonya Ysolde Schwindt on Aug. 28, 1977, in Great Bend. He attended Barton County Community College and graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology. He had been a resident director for Kansas Wesleyan from 1984 to 1991 and had worked at the Job Service Center, Salina. He loved Oklahoma University football and the women’s college basketball tournaments held at the Bicentennial Center.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; his father, Marion Harders, Great Bend; a brother, Richard Harders and wife Opal, Hutchinson; a sister, Charlotte Wapelhorst and husband Paul, Great Bend; and two nieces, Jennifer Cochran and husband Kevin, Denver, Colo., and Shelly Harders; and a nephew, Ricky Harders. He was preceded in death by his mother, Dolores Stoskopf Harders.
Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina. Burial will be at the Valley View Cemetery, Roxbury, at 2 p.m. Monday. Memorials are suggested, in lieu of flowers, to the Tammy Walker Cancer Center, Salina.

For more information go to www.ryanmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Ryan Mortuary, Inc.*
137 North Eighth
Salina, KS 67401
1-800-498-7926
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 9, 2008

Russell “Russ” Shelby Campbell 1960 - 2008

NEWARK, Ohio — Russell “Russ” Shelby Campbell, 47, of Newark, Ohio, formerly of Hoisington, passed away unexpectedly on March 5 at his home. Born Sept. 22, 1960, in Hoisington, he was the son of Richard and Sue (Hawkins) Campbell. He was a 1979 graduate of Hoisington High School and a 1983 graduate of Rockhurst College. He was employed by Ohio Job and Family Services as a program consultant.

Russ attended Water’s Edge Assembly of God Church. He was a member of the Sons of the American legion, an Eagle Scout, a professional Scout, and had worked as a ranger at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M. He was an avid golfer. Above all, he was a dedicated, loving husband and father.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife of 23 years, Holly (Moran) Campbell, whom he married on May 5, 1984; a daughter, Shiree Campbell, of the home; a brother, Robert Campbell of Hoisington; a sister, Rana (Rick) Lynn of Rio Rancho, N.M.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Water’s Edge Assembly of God, 2249 Cherry Valley Road, Newark, Ohio, with Pastor Rusty Foley and Pastor Steve Osborne officiating. Burial will be at the Wilson Cemetery. Friends and family may visit from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the Vensil-Orr and Chute Funeral Home in Newark. Memorials are suggested to the Philmont Scout Ranch or Promise Keepers. Additional information and guest book are available at www.vocfh.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Vensil-Orr and Chute Funeral Home*
1850 W. Main Street
Newark, OH 43055
740-788-8808
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 9, 2008

March 11, 2008

Dorothy E. Smith 1923 - 2008

La CROSSE — Dorothy E. Smith, 84, died March 8 at Rush County Nursing Home in La Crosse. Born Sept. 8, 1923, in Ness County, she was the daughter of Edgar S. and Violet E. (Owens) Kanaga. She was a 1942 graduate of Ness City High School. She married Clarence A. Smith on Sept. 23, 1948, in Wichita. He died on Jan. 8, 1991. A lifelong resident of Ness and Rush counties, she was a secretary in the agricultural industry before her retirement. She also worked as a hospice worker.

Mrs. Smith was a member of the First Christian Church in La Crosse.

Survivors include a brother, Darrell Kanaga of Haysville, and a sister, Velma Freidenberger of Otis. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Velton Kanaga, Melvin Kanaga and Dudley Kanaga.
Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at Janousek Funeral Home Chapel in La Crosse with the Rev. Tom Ferch officiating. Burial will be at the La Crosse City Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Dorothy E. Smith Memorial Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 11, 2008

Mae Rice 1909 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mae Rice, 98, died March 9 at Lyons District Hospital, Lyons. Born May 19, 1909, in Kingman County, she was the daughter of Isaac W. and Evelyn (Pryor) Tapp. She married Donald B. Rice on Sept. 6, 1932, in Wichita. He preceded her in death in 1960. She retired from the Hoisington National Bank after 15 years as a teller.

Mrs. Rice was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Past Matron of the OES-Una Chapter No. 119, charter member of the Business and Professional Women, Heritage Club, Garden Club and Cameo Club. She was also active with Meals on Wheels, as an election judge, and with the bloodmobile. She was famous for her rhubarb pies and cross-stitched quilts.

Survivors include a daughter-in-law, Mabel Rice of Elgin, Ill.; two grandchildren, Kevin Rice and wife Rebecca of Mundelein, Ill., and Donna Waggener and husband Terry of Hilliard, Ohio; five great-grandchildren; a nephew, Marvin Lindt and wife Viola, of Kingman; and a niece, Shirley Lawson and husband Larry, of Hutchinson. She was preceded in death by a son, Larry Rice, and three sisters, Iris Lindt, Hazel Morgan and Fern Lindt.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the First United Methodist Church in Hoisington with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home, with family present from 6:30 to 8 p.m., and from 10 a.m. until service time on Thursday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the First United Methodist Church or the Clara Barton Foundation, in care of Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 11, 2008

Roland J. Bahr 1923 - 2008

OLMITZ — Roland J. Bahr, 84, died March 9 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born March 30, 1923, in Barton County, the son of Adolph and Rose “Hickey” Bahr. He married Dorothy A. Mayer on Oct. 7, 1947, at Olmitz. She died Jan. 10, 1989. He was a retired farmer and a lifetime resident of Olmitz.

He was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church and 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, both of Olmitz, and Fraternal Order of the Eagles No. 646, Great Bend.

Survivors include three sons, David Bahr of Olmitz, Jerry Bahr and wife Linda of Otis and Steve Bahr and wife Peggy of McPherson; two daughters, Barbara Deckert and husband Dwight of Wichita and Sharon Wissman and husband Robert of Albert; two sisters, Teresa Jilg and Rose Marie Frieb, both of Albert; a brother, Eugene Bahr of Olmitz; 11
grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two sons, Kenneth Bahr and Ron Bahr, and one grandson, Corey Bahr.

A Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday followed by a Knights of Columbus Rosary at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Ann Catholic Church, Olmitz, with Father Ultan Murphy officiating. Burial will be at St. Ann Cemetery, Olmitz.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral Home. Memorials may be made to St. Ann Catholic Church or the Albert Fire Department. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Marie Martha Langrehr 1914 - 2008

Marie Martha Langrehr, 93, of Great Bend, went home to be with the Lord on March 11 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born June 27, 1914, in rural Hudson, the daughter of Adolph and Anna Hepach Schade. She married Victor Langrehr on May 25, 1932, in Great Bend. She was educated through the eighth grade and was a clerk for C.O. Mammel’s Grocery Store.

Mrs. Langrehr was a member of First United Methodist Church, Great Bend, and a charter member of Dartmouth 4-H.

Survivors include two daughters, LaVerne Curry and husband Dwight of Lawrence and Susan Langrehr of Great Bend; a sister, Gertrude Willinger of Stafford; grandchildren, Kevin Curry, Myrna Schrepel, Tanya and Sandy White, Mike Langrehr, Shari and Scott Liback and Victor L. Langrehr; 10 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Victor, two sons, Mervin and Edwin, and a brother, Herbert Schade.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church, Great Bend. Interment will be at Great Bend City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. The family will greet friends and family from 6:30 to 7 p.m. A special service of remembrance will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Memorials are suggested to the church.

Edna R. Wells 1916 - 2008

HUDSON — Edna R. Wells, 91, of Hudson, died March 11 at the Stafford District Hospital, Stafford. Born March 31, 1916, at Vernon, she was the daughter of Sylvester and Jennie Lynn (Almond) Pickering. On Dec. 23, 1935, she married Chester Wells Sr. at Vernon. He died in 1998. She was a homemaker, a past cook for Hudson Schools, and owner of her own greenhouse in Hudson. A graduate of Vernon High School, she spent most of her life in Hudson.

She was a member of Trinity Community Church and Hudson Senior Citizens.
Survivors include a son, Raymond Wells, Hudson; two daughters, Frances Fensky and Mary Miller, both of Hudson; eight grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Nick Wells, a great-grandson, Michael Fensky, and nine brothers and sisters.

A private family inurnment service will take place at the Trinity Cemetery, Hudson, at a later date, with Pastor Wade Russell presiding. Memorials may be sent to the Trinity Church in care of Minnis Chapel, St. John.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel, Inc.
526 East Fourth
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-786-9440
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 12, 2008

March 13, 2008

Johanna English 1939 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Johanna English, 68, died March 7 at Kansas Heart Hospital, Wichita. Born Nov. 18, 1939, in Nurnberg, Germany, she was the daughter of Heinrich and Johanna Thuringer. She married Thomas English on Oct. 28, 1962, at St. John. He survives, of the home. She was a homemaker.

Other survivors include a daughter, Brigitte Lowe and husband Gregory of Hoisington; two brothers, Heinrich Thuringer and Ernst Thuringer, both of Nurnberg, Germany, and a sister, Traudi Streng of Nurnberg.

A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Great Bend, with Edward Forton presiding. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 13, 2008

Lawrence W. Fox 1911 - 2008

Lawrence W. Fox, 96, died March 12 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. Born July 5, 1911, in Hastings, Colo., he was the son of William John and Zelda Lillian Armstrong Fox. A resident of Great Bend since 1999, he moved from Russell, where he had lived since 1946. He married Ramona Emily Hall on Aug. 6, 1933, in Winfield. She died on Sept. 21, 1994. He was a Ford mechanic in Winfield, Dodge City, Salina, and El Dorado before beginning to work for Shields Oil Producers of Russell in 1946. He assisted with the development of the Oil Patch in Russell, supervising the building of the wooden oil rig at the Russell Oil Patch. After his retirement, he volunteered at the Russell Oil Patch and for Barton County RSVP.

Survivors include a son, Clarence “Tom” Fox and wife Paula of San Diego; a daughter, Mary Lou Warren of Great Bend; five grandchildren, Lauri J. Skinner and husband Randy of Midland, Texas, Lesli J. Gonzalez and husband Albert of Topeka, Lejay T. Warren and wife Wendy of Minneola, Marty R. Fox and wife Charilyn of Redlands, Calif., and Richard E. Fox of San Diego; 11 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; three nieces, three nephews and several cousins.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with Pastor Julie Shields officiating. Interment will be at 3:30 p.m. at the Highland Cemetery in Winfield. Friends may visit from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Trinity United Methodist Church Building Fund or the
Mike A. Hoge 1944 - 2008

Mike A. Hoge, 63, of Great Bend, died March 11 at his home. Born June 22, 1944, at Lyons, he was the son of John A. and Helen Damon Hoge. He graduated from Great Bend High School and Fort Hays State University with a B.S. degree in education and business, and attended the University of Kansas. He was an ad salesman for the Lyons Daily News and the Great Bend Tribune. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1946.

He was a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and formerly played in the Great Bend City Band.

Survivors include one sister, Marsha McConnaughy and husband Clarence of Dodge City; a nephew, Kyle P. McConnaughy and wife Kerry; two grandnephews and one grandniece; two cousins, Donald Damon and wife Kathy, and Kenneth Damon and wife Trudy, all of Great Bend; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, his grandmother, Bertha B. Blessing, and an aunt, Thelma Barton.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. Diana Coberly officiant. Interment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Great Bend. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m., and 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for the First Congregational United Church of Christ or for the Great Bend City Band may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Mildred E. “Mickie” Glynn 1924 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mildred E. “Mickie” Glynn, 83, died March 12 at her home in Hoisington. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Annebeth Louise Thorne 1922 - 2007

MESA, Ariz. — Annebeth Louise Thorne, 85, passed away on Nov. 29, 2007, in Mesa, Ariz. She was born April 13, 1922, in Barton County.

Mrs. Thorne was a member of the Mesa First Church of the Nazarene.

Marie Martha Langrehr 1914 - 2008

Marie Martha Langrehr, 93, of Great Bend, went home to be with the Lord on March 11 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born June 27, 1914, in rural Hudson, the daughter of Adolph and Anna Hepach Schade. She married Victor Langrehr on May 25, 1932, in Great Bend. She was educated through the eighth grade and was a clerk for C.O. Mammel’s Grocery Store.

Mrs. Langrehr was a member of First United Methodist Church, Great Bend, and a charter member of Dartmouth 4-H.

Survivors include a daughter, LaVerne Curry and husband Dwight of Lawrence; a daughter-in-law, Susan Langrehr of Great Bend; a sister, Gertrude Willinger of Stafford; grandchildren, Kevin Curry, Myrna Schrepel, Tanya and Sandy White, Mike Langrehr, Shari and Scott Liback and Victor L. Langrehr; 10 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Victor, two sons, Mervin and Edwin, a sister, Dorothy Ringering, and a brother, Herbert Schade.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church, Great Bend. Interment will be at Great Bend City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. The family will greet friends and family from 6:30 to 7 p.m. A special service of remembrance will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. today. Memorials are suggested to the church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 13, 2008

March 14, 2008

Bert Eugene Chaloupek

Bert Eugene Chaloupek of Great Bend died March 13. A service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Charter Funerals, 2115 Washington, Great Bend. A complete obituary will be published later.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 14, 2008

Mildred (Mickie) Glynn 1924 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Mildred (Mickie) Glynn, 83, died March 12 at her residence. Born July 20, 1924, in Hardtner, she was the daughter of Laurence and Pearl (Downtain) Thomas. She married Earl Van Doren on Feb. 20, 1948, in Oklahoma City, Okla. He preceded her in death. She married Robert (Bob) Glynn on March 14, 1964, in Hoisington. He
survives. She was a buyer for K-Mart in Atlanta, Ga., and Great Bend. She worked for J C Penney’s in Great Bend and Boise, Idaho.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, the Altar Society and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Ladies’ Auxiliary, all of Hoisington.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, include one daughter, Sherie (Van Doren) Esfeld and husband Dan, of Hoisington; one son, Hilton Glynn and his wife Marie of Hoisington; one sister, LaDonna Denney of Arizona, four wonderful grandchildren, Jason Esfeld, Vania (Esfeld) Earp, Erin (Glynn) Hemphill and Hayley Glynn and six great-grandchildren, Peyton Earp, Reagan Earp, Leah Erp, Dalton Esfeld, Logan Esfeld and Adalyn Hemphill. She was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.

A rosary service will be conducted at 6 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiant. Burial will be at St. John Cemetery, Hoisington. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. The casket will remain closed. Memorial donations may be made for the church’s Capital Fund or for South Wind Hospice. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 14, 2008

Robert “Bob” White 1930 - 2008

ROYSE CITY, Texas — Robert “Bob” White, 77, of Royse City, passed away March 12. He was born Dec. 9, 1930, in Greenwood County, Ark., to Jack and Vesta (Massingale) White. Mr. White served his country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a former superintendent for H.B. Zachry Company and owner of Robert White Trucking Company.

Mr. White was a member of First United Methodist Church, Royse City.

Survivors include his son, J.D. White and wife Rhonda of Royse City; two daughters, Cheryl McFarland of Enid, Okla., and Jody Norton and husband Steve of Meridian, Okla.; a grandson, Michael Norris and wife Melissa of Royse City; other grandchildren, Billy McFarland and wife Gina of Enid, Okla., Lydia Weiher and husband Randy of Jones, Okla., Jodi Norton of Arcadia, Okla., and Daniel Dean and wife Torrie of Caldwell, Texas; and great-grandchildren: Dylan, Brandon, Canon, Makahyla, Mason, Maximus, Shayde and Harley. He was preceded in death by his wife Marlyn and daughter Rhonda White Dean.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Interment will be in Royse City Cemetery. The family will receive friends Friday evening at the funeral home from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information please visit www.resthavenfuneral.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Rest Haven Rockwall Chapel*
2500 State Highway 66 East
Rockwall, Texas
(972) 771-8641

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 14, 2008

George Monnet McKown 1927 - 2008
George Monnet McKown, 80, died March 11 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. He was born Sept. 21, 1927. Memorial service is scheduled at 2 p.m. on March 29 at First Christian Church in Great Bend.

Services are pending with Bryant Funeral Home.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 14, 2008

March 16, 2008

Frances Octavia (McColgin) DeBerry 1916 - 2008

NORCO, Calif. — Frances Octavia (McColgin) DeBerry, 91, went to be with the Lord March 6. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. Octavia was born Sept. 6, 1916, in Rankin, Okla., the eighth child of Grant and Bessie S. McColgin.

Octavia graduated from Oklahoma A & M College (now Oklahoma State University) in 1939 and went on to teach art in Oklahoma and Texas school districts. During World War II, she helped with the war effort as an inspector in an airplane factory at Tulsa, Okla. She married Homer K. DeBerry on June 6, 1942.

Upon his return from active duty in the Pacific, Homer attended and then graduated from Oklahoma A & M College. Octavia and Homer moved to Great Bend in 1948, where they owned and operated the Great Bend Floral Company. Octavia worked beside her husband in the flower shop while raising their six children. In 1976, they moved to Tempe, Ariz., to retire and enjoy life. Octavia was seen regularly at the club pool where she enjoyed the water aerobics with her many friends. Homer passed away in 1994.

In 2003, Octavia went to Norco, Calif., to stay with her daughter Cherry and family. There she enjoyed playing with her great-grandchildren and visiting friends and family. She was a member of Living Truth Christian Fellowship of Corona.

She is survived by one brother, Dr. Franklin H. and his wife Elizabeth L. McColgin of Bridgewater, Conn.; two daughters, Francine Schartz of Las Vegas, Nev., Cherry and husband Scott Arnold of Norco, Calif.; three sons, Kirk and wife Bonnie DeBerry of Woodridge, Va., Keith and wife Margo DeBerry of Mesa, Ariz., and Grant DeBerry of Tempe, Ariz.; grandchildren, Kim Schartz of Las Vegas, Kevin and wife Pinphaka Schartz of Khao Lak, Thailand, Stephanie Simmons of Norco, Calif., Shane Simmons of Platte City, Mo., Kim and husband Steven Setlak of Chino Hills, Calif., Elizabeth DeBerry of San Francisco, Calif., Jessica and husband Mike Marrone of Herndon, Va., and Stacy and husband Martin Deal of Hanover, Pa.; great-grandchildren, Trey Garcia, Dylan Schartz, Kathlena Gagnon, Landon Orr, Jaysa Orr, Dakota Simmons, Kari Setlak and Tedy Setlak, Kym Pennewill, Martin Deal, and Joseph Marrone; a great-great-grandson, Bailey Pennewill, a brother-in-law, William Etling of Gruver, Texas, and sister-in-law Lola DeBerry of Shawnee, Okla., and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Octavia will be missed for her incredible patience and tolerance. She had a deep love and devotion to her family and her wonderful letters, full of newspaper clippings tailored to each recipient, reminded them how much she was thinking about them. She loved meeting new people, and had an easy smile and a charming, often unexpected sense-of-humor that made her a joy to talk to. Her calm manner and willingness to jump in to help made her a wonderful friend, and she kept correspondence with many of her friends that lasted a lifetime.

Octavia was preceded in death by her son Kent S. DeBerry (1962), husband Homer K. DeBerry (1994) and grandson Stephen K. DeBerry (2005).

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at Living Truth Christian Fellowship, 1114 W. Ontario Ave., Corona, Calif. Graveside services will be held May 10 at White Rose Cemetery, Reydon, Okla.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Thomas Miller Mortuary*
1118 E. Sixth St.
Laura A. Rugan 1908 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Laura A. Rugan, 100, died March 14 at Woodhaven in Ellinwood. She was born Jan. 1, 1908, on the family farm near Claflin, the daughter of Henry William and Emma Katherine Steineke Bortz. She married Emmet J. Rugan on Oct. 1, 1931, at Ellinwood. He died June 8, 1983. A farm wife, she had been an Ellinwood resident since 1963, coming from the family farm on the edge of Cheyenne Bottoms, near Claflin.

She was a member of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Ellinwood.

Survivors include two sons, Donald Rugan and wife Cindy of Claflin and Ronald Rugan and wife Sharon of Ellinwood; two daughters, Arlene Chadd of Wichita and Marilyn Sprawka of Fort Morgan, Colo.; 13 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Herbert and Elmer Bortz, and two sisters, Mrs. Alfred (Elsie) Panning and Emma Galliart.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Immanuel UCC in Ellinwood, with the Rev. Larry Young officiant. Burial will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. today at Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood. Memorial donations may be made for the church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home*
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300

Clarence Kiesling “Kay” Schaffer 1936 - 2008

DIGHTON — Clarence Kiesling “Kay” Schaffer, 71, died March 13 at St. Catherine Hospital, Garden City. He was born July 20, 1936, in Topeka, the son of Clarence Kiesling and Maude Olive Jones Schaffer. He married Marie Alice Bourgeois on Aug. 1, 1963, at Santa Cruz, Calif. She survives. He had been a resident of the rural Dighton community for the past 35 years. He was a two-way radio technician and a motorcyclist for more than 40 years.

Mr. Schaffer was a member of the Sacred Heart Church, Ness City, a charter member of the Fort Hays Harley Owners Group, Hays, a reserve police officer for several years at Topeka and in Salinas, Burlingame and Hillsborough, Calif. He was a member of the National Guard from 1963 to 1966.

Survivors, besides his wife, include one daughter, Laverna Ochs, Larned; a twin brother, Clifford Jones Schaffer, Reno, Nev.; four grandchildren, Allison, Christopher, Audrey and Aries, and one great-granddaughter, Alexis.

Parish Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Sacred Heart Church, Ness City. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the church, with Father Henry Hildebrandt presiding. Burial will be at the Buda Cemetery near Beeler. Military graveside rites will be given by the Ness City American Legion Post. Friends may call at Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Ness City, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. today; and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday; and at the church after 4 p.m. Monday. Memorials may be given to the church in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home*
207 North Pennsylvanian
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243
VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Elizabeth A. “Fan” Cobb, 79, passed away March 14 in Virginia Beach. Fan was born Nov. 5, 1928, in Excelsior Springs, Mo., the daughter of Thomas Gordon and Gertrude Masten McCleary. She graduated from the University of Kansas in 1949 and moved to Great Bend. There she married Grover Cowling Cobb on Sept. 17, 1949, and together they had eight children. Following Grover’s death in 1975, she married Albert Becker of Kansas City, Kan., in 1984. Fan was loved dearly and will be missed by her family and all who knew her. She was an avid golfer and also loved the ocean, the mountains, a good thunderstorm, reading, gardening, snowmobiling and, most of all, chocolate.

She is survived by seven children, Ty Cobb and wife Leigh of Bethesda, Md., Randy Cobb and wife Lou Ann of Olathe, Roger Cobb and wife Cindy of Overland Park, Susan Cobb and partner Kate Shea of Denver, Colo., Betsy Leonard and husband Larry of Virginia Beach, Va., Phillip Cobb of Chicago, and Julie Budreau and husband Danny of Cedar Falls, Iowa; 18 grandchildren, Chance, Chelsea, Brady and Chloe Cobb; Grover L., Gentry, Gage (and wife Missy) and Gordon Cobb; Roger Jr., Wyatt (and wife Natalie), Molly and Maggie Cobb; Caitlin, Cody and Joseph Leonard; Ethan, Kelly and Levi Budreau; Charles Jack and Alexis Cobb; and Samuel and Holly Cobb; and two sisters, Nancy Jean Lynch of Denver and Virginia Edith Bath of Excelsior Springs, Mo. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Thomas Gordon McCleary Jr., her sister Mary Gertrude Dunne, her infant daughter Jennifer Lee, and both her husbands.

A memorial service will be held at 5 p.m. Monday at Kings Grant Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach. The family will receive visitors at the church following the service. Cremation & Funeral Services of Tidewater, in Norfolk, Va., is handling other arrangements. A second memorial service in Prairie Village, Kan., will be announced later. Her cremains will then be interred next to her husband Grover and daughter Jennifer in Great Bend. Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Elizabeth A. “Fan” Cobb to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718. Fan’s family extends great appreciation and gratitude to Fan’s devoted caregivers, Margo Stevens of Virginia Beach and Gini Toyne of Kansas City, and to caregivers at First Colonial Inn and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Virginia Beach. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Local funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 16, 2008

Bert Eugene “Mean Gene” Chaloupek 1952 - 2008

Bert Eugene “Mean Gene” Chaloupek, 55, of Great Bend, went home to be with the Lord March 13 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born March 16, 1952, at Sublette, the son of Bert and Dorothy Gillum Chaloupek. Educated through the 12th grade, he was a welder. Bert loved time with his family and friends. He loved to barbecue and he was known by family and friends as “Mean Gene.”

Survivors include his spouse, Edith Chaloupek; two sons, Arlyn Eugene Chaloupek and Michael Ray Schulte, both of White Lake, Wis.; three daughters, Sheila Lynn Chaloupek of Clayton, N.M., Mandi Lynn Ledesma of Great Bend and Angela Dawn Queen of Junction City; his father, Bert Chaloupek; his mother, Dorothy Gillum; a brother, Steve Chaloupek and wife Kim of Liberal; and 13 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Jo Chaloupek, and a granddaughter, Danielle Johnston.

Funeral service was Saturday at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. Interment was at Hillcrest Cemetery, Great Bend. Memorial donations may be made to the Estate of Bert Eugene Chaloupek.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
Morris E. “Joe” Stukey 1924 - 2008

Morris E. “Joe” Stukey, 83, of Great Bend, died March 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born Aug. 10, 1924, at Hoisington, the son of Joe J. and Zora Zinn Stukey. He married Ramona Seyfert on April 18, 1948, at Hoisington. She survives. He retired in 1987 from the Great Bend Fire Department. He was a Great Bend resident since 1948, coming from Hoisington. He was a United States Navy veteran of World War II, serving in the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign as Seaman, First Class.

Mrs. Stukey was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, and of Veterans of Foreign Wars Morris-McFadden Post 3111. He was known as Santa Claus to many of the children of Barton County.

Survivors, besides his wife, of the home, include two sons, Morris L. Stukey and wife Joyce, and Larry Stukey and wife Linda, all of Great Bend; a daughter, Brenda Petersilie and husband Dale, Great Bend; a sister, Wilma “Jean” Schenk, Great Bend; seven grandchildren, Brian Stukey, Greg Stukey, Sara Hagerman, Michael Petersilie, Janet Anderreck, Chris Stukey and Amy Stukey; and 11 great-grandchildren, Dean, Jordyn, Karley, Cameron, Conner, Kyle, Lexus, Hailey, Kassey, Jadynn and Kasey. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Leonard, Olen, Mano and Wayne, and five sisters, Lova, Marguerite, Thelma, Hazel and Gladys.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Donations to memorial funds for the American Diabetes Association or for the Great Bend Fire Department Social Charity Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 16, 2008

Adrianna M. Dierolf 1918 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Adrianna M. Dierolf, 89, died March 17 at Woodhaven Care Center, Ellinwood. She was born July 7, 1918, at Ellinwood, the daughter of Carl and Oliva Dick Krueger. She married Daniel Charles Dierolf on Jan. 24, 1946, at San Antonio, Texas. He died July 15, 1994. A homemaker, she was an Ellinwood resident most of her life.

Mrs. Dierolf was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella and St. Joseph’s Choir, all of Ellinwood; a charter member of the Ellinwood Historical Society and Ellinwood Heritage Club, a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Ellinwood Chamber of Commerce and RSVP. She was Grand Marshal at the 1987 After Harvest Festival and founder of the Ellinwood Underground Tunnels. She was profiled as one of “Larry Hatteberg’s People” on Channel 10.

Survivors include cousins.

An Altar Society rosary service will be at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Ellinwood, with Father Charles Mazouch officiant. Burial
Thresa Esfeld Fisher 1914 - 2008

Thresa Esfeld Fisher, 93, died March 16 at River Bend Assisted Living in Great Bend. Born Dec. 22, 1914, in Odin, she was the daughter of Joseph and Frances Schremmer Schneweis. She graduated from Claflin High School and attended Salt City Business College in Hutchinson. She married Ray Esfeld on May 2, 1938, at Claflin. He died Aug. 5, 1971. She then married Henry Fisher on May 19, 1979, in Great Bend. He died Nov. 19, 1992. A resident of Great Bend since 1971, coming from Osborne, she was a homemaker and was active with family, ranch and farm activities.

Mrs. Fisher was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Catholic Church, the Altar Society and the Daughters of Isabella, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include a son, Terry Esfeld and wife Jerry of Great Bend; two daughters, Vicki Wood and husband Keith of Rapid City, S.D., and Virgie Rabenstein and husband Ron of Pittsburgh, Pa.; two stepdaughters, Carolyn Crowell and husband Don, Westminster, Colo., and Mary Lou Murphy and husband Roger of Great Bend; one dear sister, Sister Mary Salesia, O.P., of Great Bend; a son-in-law, Dick Schurr of Osborne; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one daughter, Valerie Schurr, and nine brothers and sisters.

Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. today and Vigil Service with Daughters of Isabella Rosary at 7 p.m., all at Bryant Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Great Bend with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. There will be a private family inurnment. Friends may visit from noon to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Holy Family Endowment or Sunflower Diversified Services in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.bryantfh.net.

Ruby I. Robison-Hoss 1912 - 2008

HUTCHINSON — Ruby I. Robison-Hoss, 95, formerly of Hutchinson, died March 14 at the Trego County Hospital in WaKeeney. She was born Oct. 11, 1912, in Tecumseh, Okla., the daughter of John A. and Ora C. Mayes Guiliams. She married Carl Robison on Dec. 24, 1932, in Clinton, Okla. He died July 11, 1963. She later married Harold Hoss on Sept. 6, 1969, in South Hutchinson. He died Dec. 8, 1993. She graduated from Tecumseh (Okla.) High School in 1930 and attended Salt City Business College for one year. She worked at the Hutchinson Clinic-PBX Office for 25 years, retiring in 1991. She previously was a postmaster in Buckeye, N.M., and worked as a sales clerk at Wiley’s Department Store in Hutchinson. She also had worked at St. Rose Hospital in Great Bend.

She was a member of the South Hutchinson United Methodist Church, Order of the Eastern Star No. 226 at Great Bend, Rebekah Lodge No. 465 in WaKeeney, ABWA, Travel Club, Civic Center, pitch and bridge clubs, Women of the Moose Hutchinson Chapter No. 1371, VFW Ladies’ Auxiliary and AARP.
Survivors include two sons, Dennis Robison of Marietta, Ohio, and Dannis Robison and his wife Joy of St. Peter; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers and three sisters.

Funeral will be at 10 a.m. today at Elliott Mortuary, Hutchinson. A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. today in the Great Bend Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to ABWA or the Loyal Order of the Moose, Lodge No. 982, in care of the mortuary. Personal condolences may be sent to www.elliottmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elliott Mortuary*
1219 North Main
Hutchinson, KS 67501
620-663-3327
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 18, 2008

Winnie Modelle Wood Baker 1913 - 2008

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Winnie Modelle Wood Baker, 94, went to be with our Lord on March 13 in San Antonio, Texas. She was born July 20, 1913, at Sulphur Rock, Ark., the daughter of George Dallas and Nancy Arvilla Wood. On Dec. 24, 1931, she married Emmett J. Baker at Charlotte, Ark. They farmed, taught school and then during World War II followed a Civil Service career to Kansas. For more than 25 years they owned and operated a dry cleaner’s in Hoisington. She also worked several years as a nurse’s aide in area hospitals. Following her husband’s death, she returned to Charlotte to be near her sister, Elsie, and in recent years lived in San Antonio, Texas, near her son.

She was a devoted member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by a son, E. Jay Baker and wife Susan; a grandson, Scott Baker and wife Rebecca; and two great-grandsons, Clayton and Austin Baker, all of San Antonio, Texas. She is also survived by a sister, Elsie Weaver of Charlotte, Ark. She was preceded in death by her husband, E. J. Baker, and seven brothers, Herschel, Earnest, Marvin, Walker, Doyle, G. W., and Haskell Junior Wood, and a sister, Noma Wood Sexton.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Charlotte, Ark., Church of Christ, officiated by Ralph Wallis and Chuck Crow. Burial will be next to her husband in Center Grove Cemetery. Pallbearers will be her nephews, Bob Weaver, Jerry Weaver, Rick Weaver, Dennis Wood, Thomas Wood and Bill Wood.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday at Roller-Crouch Funeral Home in Batesville, Ark. Memorials may be made to American Parkinson’s Disease Association — Arkansas Chapter, P.O. Box 22445, Hot Springs, AR 71903. Online guestbook: www.rollerfunrealhomes.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Roller-Crouch Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 2576
Batesville, AR 72503
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 18, 2008

Cecelia B. Komarek 1913 - 2008

Cecilia B. Komarek, 94, of Great Bend, died March 16 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born April 20, 1913, near Ellinwood, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret Wenke Oberle. She married Earl F. Komarek on Jan. 16, 1934, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church north of Ellinwood. He died April 28, 1986. A resident of Great Bend for the past five years, formerly of Ellinwood, she was a lifetime Barton County resident. She was a domestic and homemaker.

Mrs. Komarek was a member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church and Altar Society of Great Bend and a former member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Ellinwood.
Survivors include a son, Kenneth G. Komarek and wife Patricia of Hutchinson; four daughters, Kathleen Schwab and husband Duane of Ellinwood, Dolores Wich and husband John of Harshaw, Wis., Barbara Wolford of Great Bend and Carolyn Voll and husband Jim of Salina; eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by two sisters, France Stellpfugh and Marie Komarek, six brothers, Joseph, Herman, Peter, George, John and Leonard Oberle, two grandsons, David Komarek and Daniel Wich, and one great-grandson, Timmy Wich.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 3 p.m. and a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., both Wednesday at Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Ellinwood, with Father Charles Mazouch officiating. Burial will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery, Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Sts. Peter and Paul Rebuilding Fund or to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home*
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 18, 2008

Karen Sue Peak 1963 - 2008

SALINA — Karen Sue Peak, 44, Salina, died March 16. She was born May 19, 1963, in Lincoln. She worked as a network administrator for Fuller Brush Co. She is survived by her husband, Tim Peak; a son, D.J. Peak; a daughter, Ashley Sporn; her mother, Nancy Kilcoyne and a sister, Betty Eilert. She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Kilcoyne.

A graveside service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Lincoln Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Ryan Mortuary, Salina. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to Meningioma Mommas, www.meningiomamommas.org.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Ryan Mortuary, Inc.
137 N. Eighth Street
Salina, KS 67401-2686
785-825-4242
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 18, 2008

March 19, 2008

David L. Thomason

WICHITA — David L. Thomason, 52, of Wichita went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on March 16.

Survivors include his wife, Louise Thomason of Wichita; a daughter, Jenny Thomason (Donell Haggard), Wichita; and two grandchildren, Jaydrian and Emilya; a son, Daniel (Samantha) Thomason, Wichita; a daughter, Christine Thomason (Ross Jaeckel) and three stepgrandchildren, Raven, Kaylynn and Alissa; his mother, Lois Thomason, of Liberal; a brother, Harold (Debbie) Thomason of Denison, Iowa; a sister, Iris Thomason, and brother, Jim Thomason (Kody Snook), both of Liberal; an aunt, Darlene Creacy of Great Bend; a great-aunt, Pauline Thomason of Great Bend; and many, many cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Harold “Sonny” Thomason.
Service will be at 10 a.m. today at Faith Community Church, Wichita. Interment at Kechi Cemetery will follow the service. Memorials are to be made to Faith Community Church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hillside Funeral Home West*
2929 West 13th North
Wichita, KS 67203
316-682-5575

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 19, 2008

March 20, 2008

Frances Kerschen

WICHITA — Frances Kerschen, 91, a former member of the Dominican Sisters of Great Bend and special education teacher, died March 18. Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Sunday and service will be at 10 a.m. Monday, both at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Wichita. A graveside service will follow at 3:30 p.m. Monday at Great Bend Cemetery.

In addition to teaching, Frances did missionary work in Africa and served as sacristan for 10 years at St. Francis Hospital. She is survived by companion Mary “Dolly” Gabel of Wichita; brothers, Al of St. Charles, Mo., Jerry and Bill of Wichita, Joe of Littleton, Colo.; sister, Dorothy Williams of Tulsa, Okla.; numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial is established with Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita, KS 67202. Tributes may be sent to the family via www.dlwichita.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Downing & Lahey Mortuary West
6555 East Central
Wichita, KS 67206
316-682-5575

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 20, 2008

Evelyn J. Higgins 1916 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Evelyn J. Higgins, 91, died March 19 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. She was born Sept. 2, 1916, in Lamar, Colo., the daughter of Ralph M. and Martha (Schlegel) Plotner. She married Andrew Higgins on Aug. 6, 1938, at La Crosse. He preceded her in death on Oct. 14, 1978. She was formerly the postmaster at McCracken, a position from which she retired. She was a Hoisington resident since 1996, coming from McCracken.

Survivors include two sons, Robert C. Higgins and wife MaryBeth and Keith M. Higgins and wife Beverly, all of Hoisington; a daughter, Carolyn Sekavec and husband Jim of Hoisington; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marilyn Herdman, a brother, Harold R. Plotner, a sister, Luceil Plotner, and a granddaughter, Sharolyn Herdman.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Burial will be at the McCracken Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday with the family receiving friends from 6:30 to 8 p.m.; also Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., all at the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonricke.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 20, 2008
Dennis L. Hicks 1959 -2008

MANHATTAN — Dennis L. Hicks, 48, of Manhattan, died March 19 at his residence. He was born Sept. 17, 1959, in Larned, the son of Jim Peter and Agnes (Brasted) Hicks. Dennis was a former resident of Garden City prior to moving to Manhattan. Dennis worked various jobs throughout his lifetime but his biggest passion was volunteering with the Salvation Army. He was a Salvation Army captain and enjoyed ringing the bell for many years and helping in the thrift store. Dennis was also an avid sports fan, especially football, his favorite team being the Dallas Cowboys. He enjoyed Special Olympics and watching his nephews play football. He also enjoyed watching television and working on restoring the old family farmhouse on the homestead with other family members. Dennis enjoyed traveling to Oklahoma where he would visit with family in the area. He enjoyed giving gifts and held a special fondness for animals of all types. He was a friend to everyone who knew him and Dennis loved those relationships. He was described by his family as a “Gentle Giant,” his heart being even bigger than the man.

He is survived by his mother, Agnes Hicks, of Manhattan, and by two sisters, Cheryl Koelling and her husband Wayne of Great Bend and Missy Smith and her husband Paul of Linwood; and two brothers, Charles Hicks and his wife Kim of Hope and Michael Zook and his wife Sonja of Greeley, Colo. He is also survived by his maternal grandmother, Gertrude Brasted of Logan, and by numerous nieces and nephews. Dennis was preceded in death by his father, by his paternal grandparents, maternal grandfather and by a brother-in-law, Eric Martin.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel in Manhattan with Captain Rob and Lynn Buttrey officiating. Cremation is planned. The family will receive friends during a visitation from 10 a.m. until service time Monday at the funeral home. On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home Web site at www.ymlfuneralhome.com. Donations may be made to the “Dennis L. Hicks Memorial Fund.” Contributions may be left in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home*
1616 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-539-7481
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 21, 2008

Paul Thomas Bird 1951 - 2008

TOPEKA — Paul Thomas Bird, 57, passed away surrounded by family on March 18. Born Jan. 3, 1951, in Great Bend, he was the son of Roy Thomas and Louise Ilee Cummings Bird. He graduated from Great Bend High School and received a bachelor’s degree from Kansas State University in computer science. He married Connie Murphy on Feb. 18, 2000. He worked for Coffee USA for many years and most recently at Scandinavian Imports.

Paul had a great sense of humor. He loved music and most of all, his family. Paul’s family would like to thank Heart of America Hospice for all their tender care.

Survivors include his wife, Connie; mother, Louise Bird of Lenoir, N.C., formerly of Great Bend; four sisters, Sandra Gasksin of Lenoir, N.C., Rita Sampson of Pasadena, Calif., Bonnie Fairchild of Herndon, Va., and Phyllis Schindeldecker of St. Cloud, Minn.; and a brother, Jack Bird of Tokyo, Japan. Paul was a favorite uncle to numerous nieces and nephews, too many to name, all of whom loved him.

A rosary will be prayed at 5 p.m. today at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road in Topeka. Visitation will be held following the rosary until 7 p.m. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Inurnment will be held at a later date. Memorials are suggested to PLS, Primary Lateral Sclerosis, St. Jude’s Hospital, or Heart of America Hospice, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.
Edwin V. “Ed” Stejskal 1934 - 2008

TOPEKA — Paul Thomas Bird, 57, passed away surrounded by family on March 18. Born Jan. 3, 1951, in Great Bend, he was the son of Roy Thomas and Louise Ilee Cummings Bird. He graduated from Great Bend High School and received a bachelor’s degree from Kansas State University in computer science. He married Connie Murphy on Feb. 18, 2000. He worked for Coffee USA for many years and most recently at Scandinavian Imports.

Paul had a great sense of humor. He loved music and most of all, his family. Paul’s family would like to thank Heart of America Hospice for all their tender care.

Survivors include his wife, Connie; mother, Louise Bird of Lenoir, N.C., formerly of Great Bend; four sisters, Sandra Gaskins of Lenoir, N.C., Rita Sampson of Pasadena, Calif., Bonnie Fairchild of Herndon, Va., and Phyllis Schindeldecker of St. Cloud, Minn.; and a brother, Jack Bird of Tokyo, Japan. Paul was a favorite uncle to numerous nieces and nephews, too many to name, all of whom loved him.

A rosary will be prayed at 5 p.m. today at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Uris Road in Topeka. Visitation will be held following the rosary until 7 p.m. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Inurnment will be held at a later date. Memorials are suggested to PLS, Primary Lateral Sclerosis, St. Jude’s Hospital, or Heart of America Hospice, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Esther L. Koch Schreiber 1918 - 2008

ROGERS, Ark. – Esther L. Koch Schreiber, 89, of Rogers, Ark., died March 20, at the Circle of Life Hospice Home in Springdale, Ark. She was born April 6, 1918, in Hitchcock, Okla., to Catherine and John Harnett.

She moved to Rogers, from Great Bend, in 2004. She was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Rogers and Prince of Peace Parish St. Patrick’s Church in Great Bend.

She belonged to the Daughters of Isabella, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Daughters of the American Revolution, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and the American Legion Auxiliary. She was a volunteer in the EARS program and at the Rogers Public Library. She enjoyed reading and knitting caps for newborns at St. Mary’s Hospital in Rogers.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Vernon J. Koch and Raymond W. Schreiber; one son, John E. Koch; one stepson, Gary Schreiber; her parents; two brothers; and seven sisters.
She is survived by sisters, Mary Brown of Okeene, Okla., and Norma Stegman of Olathe; and children of the blended families of both beloved husbands – Richard Koch of Bella Vista, Ark., Gerald and Charlotte Koch of New Braunfels, Texas, Mike and Sue Koch of Rogers, Mary and Don Pinkerton of Rogers, Johnny and Reta Schreiber of Great Bend, Donna and Wayne Davis of Weatherford, Okla., and Dennis and Ginger Schreiber of Moreno Valley, Calif. She is also survived by 28 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at Prince of Peace Parish St. Patrick’s Church in Great Bend. Burial will be held at Hillcrest Cemetery in Great Bend. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Circle of Life Hospice, 901 Jones Road, Springdale, AR 72762. Online condolences may be made at www.mem.com

Funeral arrangements provided by
Rollins Funeral Home*
1401 Hudson Rd.
Rogers, AR 72756
479-631-6617
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 23, 2008

J. Fred Brower

CHEYENNE, Wyo. – J. Fred Brower died at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center on March 20.

Fred is survived by his wife of nearly 25 years, Barbara, who resides in Cheyenne, Wyo.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Chris and Julie Brower of Sterling, Colo., and Larry and Kelly Luckow of Seattle, Wash.; four daughters and one son-in-law, Linda and Robert Davidson of Loveland, Colo., Lisa Lindsey of Cheyenne, Beth Luckow of Cheyenne and Susan Luckow of Fairbanks, Alaska; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Brower was born on March 1, 1927, in Kansas City, Mo., where he graduated from Southeast High School in 1944. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, Mr. Brower obtained his Juris Doctor from Washburn School of Law, Topeka, in 1965.

Fred served in the U.S. Navy for two years during World War II. His professional careers included, Graybar Electric, Kansas City, Mo., and the practice of law in Great Bend and Topeka. Fred worked with Compensation and Planning, Inc., out of Great Bend, before moving to Cheyenne in 1980.

Fred was most recently employed by Wal-Mart of Cheyenne as a sales associate in sporting goods for the last 14 years.

Fred met Barbara Luckow Brower at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, where they were married on Oct. 30, 1983. Mr. Brower had been active at various parish, diocesan and national offices with the Episcopal Church. He served as Chancellor of the Diocese of Western Kansas in the 1970’s.

Fred and Barbara enjoyed many trips together. He was a renowned cook, fisherman, woodworker and master gardener.

Arrangements are being handled by Wiederspahn-Radowmsky Chapel for a viewing at the mortuary from 3 to 5 p.m. today. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 1908 Central Avenue, with Pastor Rick Veit officiating. Cremation will take place at Cheyenne Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that contributions be made to the Children’s Garden at the Botanic Garden of Cheyenne, 710 South Lions Park Drive, Cheyenne.

Personal greetings may be sent to the family at condolences@wrcfuneral.com. Please include name in the subject line.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel of the Chimes*
1900 E. 19th St.82001
George Monnet McKown, 80, of Great Bend, died March 11 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, under the compassionate care of Golden Belt Home Health and Hospice. Born Sept. 21, 1927, in Oklahoma City, Okla., he was the son of David Ross McKown and Florence (Monnet) McKown.

He married Martha Lu (Johnson) McKown on Jan. 18, 1953. She survives him and currently resides at Cherry Village Nursing Home.

George graduated from Classen High School, Oklahoma City, and with honors from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in petroleum engineering. He was inducted into the prestigious engineering honor society “Loyal Knights of Old Trusty.” He was also a member of ROTC, the exclusive Tau Beta Pi engineering fraternity and the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

George was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served during the Korean War. He graduated from the Naval Officers’ Training School in New London, Conn. His primary assignment was on the submarine USS Atule. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Lieutenant JG.

George enjoyed a long and successful career in the oil and gas industry. After serving for many years as the general manager of Garvey Drilling, he established DaMac Drilling and built it into a thriving and successful business, employing over 160 people in Kansas and Oklahoma. In addition to George’s many other accomplishments, he invented and patented the “Variable Opening Ball Jet” drilling bit for Reed Rock Bit Company, a member of the Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association, and was a former president of the International Association of Drilling Contractors.

An active member of the First Christian Church, George was also a member of the American Legion and Great Bend Chapter of Rotary International and served on the Great Bend City Council. While serving on the city council, he was instrumental in constructing the flood control project.

Positively shaping the lives of hundreds of young boys, George was extremely active in the Boy Scouts of America for many years. He was an Eagle Scout, a long-time Scoutmaster of Troop 155 in Great Bend, a member of the Kanza/Quivira Council Executive Board, a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, chairman of the Aldrich Trust Committee, and many other scouting positions.

Along with his wife, Martha Lu; survivors include four sons, David R. McKown of Maui, Hawaii, and Great Bend, Bill J. McKown of Great Bend, Charles R. McKown of Arkansas City, and James R. McKown and wife, Meg of Stillwell. Surviving siblings include, Helen McKown Vera of Tulsa, Okla., Robert McKown of Oklahoma City and Richard McKown of Seattle, Wash. Grandchildren include, Jenna L. McKown, Justin M. McKown, Joshua L. McKown, Michele C. McKown Moeder, William George McKown, J. Cole McKown, Cade J. McKown; and one great-grandchild, Skyler J. McKown. He was preceded in death by his parents and by an infant brother, Davis Ross McKown, Jr.

George donated his body to the University of Kansas Medical Center’s medical research department to specifically study the effects of Myasthenia Gravis, an incurable, debilitating and insidious disease that he battled for over 15 years.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway Ave., Great Bend, with Pastor Bill Johnson officiating. Military rites will be conducted by the U.S. Navy Honor Guard. Memorial gifts may be made to the Boy Scouts of America, payable to the “Aldrich Trust Fund Committee,” which serves the Great Bend area Boy Scouts, in care of Bryant Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Robert Dale Nitzel 1926 - 2008

Robert Dale Nitzel, 81, of Great Bend, died on March 20 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. He was born June 24, 1926, at Fairbury, Neb., the son of Henry John and Lula (Moberly) Nitzel. He graduated from Reynolds High School in Reynolds, Neb. A resident of Great Bend since 1975, he was a farmer and owned Nitzel & Son Construction.

Mr. Nitzel was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Korean Conflict. He was a member of the Nazarene Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include his wife, Doris Nitzel of Great Bend; two sons, Dave Nitzel of Crestview, Fla., and Stan Nitzel of Great Bend; two daughters, Sue Lewis of Portland, Ore., and Linda Archar of Valley Center; a sister, Isabel Lemmon of Fort Collins, Colo.; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Monday at the Nazarene Church in Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to the church in care of the funeral home.

Dolores Betterton 1924 - 2008

Dolores Betterton, 84, of Great Bend, died on March 20 at Great Bend Health & Rehab in Great Bend. She was born on Feb. 2, 1924, at Mount Cravery, Okla., the daughter of Jeremia Smith and Bula Marie Freeman Lannin. She married Floyd Betterton on Dec. 17, 1942, at Pawhuska, Okla. Mrs. Betterton graduated from Bartlesville High School in Bartlesville, Okla. A resident of Great Bend for 65 years, she was a secretary for Kansas City Oil.

Mrs. Betterton was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church in Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband of the home; a daughter-in-law Dianne Betterton of Wichita; three grandchildren, Richard Betterton, Angela Hunnicutt and Michael Betterton, all of California. She was preceded in death by a son, Floyd A. Betterton Jr.

Graveside service will be at 2 p.m., on Tuesday at the Great Bend City Cemetery in Great Bend. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Memorials are suggested to Great Bend Health & Rehab in Great Bend in care of the funeral home.
Bert Eugene “Gene” Chaloupek 1952 - 2008

Bert Eugene “Mean Gene” Chaloupek, 55, of Great Bend, went home to be with the Lord March 13 at his home. He was born March 16, 1952, at Sublette, the son of Bert and Dorothy Gillum Chaloupek. Educated through the 12th grade, he was a welder. Bert loved time with his family and friends. He loved to barbecue and he was known by family and friends as “Mean Gene.”

Survivors include his spouse, Edith Chaloupek; two sons, Arlyn Eugene Chaloupek of Stanford, Colo., and Michael Ray Schulte and his wife, Robin, of White Lake, Wis.; three daughters, Sheila Lynn Chaloupek of Clayton, N.M., Mandi Lynn Ledesma of Great Bend and Angela Dawn Queen and husband Danny of Junction City; a brother, Steve Chaloupek and wife Kim of Liberal; and 13 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Billy Jo Chaloupek, and a granddaughter, Krysta RayLyn Johnston.

Funeral service was March 15 at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. Interment was at Hillcrest Cemetery, Great Bend. Memorial donations may be made to the Estate of Bert Eugene Chaloupek.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 25, 2008

Carol Yvonne Harris 1945 - 2008

Carol Yvonne Harris, 62, of Great Bend, died March 23 at Galichia Heart Hospital, Wichita. Born April 7, 1945, at Concordia, she was the daughter of Wilbur and Earline Christiansen Demanett. Carol married Robert “Bob” Harris on Jan. 28, 1962, at Plainville. A homemaker, she had lived in Great Bend since 1969, coming from Plainville.

She was a member of the Auxiliary of VFW Post 3111, Fraternal Order of the Eagles and Trinity Lutheran Church, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; three sons, Bob Harris and wife Kayci of Great Bend, Rick Harris and wife Ginny of Leawood and Brad Harris and wife Christa of Bartlesville, Okla.; five sisters, Virginia Lynch of San Diego, Calif., Judy Sherrod of Maryland, Debbie Becker of Plainville, Diane Meyers of Ellis and Stacy Demanett of Hays; and nine grandchildren, Dane Harris, Matt Harris, Megan Harris, Rachel Harris, Kirk Harris, Alex Harris, Joshua Harris, Ethan Harris and Arik Soule. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery North. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Donations to a memorial fund for the church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 25, 2008

George W. Blakeslee Jr. 1928 - 2008

George W. Blakeslee Jr., 79, of Great Bend, died March 22 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center, Great Bend. He was born Oct. 8, 1928, at Great Bend, the son of George Blakeslee Sr. and Lena Hiss Blakeslee. On May 29, 1955,
he married Lynette Fischer at Peace Evangelical and Reformed Church (now Peace Church) at Hudson. From 1955 to 1957 he served in the U.S. Army. After that he became a farmer, stockman and oil-well pumper. He was a graduate of Great Bend High School.

He was a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Great Bend. He also served on the North Seward Township Board as well as being a community leader of the South Bend Jolly Workers 4-H Club.

Survivors include his wife, Lynette, of the home; two sons, Kent Blakeslee and wife Julie of Ellinwood and Darrel Blakeslee of Dumas, Texas; a daughter, Karen Blakeslee of Manhattan; two grandsons, Eric and Kyle Blakeslee of Ellinwood; two brothers, Charles Blakeslee of St. John and Victor Blakeslee of Stafford; and two sisters, Juanita Fischer of Stafford and Helen Boyd of Topeka.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Great Bend, with burial to follow at Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John, with the Rev. Diana Coberly presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to South Wind Hospice, Barton County 4-H, or First Congregational United Church of Christ, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Boneta M. “Bonnie” Ochs 1938 - 2008

KERRVILLE, Texas — Boneta M. “Bonnie” Ochs, went to the Lord on March 23 at Texsan Heart Hospital, San Antonio, Texas. Bonnie was born Aug. 29, 1938, in Wynot, Neb., to William Joseph and Leona Mapson McCloud. She married Harlin R. Ochs on Dec. 20, 1958, at Offutt Air Force Base, Bellevue, Neb. Bonnie attended Kansas State College, Manhattan, and Barton County Community College, Great Bend, where she received her registered nurse degree in 1983.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; two sons and their wives, Steven and Vicky Ochs of Wilber, Neb., and Jeffrey and Michele Ochs of San Antonio, Texas; and a daughter, Teresa Ochs of Little Rock, Ark.; four grandchildren, Danielle, Michael, Kyle and Hannah; a brother and his wife, Don and Dixie McCloud of Oskaloosa, Iowa; three sisters, Josie Schmucker of Hereford, Texas, Leona Stewart of Wheatland, Mo., and Peggy Stover of Upland, Calif.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one son, Gerald Allen; her parents, William and Leona (Mapson) McCloud; six brothers, William, Daniel, John, Mickey, Edward and Pat McCloud; and four sisters, Walburga Wieblhouse, Helen Draisey, Hazel Engeman and Dorothy Hans.

In her last years, Bonnie and her husband moved to Rio Robles Park, Kerrville, Texas. Bonnie enjoyed the weekly bridge games, square dancing and camping during the summer months.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Grimes Funeral Chapels. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home, officiated by Deacon Charles Domingues. Honorary pallbearers will be D.J. McCloud, Mathew McCloud, John Reisbig, Henry E. Eichman, Dale Fields, Kyle Ochs and Jerry D. Dolan. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 8115 Datapoint Drive, San Antonio, TX 78229. Condolences may be sent to www.grimesfuneralchaplens.com by selecting the “Send Condolences” link.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Grimes Funeral Chapels of Kerrville*
CHEYENNE, Wyo. – J. Fred Brower died at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center on March 20.

Fred is survived by his wife of nearly 25 years, Barbara, who resides in Cheyenne, Wyo.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Chris and Julie Brower of Sterling, Colo., and Larry and Kelly Luckow of Seattle, Wash.; four daughters and one son-in-law, Linda and Robert Davidson of Loveland, Colo., Lisa Lindsey of Cheyenne, Beth Luckow of Cheyenne and Susan Luckow of Fairbanks, Alaska; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Brower was born on March 1, 1927, in Kansas City, Mo., where he graduated from Southeast High School in 1944. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, Mr. Brower obtained his Juris Doctor from Washburn School of Law, Topeka, in 1965.

Fred served in the U.S. Navy for two years during World War II. His professional careers included, Graybar Electric, Kansas City, Mo., and the practice of law in Great Bend and Topeka. Fred worked with Compensation and Planning, Inc., out of Great Bend, before moving to Cheyenne in 1980.

Fred was most recently employed by Wal-Mart of Cheyenne as a sales associate in sporting goods for the last 14 years.

Fred met Barbara Luckow Brower at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, where they were married on Oct. 30, 1983. Mr. Brower had been active at various parish, diocesan and national offices with the Episcopal Church. He served as Chancellor of the Diocese of Western Kansas in the 1970’s.

Fred and Barbara enjoyed many trips together. He was a renowned cook, fisherman, woodworker and master gardener.

Arrangements are being handled by Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel for a viewing at the mortuary from 3 to 5 p.m. today. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 1908 Central Avenue, with Pastor Rick Veit officiating. Cremation will take place at Cheyenne Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that contributions be made to the Children’s Garden at the Botanic Garden of Cheyenne, 710 South Lions Park Drive, Cheyenne.

Personal greetings may be sent to the family at condolences@wrcfuneral.com. Please include name in the subject line.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel of the Chimes*
1900 E. 19th St.82001
Cheyenne, WY
307-632-1900
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 23, 2008

Reuben Edwin Joyson Jr. 1926 - 2008

NISKAYUNA, N.Y. — Reuben Edwin Joynton Jr. “Ed,” 81, passed away March 21 at Schuyler Ridge Nursing Home. Ed was born in Winfield, on Dec. 27, 1926, the son of Reuben and Opal Hite Joynton. He graduated from Great Bend High School and entered the Navy, where he served in aviation electronics. He received his B.S. degree from Kansas State University in 1949, his M.S. in 1950. Ed received his doctorate in physics/mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1954. Dr. Joynton began his professional career with the Research & Development Center of Continental Oil Company, Ponca City, Okla. He was concerned with applications of electromagnetism to geophysical exploration and with novel forms of seismic exploration. He joined GE at the Computer Laboratory, Palo Alto, Calif., in 1960 as a solid state physicist to work on computer applications of superconductivity. This work was continued at
the G.E. Research and Development Center when he transferred in 1963. It included thin film vacuum deposition of cryogenic materials, circuit design and testing of cryotron devices and arrays. Dr. Joynson holds numerous patents from his work and has written many company reports on cryotron and MOS fabrication.

He was a member of the American Physical Society, the Association for the Advancement of Science and Sigma Xi.

Ed married the former Catherine Wilson on Dec. 18, 1965. They lived in Alplaus for more than 30 years prior to Glen Eddy in 2001. They were founding members of the Glen Eddy Community. He was a life member of the Alplaus Fire Company and the Mohawk Soaring Club and a former member of the Albany Curling Club.

Besides his parents, Ed was predeceased by his son, Phillip Joynson.

He is lovingly survived by his wife, Catherine Joynson of Niskayuna; his children, Sarah (Fred) Callbeck and their daughter Rebecca; Marilyn (Russell) Carr and their son Peter Johnston (Kathy) and their daughter Kylie; Carol Joynson, Alan (Grace) Joynson and their daughter Andrea and David (Lana) Joynson and their daughters Katrina and Victoria.

Interment with honors will be held at a future date at the Saratoga (N.Y.) National Veterans Cemetery. There will be no calling hours. Memorial contributions may be made in Ed Joynson’s name to Grace Lutheran Church, 1930 Hillside Ave., Schenectady, NY 12309. On-line condolences may be sent to the Joynson Family at www.glenvillefuneralhome.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Glenville Funeral Home*
9 Glenridge Rd.
East Glenville, NY 12302
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 25, 2008

March 26, 2008

Vernon Fredrick Anton Bunselmeyer 1923 - 2008

Vernon Fredrick Anton Bunselmeyer, 84, of Great Bend, died March 24 at Catholic Care Center in Wichita. Born Aug. 17, 1923, at Hudson, he was the son of Fredrick and Minnie Marie Nolte Bunselmeyer. Vernon married Mildred Keller on June 14, 1946, at Great Bend. She died Feb. 25, 1999. He had been a resident of Great Bend since 1946, coming from Hudson. He had been a service supervisor for Dowell Chemical for 21 years, retiring in 1983. He had served in the U.S. Marine Corps from Nov. 4, 1943, until May 16, 1946, attaining the rank of corporal.

He was a member of the American Legion Argonne Post 180, VFW Post 3111, BPOE and the Great Bend Bowling Association, all of Great Bend.

Survivors include a daughter, Dara Hilton, and husband Steve of Valley Center; two grandsons, Brian Hilton and Brent Hilton; two granddaughters-in-law, Amanda Hilton and Lindy Hilton; and four great-grandchildren, Sadie, Addilyn, Austin and Abigail. Vernon was preceded in death by one brother, Leonard Bunselmeyer, and two sisters, Ruth Heyen and Alvena Heyen.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery, with Military Honor Rites conducted by the U.S. Marine Corps. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Thursday and 9 to 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for the American Legion Baseball Scholarship or the Great Bend Public Library Talking Books Program may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 26, 2008

Lyle E. Dodson

Lyle E. Dodson, 73, of Great Bend, died March 25. Arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, 1425 Patton Road, Great Bend.

March 27, 2008

Lucile Moller 1914 - 2007

HOISINGTON — Lucile Moller, 93, died Oct. 27, 2007, at Hope Hospice House, Bonita Springs, Fla. Born Aug. 18, 1914, at La Crosse, she was the daughter of Obed and Eula Toadvine. She married Carl Moller on Aug. 29, 1936, at Scott City. He preceded her in death on Feb. 11, 1993. She and her husband Carl opened the Hoisington Dairy Queen in 1953 and she retired from the Barton County Register of Deeds Office in Great Bend. She lived in Hoisington from 1953 to 2002, when she moved to Florida to be closer to her children.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Hoisington.

Survivors include a son, Bob Moller of Naples, Fla.; a stepson, Joe Moller and his wife Dotti, of Ardenvoir, Wash.; a daughter, Betty Reese and her husband Bill of Bonita Springs, Fla.; a sister, Vada Whitehill of Latham; four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, two sisters and a stepson, Duane Moller.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, Hoisington, with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Inurnment will follow at the Hoisington Cemetery. Memorial donations are suggested to Hope Hospice JoAnn’s House, Bonita Springs, Fla., in care of Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 27, 2008

Lyle E. Dodson 1934 - 2008

Lyle E. Dodson, 73, of Great Bend died March 25 at Via Christi St. Francis Regional Medical Center in Wichita. Born Sept. 10, 1934 in Gainsville, Mo., he was the son of Elvert and Hazel Pierce Dodson. He married Fredia Coatney on May 10, 1952 in Mountain Home, Ark. She survives, of the home. A resident of Great Bend most of his life, he owned and operated Rosencrantz-Bemis Water Well Service in Great Bend and Darling Drilling Company in Hutchinson.

Mr. Dodson was of the Christian faith, and a member of the Cheyenne Sportsman’s Club, the American Quarter Horse Association and the Kansas Water Well Association.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include; two sons, Steven and Jacque Dodson of Wichita and Greg and Teresa Dodson of Hutchinson; a daughter, Lora Alefs and husband Kenny of Great Bend; a brother, Joe Dodson of St. John; a sister, Jean Riel of Yuma, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Burial will be at Great Bend Cemetery North. Friends may visit from 1 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time Friday, all at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to the Kansas Groundwater Association Scholarship Fund
Betty Cleghorn Mohn 1916 - 2008

LAKEWOOD, Colo. — Betty Cleghorn Mohn, 91, was born April 1, 1916, in Great Bend. She died March 3 at Bear Creek Nursing Home in Morrison, Colo. Betty was a resident of Ellinwood for more than 50 years. Betty married Stanley Msohn on Oct. 26, 1935. They made their home in Ellinwood, where Stanley owned and operated the Ellinwood Bakery. Betty was a homemaker and also helped her husband in the bakery.

She was a member of Rebekahs Circle and of the Methodist Church for much of her time in Ellinwood. She also sold Avon products for many years. Betty and Stanley had two daughters.

In 1990 Betty and Stanley moved to Great Bend and a few years later they relocated to Lakewood, Colo., to be near their daughter and her husband, Sybil and Larry Wirtz.

She is survived by her daughters, Sybil Wirtz of Lakewood, and Kay La Orange of Gillette, Wyo.; and three grandchildren, Eric Wirtz of Colorado Springs, Colo., Jennifer Wirtz of Lakewood, and Mike La Orange of San Francisco. Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley.

Inurnment will be determined at a later date.

We celebrate Betty’s life. We will miss her and we grieve our loss of her presence. Nevertheless, we accept that we cannot understand all things. In the words of C. S. Lewis, “How wicked it would be, if we could, to call the dead back! She said (but) not to me, ‘I am at peace with God.’ She smiled, but not at me.” Gordon Funeral, 7819 South Windermire Circle, Littleton, CO 80120, 303-798-9316, is in charge of arrangements.

March 27, 2008

March 28, 2008

Kenneth Grobe

PUEBLO, Colo. — Kenneth Grobe, 80, passed away Feb. 24 at his home in Pueblo, Colo. Ken was preceded in death by his wife, Jean, and is survived by a son, Gregg Grobe and his wife Sarah; and two daughters, Gina Grobe-Doherty and husband, Gary, and Gail Grobe-Barker and husband Brad and their two children, Ashley and Brandon.

Contributions may be made to: Ken Grobe Community Service Fund, c/o Rotary Club of Minnequa, P.O. Box 1651, Pueblo, CO 81003.

March 29, 2008

Betty Lou Schultz Douglas Sharp 1938 - 2008

LARNED — Betty Lou Schultz Douglas Sharp, 69, of Larned, died March 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend, after complications from her second battle with cancer. She was born Aug. 22, 1938, at Larned, the daughter of Vernon Alvin Schultz and Bernita Emma Christina Bahls Schultz. Betty Lou married her high school sweetheart, Clyde Lamond Douglas, on Oct. 24, 1956, and they were lifelong residents of Larned. Their union was blessed with four
children. Betty Lou worked as a bookkeeper and secretary of both her father’s and husband’s plumbing businesses, Schultz Plumbing and Heating and Lamond’s Plumbing and Heating and Quality Plumbing and Heating. She had excelled as a homemaker and mother. Lamond also died of cancer on Oct. 18, 1988. On May 1, 2003, she married longtime Larned resident Robert C. Sharp. They spent nearly five wonderful years together.

She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Great Bend, and Sub Card Club, Larned.

Betty Lou’s interests and hobbies included family history, sewing, collecting dolls and bears, bargain shopping and fixing just about anything. She loved her children and grandchildren dearly.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Sharp; children, Debra Kay and Wayne Berglund of Springville, Utah, Randy Lamond Douglas of Springville, Cory LeAllan and Cynthia Douglas of Cedar Hills, Utah, and Kristi Kyle and Lance Dalley, Payson, Utah; a brother, Richard Vernon Schultz of Wichita; three sisters, Edith Mae Winkler, Mary Jo Gibson and Marsha K. Fox, all of Larned; 13 brilliant grandchildren, stepchildren Bob Sharp, Jr., Michael Sharp, John Sharp and Cecil Sharp, and numerous stepgrandchildren. She will be sorely missed by all.

Her funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Saturday and from noon until 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to Welcome Inn Seniors in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 28, 2008

March 30, 2008

Rose Funk Dietz 1919 - 2008

GALATIA — Rose Funk Dietz, 89, died March 28 at Brighton Gardens in Prairie Village. Born Jan. 18, 1919, in Russell County, she was the daughter of John and Katherina (Deines) Dietz. She married Rudolph Funk on Nov. 7, 1937, at Milberger. He preceded her in death Oct. 21, 1988. She later married Herman Dietz at Portland, Ore. He preceded her in death Oct. 17, 2005. A homemaker, she was a longtime rural Galatia resident, later moving to Great Bend.

She was a member of the United Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Milberger, where she served as an organist for many years.

Survivors include a son, Thomas Funk, and his wife Rosemary of Eudora; two daughters, Sharon Gruber and her husband Richard of New Orleans, La., and Karla Kelly of Shawnee Mission; a brother, Bernard Dietz of Point Richmond, Calif.; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by five brothers, Solomon, Hubert, Herbert, Arthur and Carl Dietz, two sisters, Elizabeth Haun and Clara Merkle, and a grandson, Cameron Kelly.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday at United Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Milberger, with Pastor Amy Austin, P.M.A., officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery, Galatia. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m., at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and 11:30 a.m. until service time Monday at the church. Memorials are suggested to the church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/ P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, March 30, 2008

Dwight D. Ritterhouse

Dwight D. Ritterhouse, 73, of Great Bend, died March 29. Arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, 1425 Patton Road, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 1, 2008

Dwight D. Ritterhouse, 73, of Great Bend, died March 29 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Aug. 27, 1934, in Mooreland, Okla., he was the son of Lloyd George and Gertrude Irene Bailey Ritterhouse. He married Lou Ann Mitchell on March 23, 1954, at Little River. She survives of the home. A longtime resident of Barton County, coming from Lyons, he was a lifetime oilfield worker.

Survivors also include; two sons, Robert Ritterhouse and wife Lois of Albert and Lyle Ritterhouse and wife Sandra of Ellinwood; two daughters, Wanda Prowse and husband Dan of Olmitz, and Susan Hendricks and husband Harry of Raymond; a brother, Lloyd Ritterhouse of Casper, Wyo.; four sisters, Alta Wilkerson of Wellington, Margaret Barbour of Amarillo, Texas, Verba Dunbar of Pico Rivera, Calif., and Joyce James of Ness City; 10 grandchildren, Amanda, Andrea, Kaycee, Keevan, Liz, Darren, Kaden, Trace and Devin; eight great-grandchildren, Cheyanne, Logan, Kendra, Landon, Dalton, Baylee, Zoe and Pressley; and one great great-grandchild, Sophia. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Dean Ritterhouse and Richard Ritterhouse, and two sisters, Wilda Bouquot and Vada Sullivan.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Interment will be at Bean Cemetery in Little River. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today with the family receiving friends from 7 to 8 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to service time on Wednesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Rice County Community Foundation, Cedar Park Place or Hospice House Memorial Fund, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 1, 2008
SALINA — Lorraine Sawyer Norlin, 89, died March 28 at Salina Regional Health Center. She was a resident of Eaglecrest Retirement Community in Salina. Born Aug. 26, 1918, in Kensington, she was the daughter of J.J. “Floyd” and Alice Maxwell Sawyer. She was a teacher since 1957 and a McCracken resident since 1945. Much of her life centered on her family and on the McCracken United Methodist Church and the Athenian Club, both centers of community life. She held several Athenian and church offices, including Sunday school teacher and church pianist/organist. She taught both music and home ec, expanding her music interests first by piano teaching and later through Pro-Art Music Club and Sweet Adelines. She ended her professional years teaching kindergarten, while simultaneously completing a master’s degree. On July 18, 1943, she married Avery A. Norlin, and followed him to Boeing jobs in Wichita and Denver before their return to join the family store in McCracken. He preceded her in death on April 29, 1994. They raised three surviving children, David Norlin of Salina, Karen Simmerman of Stilwell and Floyd Norlin of Great Bend. She has 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Her sister, Ruth Wolf, resides near their family home in Kensington.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at McCracken’s United Methodist Church, with inurnment at the McCracken Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to McCracken’s United Methodist Church or Laubach Literacy, in care of Fitzgerald Funeral Home in Ness City.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Inc.*
P.O Box 96
207 N. Pennsylvania
Ness City, KS 67560
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 1, 2008

Dale Fox 1928 - 2008

ST. JOHN — Dale Fox, 80, of St. John, died March 30 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Feb. 9, 1928, in rural Stafford County, he was the son of Henry Maurice and Gladys Elizabeth (Shull) Fox. A lifelong resident of St. John and a graduate of St. John High School in 1945. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Monrovia during World War II. He was employed by Standard Oil for 25 years, then started and owned Fox Petroleum in Pratt and St. John, retiring in 1995 after being in the petroleum business for 45 years.

Memberships include: Deacon of the First Baptist Church, Lions Club, past master of Masonic Lodge, VFW, IOOF Lodge, all of St. John, American Legion Post 180 of Great Bend and Elks Lodge of Pratt.

On July 16, 1947, he married Norma Jean (Smith) at Greensburg, she survives of the home.

Other survivors include a daughter, Trudy Dell Risley, St. John; grandsons, Jason Risley, Olathe, and Dr. Scott Risley, Kansas City, Mo.; great-grandchildren, Hannah and Hayden Risley, Olathe; five brothers, Robert H. and wife Bonnie, Dighton, Jack J., Ellis, Earl G. and wife Judy, Great Bend, Donald L. and wife Judy, Spokane, Wash., and James L. and wife Judy, St. John; a sister, Doris (Betty) Keeler and husband Don, Great Bend; and a stepmother, Kathleen (Batchman) Fox, St. John.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church, St. John, with Pastor Dave Campbell and Rodney Lyons officiating. Burial will be in the Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Memorials may be given to the First Baptist Church or American Lung Association, both in care of Minnis Chapel. Condolences may be given to the family at www.minnischapel.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel*
P.O. Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-549-3556
Londa Lynn Pohlman 1962 - 2008

RUSSELL — Londa Lynn Pohlman, daughter of Charles and Mary Ellen (Hurt) Thomas, was born June 22, 1962, at Great Bend. Her death occurred March 31 at Russell, after several years battling a brain tumor. Her age was 45 years, seven months and nine days.

Londa lived her early life in Great Bend, where she graduated from Great Bend High School with the class of 1980. She attended Barton County Community College through outreach night classes, and was also employed at the Great Bend Packing Plant. On May 25, 1985, she was united in marriage to Harold Lee Pohlman at Russell. To this union were born two children, Brett Adam and Heather Marie.

Prior to her marriage Londa had moved to Russell. Before and after her marriage she was employed by Drake and Crop accounting, Gilpin-Gorton wholesale grocery, Easter’s Welding, Dean’s Auto Repair and the Home State Bank. In November 1993 Harold and Londa purchased the Coast To Coast Store, which they operated jointly until Londa’s health failed and she was unable to be active in the store. She was first diagnosed with her brain tumor in September 1999. After her surgery and subsequent radiation and chemotherapy treatment she went back to work full time. In August of 2006, when symptoms of her tumor began to re-occur, she was unable to continue to work and required closer medical care and later hospitalization in August 2007.

Londa was very active in the activities of her children, was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, a bowling team member, was on a summer softball team for several years as well as on a volleyball team, participated in the Relay For Life, Post Rock Family Service, and very seldom missed one of her children’s sports activities. She was able to go to Florida with Brett with the Junior Olympics, and saw Heather go on her German class trip to Germany. She and Harold were able to make a trip to Germany while her health was still good. One special highlight in her life was when her special companion, a black Lab named J. T., became her daily walking partner and was an important part of her daily routine, even after her health began to fail.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her grandparents.

Survivors are her husband Harold, and children, Brett and Heather all of Russell; brother Rick Thomas of Great Bend, her in-laws Henry and Marge Pohlman, her special caregiver for the past several months Barb Seib, and numerous other friends who gave of their time during the past months.

Funeral services have been set for 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church, Russell. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary, Russell. The family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. that evening. Burial will be in the Russell City Cemetery. A memorial has been established with the R.C.A.C.F. Scholarship Fund. Contributions and condolences may be left with Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary of Russell. Condolences may also be left at www.pvpmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 North Maple
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-2212

Shirley C. Philippi 1924 - 2008

BUSHTON — Shirley C. Philippi, 83, died March 30 at the Hutchinson Hospital. Born Nov. 17, 1924, in Clifton, she was the daughter of Dale and Leona Colton Barleen. She graduated from Clifton High School in 1942 and attended Emporia State University. A resident of Bushton for 49 years, she was a homemaker and former schoolteacher. She married Donald J. Philippi on May 13, 1944, in Los Angeles, Calif. He survives.
Mrs. Philippi was a member of the United Methodist Church and was a former Sunday school teacher, in Bushton. She loved to spend time with her family and enjoyed traveling.

Survivors include her husband, Donald, of the home; a son, Michael J. Philippi and wife Cheryl of Manhattan; a daughter-in-law, Dianna Philippi of Manhattan; three grandchildren, Renee and husband Jim Arensberg of Overland Park, Jamie Philippi of Algonquin, Ill., and Cody Philippi of Manhattan; and a great-granddaughter, Isabella Philippi of Manhattan. She was preceded in death by a son, Darrell R. Philippi; a brother, Marvin “Barney” Barleen; and a sister, Hazel Vignery.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the United Methodist Church in Bushton with the Rev. Gene Langhofer officiating. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the IOOF Cemetery in Clifton. Friends may visit from 2 to 7 p.m. today at the Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home with family receiving friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Bushton First Responders in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home*
214 West Ave. South
P.O. Box 89
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 1, 2008

Terry Lee Oberle 1964 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Terry Lee Oberle, 43, died March 31. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 1, 2008

April 2, 2008

Terry Lee Oberle  1964 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Terry Lee Oberle, 43, died March 31 at his home in Claflin. He was born May 12, 1964, at Great Bend, the son of Herman Patrick Oberle. He was a cook. He was a resident of Claflin since 2007, moving from Pratt.

He was a former member of the Kansas Army National Guard.

Survivors include a son, Christopher Oberle, of Republic, Mo.; three stepbrothers, Jimmy Oberle, of Hoisington, Jerry Oberle, of Great Bend, and Jody Oberle, of Tampa, Fla.; two sisters, Patty Gabbard, of Claflin, and Karen Agnew, of Iowa; and his adoptive parents, Dennis and Marsha Oberle, of Cunningham. He was preceded in death by his father.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Burial will be at the Claflin Cemetery, Claflin. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Terry Oberle Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 2, 2008

Dean Boeckner  1935 - 2008
VICTORIA — Dean Boeckner, 73, died March 29 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. Born Feb. 3, 1935, at Hesston, he was the son of Daniel G. and Florence (Holdeman) Boeckner. He married Marjorie Loreg on March 15, 1958. He worked in the oil fields for many years in the Great Bend area and was a commercial electrician. He moved to Victoria in 2000.

Mr. Boeckner was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

Survivors include his former wife, Marjorie Boeckner of Hays; two sons, Dan Boeckner of Great Bend and Dean Boeckner Jr., of Hays; five daughters, Thea Boeckner, Tammie Acheson and husband David, Tanya Boeckner and Jessica Boeckner, all of Hays, and Avea Mahan of Roeland Park; three brothers, Wilber Boeckner and wife Dorothy of Moundridge, Robert Boeckner and wife Arleen of Macon, Miss., and Donald Boeckner and wife Janice of Greely, Neb.; a sister, Virginia Wenger of Moundridge; and six grandsons, Brian Mahan, Kristoffer Mahan, Joseph Boeckner, David Boeckner, Dylan Acheson and Braden Acheson. He was preceded in death by his parents; a grandson, Travis Mahan; and a brother-in-law, Norman Wenger.

Funeral service was to be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Cline Mortuary of Hays. Burial was at the Paradise Center Cemetery in rural Rooks County. Military honors were given by the Hays Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. Memorials are suggested to DSNWK Children’s Special Needs Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Cline’s Mortuary*
P.O. Box 252
Hays, KS 67601
785-735-9224
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 2, 2008

George L. Carpenter 1950 - 2008

LOWELL, Ark. — George L. Carpenter, 57, died March 31 at his home in Lowell. Born Aug. 27, 1950, at Calico Rock, Ark., he was the son of James Herbert and Mildred Sherwood Carpenter. He married Bonnie L. McCloskey on April 25, 2002, at Rogers, Ark. A resident of Lowell for the past nine years, he was formerly of Phoenix, Ariz. He was a machinist for Pratt & Whitney United Technology Co. in airline engine manufacturing.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie, of Lowell; a son, Daniel Owen Carpenter of Lawrence; a stepdaughter, Deona Romine of Coshocton, Ohio; two brothers, James Carpenter and Larry Carpenter, both of Ellinwood; two sisters, Merle Boepple of Monahans, Texas, and Mollie Staudinger of Ellinwood; and his mother, Mildred Carpenter, of Ellinwood.

A graveside service will be held at 1:30 p.m. April 25 at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood, with the Rev. Jeff Frakes officiating. Memorial donations may be made for Circle of Life Hospice, 901 Jones Road, Springdale, Ark., or to Golden Belt Home Health & Hospice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 2, 2008

Henry Brown 1922 - 2008
HOISINGTON — Henry Brown, 85, died March 21 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center, Great Bend. He was born Aug. 7, 1922, at Fort Smith, Ark., the son of Ruby Margaret Johnson. He had been a resident of Junction City and a longtime Hoisington resident. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Mr. Brown was a member of the Nazarene Church of Hoisington and of the American Legion.

Survivors include close friends, the Rev. Don Fisher of Hoisington and Mary Depperschmidt of Great Bend.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Inurnment will occur at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery in WaKeeney. There will be no visitation. Memorials are suggested to the Nazarene Church, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 3, 2008

Beverly C. Owen 1947 - 2008

BISON — Beverly C. Owen, 60, died April 1 at her home in Bison. Born May 9, 1947, in Richmond, Ind., she was the daughter of James R. and Agnes (Schuck) Combes. She married Richard D. Owen on June 23, 1973, in Conroe, Texas. She had lived in Bison seven years, moving there from Curtis, Neb. She received her GED in 2000 from Curtis (Neb.) High School. She was a certified nursing assistant at the Rush County Memorial Hospital Long Term Care in La Crosse for the past year.

Mrs. Owen was a former member of the Macksville Christian Church at Macksville.

Survivors include her husband, Richard, of Bison; two sons, Ramsey D. Owen, Hays, and George T. Owen, Bison; a daughter, Teresa C. Owen, Hoisington; four brothers, Paul Combes and Pete Combes, both of Indiana, Ron Shaw of Texas and Jerry Combes of Maryland; five sisters, Jane Combes and Peggy Baker, both of Indiana, Debra Wells and Janet Millings, both of Texas, and Dorothy Simpson of Mississippi; and 11 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sons, William J. Owen and Michael K. Owen, a grandson, Seth Contreras, and two sisters, Barbara Miller and Margie Dees.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Janousek Funeral Home Chapel at La Crosse. Interment will be at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in Stafford County. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the Rush County Memorial Hospital Long Term Care, La Crosse.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 3, 2008

April 4, 2008

Florence Gould Flanders 1916 - 2008

PHARR, Texas — Florence Gould Flanders, 91, died April 1 at Mission Regional Medical Center in Mission, Texas. Born Oct. 25, 1916, in Blue Rapids, she was the daughter of Orlando and Florence Preston Gould. Mrs. Flanders was a member of Full Gospel Tabernacle Church in Pharr, Texas.
Survivors include a son, Richard L. Flanders of Penhook, Va.; a daughter Judith A. Flanders Geil of Pharr, Texas; six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Flanders, and three sisters.

Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. today at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Great Bend.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 4, 2008

Goldie Marie Michael Slead 1933 - 2008

Goldie Marie Michael Slead, 74, died April 2 at her home in Great Bend. She was born Aug. 23, 1933. Funeral arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 4, 2008

Frances Jean Hoch 1945 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Frances Jean Hoch, 62, died April 2 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Oct. 10, 1945, in Pueblo, Colo., she was the daughter of Catarino and Mary (Arguello) Rubio. She was a certified nursing assistant and had worked for the Homestead Villa in Hoisington. She was a longtime Hoisington resident.

Mrs. Hoch was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and the VFW Auxiliary, both of Hoisington. Survivors include three sons, Robert Hoch of Ponca City, Okla., Tracy Hoch of Hoisington and Jeffrey Hoch of Great Bend; her mother, Mary Rubio, of Hoisington; six sisters, Josephine Merchant of Glasco, Irene Gallentine and Juanita Heinrich, both of Great Bend, Ramona Hoch of Russell, and Kathy Noblitt and Bernice Baker, both of Hoisington; two brothers, Martin Rubio of Hoisington and John Rubio of Lawton, Pa.; and eight grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Bill Rubio.

A special vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at the St. John Church Cemetery, Hoisington. Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until service time Saturday, at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Arthritis Foundation in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 4, 2008

April 6, 2008

Gary W. Stambaugh 1937 – 2008

LARNED — Gary W. Stambaugh, 70, died April 4 at his home in Larned. Born June 9, 1937, on the family farm south of Macksville, he was the maintenance operator for the City of Larned Power Plant. He married Lillis Wratil in Macksville on Dec. 28, 1958. She survives. He was a longtime Larned resident.

Mr. Stambaugh was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He was a huge KU fan, loved fishing, lawn work, and was known as the dandelion exterminator. He also loved woodworking, singing, storytelling, playing with his grandchildren and collecting tools. Most of all, he loved his family.

Other survivors include a son, Rod, and his wife Amy, of Broomfield, Colo.; a daughter, Kay West, and husband Robert, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; and two grandchildren, Jackson Theodore and Rachel Stambaugh. He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Doris Hightower and June Kephart.
Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Beckwith Mortuary, Larned, with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerald presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the Larned EMS, in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be sent and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
P.O. Box 477/916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 6, 2008

Martha M. Margheim 1923 – 2008

HOISINGTON — Martha M. Margheim, 85, died April 3 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center, Great Bend. She was born Feb. 28, 1923, at Otis, the daughter of John and Mary Brack. She married Rudolph Margheim on June 9, 1940, at Hutchinson. He died Feb. 14, 1988. She was a homemaker and a waitress, and a lifetime Hoisington resident. She was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church and the VFW Auxiliary, and always volunteered her help with Meals on Wheels, Food Bank and other organizations, all in Hoisington. Martha was baptized on June 10, 1923.

Survivors include a son, Doran Margheim, of Hoisington; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Ronald Margheim, two brothers, Harry Brack and Lester Brack, and two sisters, Verna Schneider and Dora Kaiser.

Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with Vicar David Rosales officiating. Burial will be at Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and from 9 a.m. to service time Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to South Wind Hospice in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 6, 2008

Goldie Marie Michael 1933 – 2008

Goldie Marie Michael, 74, of Great Bend, died April 2 at her residence. She was born at home in Brighton, Ohio, on Aug. 23, 1933, to Ernest and Elva Nelson Stumbo. She was raised in Springfield, Ohio, one of nine children, all of whom she deeply loved. She married Ralph Eugene Michael on Feb. 9, 1952, in Richmond, Ind. They raised their family in Ohio and California, working and owning a restaurant. They returned to Ohio for a few years, where she met and befriended her future son-in-law, working at Cal-Mar Industries in Washington Court House, Ohio, in 1976. After Ralph’s retirement they moved to Kansas, where she started working for Wal-Mart and was asked to move and help start their new store in San Bernardino, Calif. Ralph passed away Aug. 21, 1996, so after 44 years of marriage she moved back to Kansas and continued working for Wal-Mart until her retirement.

Living her life as a true “Stubborn Stumbo,” she fought and won many health battles the last years of her life with prayer. A strong woman her family and friends have all been amazed by. In 2002 she married James Slead.

Survivors of this strong woman are three sons, Breck Michael and wife Carmen, of London, Ohio, Dennis Michael and wife Judy of Fort Worth, Texas, and Gregory Michael and wife Brenda of Moreno Valley, Calif.; two daughters, Linda Blakeley of California City, Calif., and Tia Pack and husband Paul of Great Bend; three brothers, Roger Stumbo and
wife Christine of Springfield, Ohio, the Rev. Gary Stumbo and wife Sandy of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and the Rev. Dale Stumbo and wife Lynda of New Carlisle, Ohio; nine grandchildren, her special caretakers, granddaughter Toyia Roblyer and husband Rob, Aaron Michael, Chad Michael, Dustin Michael, Tara Marazzo, Tamara Martin, Kerry Penwell, Pamela Penwell and Greg Penwell; numerous great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; her many nieces and nephews she loved so dearly; her good friend and nosy neighbor Rita Roblyer; and her extended Pack Family she loved. Our mom had no in-laws, only family. With all dear friends she loved and liked it would take up the whole newspaper to list everyone. She was preceded in death by two daughters, Pamela Sue Michael and Sandra Gonzalez, two brothers, Forest “Bud” Stumbo and Donald Stumbo, and three sisters, Helen Bostick, Norma Staat and Mabel “Pee Wee” Gibson, whom she dearly missed and is having a family reunion with now.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Central Baptist Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. Gary Stumbo and the Rev. Dale Stumbo officiants. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery North. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today, with family present from 7 to 9 p.m., at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for the National Kidney Foundation may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 6, 2008

Bruce Merle Jantz 1927 – 2008

LARNED — Bruce Merle Jantz, 81, died April 2 at the Kansas Soldiers Home, Fort Dodge. He was born Jan. 12, 1927, in Pawnee County, the son of Adolph Lawrence and Susie Ruth Koehn Jantz. He was an operator at the Otis Helium Plant and also the cemetery sexton for the City of Larned. He was a lifetime area resident.

He was a member of the United Methodist Church, Larned, and a lifetime member of VFW Post 7271, the Paralyzed Veterans of American — Gateway Chapter of St. Louis, Mo., a member of American Legion Post 106, and the Spinal Cord Injury Unit, Wichita VA, and Jefferson Barracks of St. Louis.

On April 26, 1985, he married Wilda Joan Deighton, in Miami, Okla. She survives.

Other survivors include a son, Mark, Garden City; a daughter, Leann Simmons and husband Kevin, Larned; two stepdaughters, Pam Adams and husband Kenny, Dodge City, and Lisa Jacobs and husband Randy, Scott City; a sister, Dorothy Schurmann, Spencer, Iowa; two grandchildren, Brandon Racette, Hays, and Ty Racette and wife Sarah, Kings Mountain, N.C.; eight stepgrandchildren, Michael Racette, Red Cloud, Neb., Azure Miller and husband Aaron, of Lawrence, Jeremy Jacobs and wife Raquel, For Mill, S.C., Tara Doorman and husband Shane, Cimarron, Krista Simmons, Wichita, Brett Simmons, Whitman Air Force Base, Mo., Chad Simmons, Memphis, Tenn., and Nick Adams, Wichita; six great-grandchildren, Savannah Racette, Wichita, Conner Doorman, Cimarron, Kinley Miller, Lawrence, and Micah Jacobs, Judah Jacobs and Lillie Jacobs, all of Fort Mills, S.C. Three nieces, Carol Vrooman, Tulsa, Okla., Judy Dirks Cole, Kansas City, Kan., Suzanne Hildebrand, Norwalk, Iowa, and a nephew, David Schurmann, Chicago. He was preceded in death by a sister, Dorrace Dirks.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerrel and Chaplain Vernon Bogart presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Beckwith Mortuary, Larned. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery with military graveside rites provided by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. Memorials may be sent to the Larned EMS, Pawnee County Humane Society or the Kansas Soldiers Home, Halsey Hall II, all in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
P.O. Box 477/916 Main
April 8, 2008

Marvin H. Radenberg 1926 - 2008

MANHATTAN — Marvin H. Radenberg, 81, Manhattan, passed away April 4 at his home. He was born Dec. 27, 1926, at Claflin, the son of Paul and Rose (Miller) Radenberg. He grew up in the State Center community, near Claflin, where he attended the local schools and was a graduate of Claflin High School.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. After his military service, Mr. Radenberg moved to Manhattan to attend Kansas State University.

He was united in marriage to Edith “Edé” Suther on June 21, 1949, at Frankfort. She survives, of the home.

Mr. Radenberg worked at the Davison Carburetor and Electric Company and later the Stevenson Sign Service Company, both of Manhattan, for many years. In 1971, he opened the Radio Shack store in Manhattan and managed it until he retired in 1996 to build custom furniture and restore antiques.

He was a member of the Pearce-Keller American Legion Post No. 17 and the Kansas Quality Woodworkers Association, both of Manhattan.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Albert Radenberg.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Radenberg is survived by two sons, Paul L. Radenberg and his wife, Helen Charnock, of Marina Del Rey, Calif., and Bill Radenberg, Oklahoma City, Okla.; a daughter, Susan Radenberg Hening, and her husband, David, Yukon, Okla.; a brother, Leo Radenberg, and his wife, Pat, Great Bend; a sister, Vivian Grossardt, Claflin; six grandchildren, Kyle, Cameron and Laina Radenberg and Kylie, Travis and Nicole Hening; and six nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home, Manhattan, with the Rev. Kevin Larson officiating. Burial, with military honors, will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery, Manhattan.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Seven Dolors Catholic Church Building Fund or Manhattan Homecare and Hospice, and left in care of the funeral home. Online condolences can be sent to www.irvinparkview.com. The family will receive friends from 7 until 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home*
1317 Poyntz Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-537-2110

Bobby R. Hunt 1954 - 2008

Bobby R. Hunt, 53, of Great Bend, died April 6 at Central Kansas Medical Center. Born July 14, 1954, in Lyons, he was the son of Arther W. and Shirley R. Jones Hunt. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, he was an oilfield worker.

Mr. Hunt was a member of the First Street Church of God in Hoisington.
Survivors include his parents, of Great Bend; a brother, Larry W. Hunt of Great Bend; a sister, Catherine Reneé Hunt Strecker of Ellinwood; four nephews, six nieces and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Elmer and Essie Hunt and Ray and Margie Jones.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery North. Friends may visit from 1 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time on Wednesday, all at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the First Street Church of God in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

Jean Schenk 1930 - 2008

OLMITZ — Jean Schenk, 77, died April 6 in Denver. She was born Sept. 13, 1930. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

Madeline Asher Osborne 1927 - 2008

GROVE, Okla. — Madeline Asher Osborne, 80, died April 5 in Grove, Okla. She was born Nov. 12, 1927, to Ernest and Kathryn (Way) Asher, in Great Bend. She grew up on her parents’ farm, located approximately 14 miles from Great Bend. She attended a rural grade school, then Radium High school for two years and Great Bend High School her last two years, graduating with honors in the Class of 1945. She attended Kansas State University and graduated in 1949. While there she was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority and sang with the university choral groups.

After college, she moved to Kansas City and taught in a promising pre-school institution; thereafter she was employed by the Ford Motor Company until her first marriage in 1954. She became a homemaker and started her family.

Madeline was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband Lloyd Carlson in 1985, one son, Steve Carlson in 1992 and one brother, William Asher.

In 1986, Madeline was united in marriage to Jim L. Osborne in Phoenix, Ariz. In 1987, they moved to Grove, Okla., and retired on Grand Lake. Through the pleasant years of retirement she was very active in her church, community and social organizations such as the First United Methodist Church of Grove and the P.E.O. Sorority.

Madeline was a considerate, loving mother and wife. She always offered help and encouragement to her family, church family and neighbors.

Survivors include her husband Jim L. Osborne and his family of seven children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; also her son, James Carlson of Great Bend; one sister, Marion Hold and her husband Carl of Overland Park; one grandson, Brandon Carlson and his wife Jenny of Grove, Okla., and their three children; and one sister-in-law, Ann Asher of Great Bend.

A visitation for family and friends will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Worley-Luginbuel Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church in Grove, with the Rev. Randy Hamill officiating. Serving as casket bearers will be Ray Nixon, Leo Hickman, Don Nelson, Sid Muse, Ron Williams and Deatley Hampton. Interment will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Johnson County Memorial Gardens cemetery in Overland Park.
In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Heart Association or to the First United Methodist Church Memorial Garden Fund. Family and friends may leave online condolences by viewing the obituary at www.honoringmemories.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Worley-Luginbuel Funeral Home*
711 South Main St.
Grove, OK 74344
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

Michelle M. Theis 1972 - 2008

SPEARVILLE – Michelle M. Theis, 36, died April 5 at her home in rural Ford County after a year-long battle with cancer. She was born Feb. 9, 1972, at Beloit, the daughter of Robert Earl Lattin Jr. and Sheila Blanch Bruce Lattin. On Jan. 6, 2004, she married Nick Theis at Dodge City. He survives. She was a 1990 graduate of Ellinwood High School and received her associate’s degree from Brown Mackie College in Salina. An area resident for the past four years, moving from Topeka, she was a loan officer for the Credit Union of Dodge City.

She was a member of St. Andrew Catholic Church and Altar Society, both of Wright.

Other survivors include her children, Michael Scott Theis, Alexandra Marie Schawe and Shyanne Nicole Theis, all of the home; her mother, Sheila Pfeifer and husband Ray, Hays; her father, Robert Lattin Jr. and wife Candace, Iuka; three brothers, Ethan Lattin, Iuka, Todd Pfeifer and wife Tambra, Great Bend, and Cory Pfeifer, Oklahoma City, Okla.; two sisters, Rene Weber and husband Wes, Rolla, Mo., and Rachel Lattin, Iuka; and her grandfather, Robert Lattin, Sr., Pahrump, Nev. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Nelson and Bernice Bruce and Marjorie Lattin.

Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. today at St. Andrew Church, Wright. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the church, with Father Robert A. Schremmer presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at Burkhart-Ziegler Funeral Chapel, Dodge City. Burial will be in St. Andrew Cemetery. The family suggests memorials to the Theis Children Education Fund or the American Cancer Society’s Hope Lodge, both in care of the funeral chapel. Condolences may be sent to www.burkhart-ziegler.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Burkhart-Ziegler Funeral Chapel*
1901 N. 14th Ave.
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-225-0518
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

Lorinda Mae Ravenstein 1941 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Lorinda Mae Ravenstein passed away April 1 while visiting at her daughter’s house in Spokane, Wash., to go to heaven to be with the Lord and her infant son Donald Dean Jr., whom she had not seen in many, many years.

Lorinda was born Jan. 26, 1941, in Kingman to William and Elenora Miller. She married Don Ravenstein on June 13, 1959, at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Kingman.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her infant son. She leaves behind her husband Don, of Ellinwood; her daughter, Audrey Bramel, and husband Eric and granddaughter Rebecca Bramel of Spokane, Wash.; and a son, Keith Ravenstein, and wife Monica, and granddaughter Jericah Ravenstein, all of Great Bend. Other survivors include Rhonda Ravenstein, former wife of Keith Ravenstein, and mother to Jericah Ravenstein of Great Bend; brother, LeRoy Miller and wife Kay Miller, and their family of the Kingman area; a sister, Jolene Fairchild, and her husband Bob Fairchild and family of the Kingman area; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.
“When she was young, Lorinda lived in Willowdale and one of her favorite pastimes was to take a good storybook and
go to a small creek that ran by her house and sit by her favorite tree, listening to the singing birds and the babbling of
the water and read her book (usually love stories or at least they had happy endings). And through the years, until the
day she passed away, she read many, many books with many enjoyable hours and days which also included cookbooks
that she read from cover to cover, staying up in the long hours of the night, even though she never made most of the
recipes. However, she was an excellent cook, housekeeper, mother and wife. She spend countless hours raising her
children and for several years helped raise her granddaughter, Jericah, with never a complaint. Other hobbies and
activities included teacher’s aide at Riley Elementary School in Great Bend, and she helped at preschool. She was a
Girl Scout leader in Great Bend for nearly 15 years. She also enjoyed ceramics — in Great Bend she owned a ceramic
business at her home called “Lorinda’s Ceramic Shed.” Then in a few years when she moved to Ellinwood, she had a
ceramic shop for several years until she had to discontinue it to take care of her ailing mother. Along with her hobbies
was canning fruits and vegetables from the garden — she worked many hours a day producing a labor of love without
tiring or complaining. One other hobby she and her daughter, Audrey, worked many hours on was the genealogy of the
Ravenstein, Miller, Goetz and Hagemans’ history. Some of her activities had to end but she continued the genealogy
and her reading and watching her favorite cowboy movies on TV, which she loved to do until the time of her death.”

The preceding was a tribute to Lorinda (Kitten) from her loving husband and best friend Don who will miss her
forever. Contributions will be handled by the funeral home or may be sent to her husband for the continued education
of her two granddaughters, Jericah Ravenstein and Rebecca Bramel.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. today at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m.
on Wednesday, also at Livingston Funeral Home, with Father Jim Weldon officiating. Burial will be at the Walnut Hill
Cemetery in Kingman.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Livingston Funeral Home*
1830 N. Main
Kingman, KS 67028
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

Marie A. Miller 1916 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Marie A. Miller, 91, died April 7 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. She was born Aug. 16, 1916.
Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 8, 2008

April 10, 2008

Eldon W. “Buzz” Eagles 1919 - 2008

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — Eldon W. “Buzz” Eagles, 88, of Springfield, Mo., formerly of Hutch-inson, made a peaceful
transition from this life to the next at 11:50 p.m. April 7, in the Manor at Elfindale in Springfield. Buzz joins the love of
his life of more than 60 years, Elsie, who passed away on April 18, 2007. He was born April 13, 1919, in Nickerson.
He was united in marriage on June 28, 1947, to Elsie K. Herdt of Hoisington. They had a wonderful life together. He
was a parts manager for the Ford Tractor dealers in Great Bend and Hutchinson. He was a kind man who touched many
lives with his sense of humor and friendly nature. He will be missed by all who knew him. He had been a resident of
the Manor at Elfindale since July 2007, moving there from Hutchinson.

Buzz served in the United States Navy during World War II and was a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in
Hutchinson.

Survivors include two sons, Fred Eagles (and fianceé Faith Nelson) of Springfield, Mo., and Dale Eagles of
Hutchinson; a sister, June Lowery of Lincoln, Neb.; a daughter-in-law, Karen Eagles of Springfield; several nieces and
nephews and many friends. He was preceded in death by a brother, Duane A. Eagles.
Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Emanuel Lutheran Church in Hutchinson with Pastor Tim Carey officiating. Burial will follow at 3:30 p.m. at the Hoisington Cemetery with military honors by a U.S. Navy Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Friday at Elliott Mortuary, Hutchinson. Memorial donations for the Emanuel Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund may be made in care of the mortuary. Personal condolences may be sent to www.elliottmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elliott Mortuary*
1219 N. Main
Hutchinson, KS 67501
620-663-3327
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 10, 2008

Maria I. Zubeck

Maria I. Zubeck, 54, of Great Bend, died April 9 at her home. Services are pending with the Russell Funeral Home at Russell and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 10, 2008

April 11, 2008

Harold L. Bauer

LARNED — The family of Harold L. Bauer would like to have a memorial remembrance conducted by the family, at the Jordaan Community Room, at 502 Broadway in Larned, on Sunday, April 13, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Local arrangements by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 11, 2008

Maria Zubeck 1953 - 2008

Maria Zubeck, 54, of Great Bend, passed away April 9 at her home. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 26, in the Barton County Community College Auditorium. She was born May 10, 1953, in Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico. Later she moved with her mother to El Paso, Texas, then on to Los Angeles, Calif.

There she found the truth and was baptized as one of Jehovah’s Witnesses. In 1973, she moved to Garden City to help with the evangelizing work. There she married her husband, Jim Zubeck, on July 12, 1975. She enjoyed 32 years of happy married life. Maria and Jim attended the Bible School of Gilead in 1983-84, and then served as missionaries in Honduras for 15 years.

Survivors include her husband of the home; her mother, Delia Loya of Los Angeles, and several other relatives. There will be no visitation, as cremation has been effected. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be given to the Watch Tower Society of Jehovah’s Witnesses. Condolences may be left at www.russellfuneralhome.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Russell Funeral Home*
610 North Elm
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-4399
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 11, 2008

Audrey Jane Dunlap 1916 - 2008
Maria Zubeck, 54, of Great Bend, passed away April 9 at her home. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 26, in the Barton County Community College Auditorium. She was born May 10, 1953, in Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico. Later she moved with her mother to El Paso, Texas, then on to Los Angeles, Calif.

There she found the truth and was baptized as one of Jehovah’s Witnesses. In 1973, she moved to Garden City to help with the evangelizing work. There she married her husband, Jim Zubeck, on July 12, 1975. She enjoyed 32 years of happy married life. Maria and Jim attended the Bible School of Gilead in 1983-84, and then served as missionaries in Honduras for 15 years.

Survivors include her husband of the home; her mother, Delia Loya of Los Angeles, and several other relatives. There will be no visitation, as cremation has been effected. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be given to the Watch Tower Society of Jehovah’s Witnesses. Condolences may be left at www.russellfuneralhome.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Russell Funeral Home*
610 North Elm
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-4399
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 11, 2008

April 13, 2008

Anna Lucille Coulson 1918 – 2008

LARNED — Anna Lucille Coulson, 89, died April 10 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. She was born to George Denker and Anna Christoph Denker, on June 16, 1918, in Claflin. She married Ronald Lee Coulson on Sept. 17, 1938, in Hoisington. He died Jan. 21, 1984. Lucille was the seventh child born to George Denker, who was also a seventh child and Lucille also had seven children.

Lucille was educated in the Claflin and Hoisington Schools. She was a homemaker and retired certified medication/nurses aid with the Hammon Holiday Home and Hillhaven Corp. She and her husband operated the Larned Hotel for many years.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Sacred Heart Altar Society and a Hospice volunteer for the Pawnee County Home Health Agency. Lucille enjoyed her flower gardens, playing cards with friends, collecting antique glassware and royal blue teddy bears. Most of all she enjoyed the family get-togethers.

Survivors include daughters, Barbara Hammond and Ruth Searight, both of Larned and Virginia and husband Wayne Dean, Wichita; sons, James R. and wife, Gayle, Arkansas City, Thomas R. and wife Elaine of Larned, and George R. and wife Susan of Great Bend; 13 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one son, Michael R. Coulson, two brothers, Geroge and Joseph Denker and four sisters, Madaelena Jordan, Geneva Stein, Marie Mattingly and infant Hulda.

Vigil and Altar Society Rosary will be at 7 p.m. today at Morell Funeral Home in Larned. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. on Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Father Bernard Felix presiding. Burial will be in Larned Cemetery. Visitation will take place from noon to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Larned E.M.S. in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Harry O. “Junior” Hendricks 1924 – 2008

RAYMOND — Harry O. “Junior” Hendricks, 83, died April 10 at the Hutchinson Hospital. Born June 2, 1924, in Lyons, he was the son of Harry Oliver and Bessie Violet Proffitt Hendricks. He graduated from Raymond High School in 1942. He married Pauline Wright on Feb. 24, 1946, in Raymond. She died Dec. 19, 2006. A lifetime resident of Raymond, he was a former gas station owner, an employee of Raymond Township, a feedlot cowboy and a self-employed cowboy.

Mr. Hendricks served in the United States Army during World War II and in Korea. He was a member of the Raymond Baptist Church where he served as deacon and was a church board member and was a member of the American Legion in Sterling. He was a volunteer at Reins of Hope for 13 years and a former mayor of Raymond.

Survivors include two sons, Harry and wife Susan, and Geno and wife Koni, all of Raymond; three daughters, Darleen and husband Doug Risley and Dolores and husband David Nash, all of Sterling, and Dianna Pearson of Norman, Okla.; a sister, Shirley Rakestraw of Wichita; 16 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by seven brothers, Glen, Norville “Windy”, Kenneth “Hap”, Delbert “Dub”, James, Lester and infant brother Buddy; a sister, Reta Elliott, and a granddaughter, Stacy Miller.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the Raymond Baptist Church with the Rev. Bob Bethell and the Rev. Bill Stapleton officiating. Burial will be at the Raymond Hilltop Cemetery with full military honors from Fort Riley. Friends may visit from 3 to 7 p.m. today with family present from 5 to 7 at the Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home in Sterling. Memorials are suggested to Reins of Hope or Raymond Baptist Church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home*
203 N. 7th
Sterling, KS 67529
620-278-3531
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 13, 2008

Harold Lloyd Bauer 1926 – 2008

LARNED — Harold Lloyd Bauer, 81, died April 10 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned.

He was born Oct. 25, 1926 at Hanston, the son of George Fredrick and Orah Maude Beebe Bauer. A park superintendent for 35 years for the city of Larned, and a grounds keeper for Camp Pawnee, he was a lifetime Larned resident.

He was a member of the American Legion in Larned and Garfield, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Larned.


Other survivors include a son, James, of Larned; three daughters, Susan Ward and husband Allen, of Norton, Lynda Murphy and husband Steven and Julee Engle, all of Larned; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Alvin, and a sister, Evelyn Morton.

A memorial of remembrance conducted by the family will be held on Sunday at the Jordaan Room in Larned.

Memorials may be sent to the Welcome Inn Senior Center in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., P.O. Box 477, Larned.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
Floyd L. Anderson

Floyd L. Anderson, Jr., of Great Bend, died April 12. Services are pending with Charter Funerals, Great Bend.

Daryl Keith Hathaway 1935 – 2008

HUDSON — Daryl Keith Hathaway, 72, died April 11 at his home in Hudson. Born May 8, 1935, in a house north of St. John, he was the son of Elmer and Dora Hart Hathaway. He graduated from Hudson High School and Hutchinson Community College. On May 30, 1954, he married Connie L. Taylor. He was employed with Boeing in Wichita, Brown Engineering, USBI and Waterjet Systems as a senior design engineer in Huntsville, Ala. He also owned the Hudson Oil Company.

Mr. Hathaway was a member of the Trinity Community Church.

Survivors include his wife of the home; four daughters, Debbie Haddon and husband Mike, Pattie Fensky and husband Bret of Hudson, Candie Newton and husband Randy of Hutchinson and Susie Hathaway of Madison, Ala.; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; his mother Dora Hathaway of St. John; two brothers, Omar “Dean” Hathaway and Mervin Hathaway of Hutchinson. He was preceded in death by his father and a grandson, Michael Fensky.

Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. on Monday at the Trinity Community Church in Hudson with the Rev. Wade Russell presiding. There will be a private burial of the ashes at Trinity Cemetery in Hudson at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the Michael Fensky Memorial Fund for Playground Equipment in care of Minnis Chapel, P.O. Box 247, Stafford, KS 67578.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
125 N. Main
P.O. Box 247
Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5261
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 13, 2008

Audrey Jane Dunlap 1916 – 2008

HUTCHINSON — Audrey Jane Dunlap, 91, died April 9 at Dillon Living Center, where she had resided for six years. She was born May 8, 1916, at Peace Creek in Reno County, the daughter of Cecil and Louise Grub Clothier. She married Hugh Lewis Dunlap, her high school sweetheart, in Pratt. He died Dec. 8, 1979. She was a resident of Sylvia before moving to Hutchinson almost 65 years ago. She was a 1933 graduate of Sylvia High School and a homemaker.

She was a member of Eastwood Church of Christ.

Survivors include a son, Steve Dunlap, and wife Chris of Roseville, Calif.; two daughters, Jane Gluszek and husband Tom of Derby, and Susan Vinson and husband Gerald of Hutchinson; two daughters-in-law, Sue Conner of George West, Texas, and Sharon Dunlap of Great Bend; two brothers, Grant Clothier of Prairie Village and Gale Clothier of Searcy, Ark.; 11 grandchildren, Cindy Miller and husband Todd, Hutchinson; Cheryl Rugan and husband Robert of Great Bend; Ryan Dunlap, Great Bend; Stacy Stapleton and husband James of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Derek Dunlap and wife Jennifer of Suffolk, Va.; Jennifer and Ashley Gluszek of Wichita; Brook Gluszek of Derby; Breanna Robinson of Santa Clara, Calif.; Jill Hornbaker and husband Brandon of Wichita; and Joel Vinson of Hutchinson. Also, six great-grandchildren, Jarrod and Candace Miller, Wyatt and Olivia Rugan and Luke and Jake Dunlap. She was preceded in
death by two sons, Richard and Rodney Dunlap; two brothers, Dorcie and Jay B. Clothier; and an infant sister Lucy Louise Clothier.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Elliott Chapel, Hutchinson, with Jimie-Wray Mead officiating. Burial will be at Fairlawn Burial Park. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Elliott Mortuary. Memorial donations for Eastwood Church of Christ or Dillon Living Center may be made in care of the mortuary. Personal condolences may be sent to www.elliottmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elliott Mortuary#*
1219 North Main
Hutchinson, KS 67501
620-663-3327
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 11, 2008

Lloyd F. “Franklin” Judd 1926 – 2008

LINCOLN — Lloyd F. “Franklin” Judd, 81, of Lincoln, died April 2 at Hilltop Lodge in Beloit. Born Sept. 29, 1926, in Beverly, he was the son of Lloyd Judd and Renna Flora Musselman. He married May Louise Howard. He was a postal employee and self-employed plumber and electrician.

Mr. Judd served in the United States Navy and served in World War II. He was a member of the Lincoln County Jaycees, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Prairie Winnie Winnebago. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, boating, camping and dancing.

Survivors include three daughters, Linda Bray of Great Bend, Connie Liggett of Lincoln and Kelli DiMartino of Oakland Park, Fla.; a sister, Lottie Gregg of Spring Hill; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, a son-in-law, Steve Bray, two brothers, Clarence Gallop and Arthur Judd, and a sister, Geneva Percival.

Graveside service was April 7 at the Lincoln Cemetery with full military honors. Memorials are suggested to the Lincoln County Ambulance-AED in care of Lincoln County Clerk, 216 E. Lincoln, KS 67455. Please send your condolences to hallfuneralhome@yahoo.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hall Funeral Home*
111 East Elm Street
Lincoln, KS 67455-2003
785-524-4546
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 13, 2008

Elizabeth Anne “Fan” Cobb 1928 – 2008

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Private family graveside services for Elizabeth Anne “Fan” Cobb, 79, who died March 14 in Virginia Beach, will be at 1 p.m. on, April 19, at Great Bend Cemetery.

A reception for family and friends will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Highland Hotel, poolside, in Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 13, 2008

April 15, 2008

Floyd Lewis Anderson Jr. 1923 - 2008

Floyd Lewis Anderson Jr., 84, of Great Bend died April 12 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 13, 2008
He was born May 19, 1923, in Concordia, the son of Floyd Lewis and Mary (Burch) Anderson.

He was retired from Dowell. He was a member of Masons of Great Bend Lodge No. 15 for 49 years, Order of Eastern Star No. 134 and the First United Methodist Church of Great Bend. He was a veteran of World War II.

He married Darlene Stalder on July 21, 1942. She survives, of the home.

Other survivors include a son, Floyd Lewis Anderson III and his wife, Joy, of Powder Springs, Ga.; three daughters, Karen Felzen and her husband, Paul, of Topeka, Judy Anderson of the home and Sheryl Burhenn and her husband, Russell, of Topeka; four brothers, James Anderson and his wife, Norma, of Russell, Roy Anderson and wife Kay and Elton Anderson and wife Rosie, all of Concordia, and Robert Anderson and wife Bobbie of Blooming Grove, Texas; two sisters, Frances Hall and her husband, Bill, of Wichita, and Virginia Moss and husband Jack of Glasco; six grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren, six great-grandchildren and four stepgreat-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Charles Richard Anderson, and three sisters, Barbara Jean Anderson, Florence Bascart and Dorothy Betzner; and a granddaughter, Jessica Burhenn.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Charter Funerals Chapel, Great Bend, with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery in Barton County. Memorials may be made to the Sunflower Early Education Center in care of Charter Funerals. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Charter Funerals.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 15, 2008

Bernard L. “Bennie” Jacobs 1928 - 2008

HAYS — Bernard L. “Bennie” Jacobs, 79, of Hays, died April 11 at the Wichita Nursing Center. Born May 28, 1928, in Russell County, he was the son of John and Rosa (Mermis) Jacobs. He was a farmer.

Mr. Jacobs attended St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hays. He was a member of the Gorham Knights of Columbus.

Survivors include his brother, Louis Jacobs of Gorham; two sisters, Mary Schmeidler of Hays and his twin sister, Bernardine Leiker of Great Bend; and 17 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Alfred, Edwin and Marvin Jacobs.

Funeral service was at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hays. Graveside services and interment was at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the St. Mary’s Cemetery in Gorham. A Gorham Knights of Columbus rosary was held at 6 p.m. and a Parish Vigil service at 6:30 p.m., on Sunday, all at the Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home. A memorial has been established with the Capuchin Province of Mid America or for masses in his name and memory.

Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home*
20th and Pine
Hays, KS 67601
785-628-1009
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 15, 2008

Kenneth R. “Crazy Horse” Ford 1952 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Kenneth R. “Crazy Horse” Ford, 55, of Hoisington, died April 13, in Hoisington. Born July 22, 1952, in Ellsworth, he was the son of Kenneth L. and Wanda J. Beams Ford. A longtime Hoisington-area resident, living previously in Wichita, he worked in the oilfield industry at various positions.
Mr. Ford was a member of the Living Joy Christian Fellowship Church in Hoisington.

Survivors include his father, Kenneth Ford of Hoisington; two sons, Justin Ford of Wichita and Corey Rae of Missouri; three daughters, Shannon Stephens and husband Tigie of Hoisington, Angela Rae of Missouri and Alesha Rae of Colorado; two sisters, Jacquette Ford of Hoisington and Melissa Tittel and husband Richard of Ellinwood; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother, Wanda Ford; a brother, Steven L. Ford; and a sister, Joyce Marie Ford.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington with Pastor Dale Curtis officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Friends may visit from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Kenneth R. Ford Memorial Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Jannette I. Kistler

LINCOLN — Jannette I. Kistler, 61, died April 13 at Mid America Health Care in Lincoln. Service arrangements are pending with Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood, and will be announced.

Mark Edward Sassman

Mark Edward Sassman, 51, died April 12 at his home in Great Bend. Born Jan. 17, 1957, in Marshall, Mo., he was the son of Arthur and Elizabeth Joyce Kimbrell Sassman.

Survivors include his father, Arthur Sassman; his mother, Joyce Sassman; a brother, Steven, and wife Mary Sassman of Smith Center; and a nephew, Brian Sassman, of Brooklyn, N.Y.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association.

Gene Gastineau

LIBERTY, Mo. — Ronald Gene Gastineau, 64, of Liberty, Mo., passed away on April 13 at Liberty Hospital. He was born May 7, 1943, in Taloga, Okla. He worked for Central Power Systems and Services (formerly Central Detroit Diesel Allison) for 38 years.

He leaves, Oleta Weigle; four children, Staci Weigle and Mark, Ron Gastineau and Denise, Dusty Gastineau and Shawn and Cindy Ogden; 11 grandchildren, Heather, Elizabeth, Courtney, Shannon, Kristi, Jacob, Hannah, Tyler,
Tanner, Carson and Cheyenne; two brothers, Beryl Gastineau and John Gastineau and Carol; a sister, Anna Faye Hensley and Leroy; an aunt, Margaret Smith; numerous nieces and nephews, and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Lois Wright.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. today at the Park Lawn Northland Chapel, I-35 at M-291 Highway in Liberty. Friends may visit from 12:30 p.m. until service time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the American Lung Association. Online condolences may be sent to www.parklawnfunerals.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Park Lawn Funeral Home*
8251 Hillcrest Road
Kansas City, MO 64138
816-781-8228
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 15, 2008

April 16, 2008

Curtis E. Landrum Sr. 1960 - 2008

McPHERSON — Curtis E. Landrum Sr., 47, died April 12 in McPherson. Born Nov. 16, 1960, in McPherson, he was the son of Leonard R. and Juanita (Bruner) Landrum of McPherson. He attended McPherson public schools and graduated from McPherson High School in 1978.

Mr. Landrum attended Morningstar Missionary Baptist Church in McPherson.

Survivors include his parents; two sons, Christopher M. Landrum of Great Bend and Curtis E. Landrum Jr. of McPherson; three daughters, Alicia R. Landrum of Great Bend, Bianca M. Butler of Tulsa, Okla., and MacKenzie Higgins of McPherson; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Sandra K. Fisher.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Glidden-Ediger Chapel in McPherson with Pastor James A. Hollis officiating. Interment will be at the McPherson Cemetery. Friends may visit from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday with the family present from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Morningstar Missionary Baptist Church in McPherson in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Glidden-Ediger Funeral Home
222 West Euclid St.
McPherson, KS 67460-4207
620-241-2550
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 16, 2008

Jannette (Boepple) Kistler

ELLINWOOD — Jannette (Boepple) Kistler, 61, went home to be with her Lord on April 13. She went peacefully while in wonderful care at Mid America Health Care facility in Lincoln. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She graduated from Ellinwood High School in 1965, Brown-Mackie Business School in 1966 and KU Nursing School in 1968. She was employed by Salina Regional Medical Center until her retirement in 1999.

Ms. Kistler was a member of Grace Community Church in Great Bend and always enjoyed working in the nursery.

Survivors include two daughters, Edith Kistler and Amber McCall and husband James, all of Salina; three grandchildren, Tatiana and Giovanni McCall and Malik Kistler; four brothers, Harold and Gwyn Boepple of Ellinwood, Gerald and Merle Boepple of Monahans, Texas, Fred and Velma Boepple of Weatherford, Okla., and Dennis and Virginia Boepple of Salina; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ed and Dorothy (Roelse) Boepple.
Services to celebrate her life will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Kimple Funeral Chapel in Ellinwood. Interment will be at Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Friends may visit from 3 to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to service time Thursday, all at the funeral home. The family will be available from 6 to 7 p.m. this evening to receive condolences. A memorial has been established for the Mid America Health Care Facility in Lincoln.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home*
118 N. Main
P.O. Box 246
Ellinwood, KS 67526
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 16, 2008

Rita E. Mater 1921 - 2008

OLMITZ — Rita E. Mater, 86, died April 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born May 4, 1921. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 16, 2008

Keith W. Rickert 1934 - 2008

McPHERSON — Keith W. Rickert, 73, passed away April 13 at Memorial Hospital in McPherson. Born June 28, 1934, in Ellinwood, he was the son of John Francis and Elizabeth Klepper Rickert. Keith attended grade school and graduated from Ellinwood High School in 1951. He entered the insurance business and owned and operated the Keith Rickert Insurance Company in Ellinwood. He then worked for Blakely Crop Hail Company in Topeka until his retirement. He had worked part-time since his retirement for Great American Crop Insurance Company in Lawrence. He married Dayle Hunt on Sept. 9, 1957, in Midland, Texas. She survives.

Mr. Rickert was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in McPherson and the Knights of Columbus.

Other survivors include; a daughter, Vicki Schuckman and husband Herb of Modesto, Calif.; a sister, Jeanine Gowdy; a brother, Larry Rickert and wife Lorraine of Ellinwood; a brother-in-law, Jim Hunt and wife Darlene of Great Bend; five grandchildren, Connie Goering and husband Duane of McPherson, Stacy Umbdenstock, Trenton Schuckman and wife Brianna of Modesto, Calif., and Trisha Schuckman and fiance, Jeremy of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a stepson Tom Hunt.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. today at St. Joseph Catholic Church in McPherson with Father Paul Oborny and Father Doug Cambell officiating. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. today at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church in care of Glidden-Ediger Funeral Home, 222 West Euclid St. in McPherson.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 16, 2008

Rose Joan Rhoades 1944 - 2008

DODGE CITY — Rose Joan Rhoades, 64, died April 15 at her son’s residence in Haysville, after a long illness. She was born March 21, 1944, in Great Bend, the only child of Reinhard Theodor Weiss and Elsie Louise Panning Weiss. She married Ronald Gary Rhoades on Aug. 7, 1960, in Ellinwood. He died Sept. 3, 1998. Mrs. Rhoades was a resident of Dodge City and formerly of Ellinwood. Mrs. Rhoades was a graduate of Ellinwood High School. She and her husband were proprietors of Classic Lanes in Ellinwood before her becoming a youth care worker for Youthville in Dodge City.

Mrs. Rhoades was a member of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Ellinwood.
Mrs. Rhoades is survived by her two sons, Scott Rhoades and his wife Kayla of Arlington, Texas, and Mike Rhoades of Haysville; and five grandchildren, Lacy and Keely Rhoades of Arlington, Texas, Andrew Rhoades of Pratt and Alyssa and Austin Rhoades of Haysville. Mrs. Rhoades was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Ellinwood with the Rev. Jeff Prakes officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery in Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Memorials are suggested to Youthville and Heartland Hospice in care of Kimple Mortuary.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home*
113 N. Main/P.O. Box 246
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 16, 2008

April 17, 2008

Rita E. Mater 1921 - 2008

Rita E. Mater, 86, died April 15 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. Born May 4, 1921, in Delphos, Ohio, she was the daughter of August Fuerst and Theresa (Sefferneck) Fuerst. She married Fred J. Mater on Sept. 12, 1942, in Delphos, Ohio. He died on Nov. 21, 1997. A resident of Great Bend since 1998, moving from a farm in Olmitz, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Mater was a member of the Catholic Community of Great Bend, and the St. Rose of Lima Altar Society. She was a former member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Olmitz and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary of Hoisington.

Survivors include three sons, Ken Mater of Great Bend, and Gary Mater and Daniel Mater, both of Olmitz; a stepbrother, Urban Fuerst of Delphos, Ohio; two sisters, Augusta VanAutreve and Ella Lehmkuhl, both of Delphos; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, David Mater; a brother, Frederick Fuerst; a sister, Veronica Rode; and a stepsister, Alvina Rode.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Ann Catholic Church in Olmitz with Father Ultan Murphy officiating. Burial will be at the St. Ann Cemetery in Olmitz. Wake service will be at 7 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home in Hoisington. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to ALS-Keith Worthington Chapter or St. Ann Cemetery, both in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 17, 2008

Dorothy M. Morrison 1912 - 2008

Dorothy M. Morrison, 96, of Great Bend, died April 16 in Great Bend. She was born March 11, 1912. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 17, 2008

April 18, 2008
Charlotte C. (Young) Deschner 1930 - 2008

NATOMA — Charlotte C. (Young) Deschner, 77, of Natoma, died on April 15 at her home. Charlotte was born Oct. 11, 1930, in Stafford, the daughter of William and Grace (Jordan) Young. She graduated from Stafford High School in 1948 and then from nursing school in Enid, Okla., in 1952. She worked at hospitals in Stafford, Wichita and Plainville. She was united in marriage to Merlin L. Meyers on March 20, 1960, in Woodston. Merlin preceded her in death on April 29, 1969. Later she was united in marriage to Delbert D. Deschner on Nov. 27, 1970, in Natoma. Charlotte enjoyed being a homemaker and no one ever escaped her kitchen hungry, but her true passion was witnessing for the Lord through her kindness and generosity.

She is survived by her husband Delbert of the home; a son, Michael L. Meyers of Topeka; stepchildren Michael Deschner and wife Coleen of Scott City, Bruce Deschner of Topeka, Kim Davis and husband Roger of Manhattan, Brad Deschner and wife Karry of Great Bend and Lori Wangsgard and husband Brad of Wichita; 10 grandchildren Brandon, Krystal, Becky, Zach, Matthew and wife Candra, Joshua and fiancé Tiffany, Barbie, Mitchell, Katie and Olivia, and one great-grandson, Tyler; two sisters, Katie Corwin of Plainville and Margorie Martin of Orlando, Fla., and many nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Joseph and John Young, a sister, Dorothy Brixey, and a grandson, Justin Deschner.

A Celebration of Charlotte’s life will be held at 1:30 p.m. today at Peace Lutheran Church of Natoma. Burial will follow at the Natoma Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Mike Ulrich Mission Trip or American Red Cross, or the charity or organization of the donor’s choice and may be sent to the mortuary’s Russell address. Condolences may be sent via email to www.pvpmortuary.com. Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary of Natoma is in charge of these arrangements.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 N. Maple
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-2212
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 18, 2008

April 20, 2008

Nina Maxine Dimitt 1935 – 2008

CHASE — Nina Maxine Dimitt, 72, died April 17 at her daughter’s residence in Chase due to a long illness. She was born Aug. 20, 1935, in Atlanta, Kan., to Edwin and Lenora Petty Samms. She married Donald Gene Dimitt Sr., on Sept. 8, 1951, in Scott City.

Survivors include three daughters, TJ Tatro and husband Bill, and Bonnie Babcock, all of Chase, and Donna Denio, Turon; three sons, Bob and Bruce, Chase, and Donald Jr., Preston; 23 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Nina was preceded in death by her husband, a son, Steve, a daughter, Vicki, and five grandsons.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, at Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Ness City. Burial will be in the Utica Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. until service time Tuesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials may be given to the Nina Dimitt Funeral Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Inc.
P.O. Box 96
207 N. Pennsylvania
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 20, 2008
Dorothy M. Morrison 1912 – 2008

Dorothy Mae Moses Morrison, 96, of Great Bend, died April 15 in Great Bend. She was born March 11, 1912, to Earl C. and Mae Moses, a member of the fourth generation of this pioneer family. She attended the Great Bend schools, graduating from Great Bend High School May 21, 1930. Dorothy was an enthusiastic participant in many school activities, including the Glee Club, Pepperettes, the Junior and Senior play, and the operetta, “Up in the Air,” which, according to the 1930 Rhorea was the biggest event of the school year. She was also a member of the Girl Reserve, whose motto was “to find and give the best.” That was to define Dorothy’s life. Her post-high school education included training for a music career received at a conservatory in the eastern United States.

In 1934, Mrs. Morrison was the first initiate in Great Bend into the DU Chapter of PEO, a cherished memory of Dorothy’s, her membership lasting until her death. She was also a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ and an active participant in the Daughters of the American Revolution, a member of the Athenian Club, Parnassus, and the American Legion Auxiliary. Dorothy was an intense patriot with loyalty to Great Bend, and always a strong believer and supporter of traditional American values.

On Aug. 24, 1932, she married Wayne Lewis Morrison. He died May 2, 1968. Two children were born to Wayne and Dorothy: Sally (Mrs. Dale Scheideman) and Clayton Moses, III. Both predeceased Dorothy.


Mrs. Morrison was honored by Barton County Community College in 2003 with the College Distinguished Service Award. In stating its strong appreciation, gratitude was expressed especially for her endowment and gift to BCCC of the Dorothy Moses Morrison Chapel.

Mrs. Morrison always credited her attitude and philosophy to the late 19th and 20th centuries: Faith in God; exemplifying high moral purposes; strong patriots; living a strong work ethic, and believing in and seeking the best education. She was able to visit and admire the finished Dorothy Moses Morrison Chapel prior to its dedication. She was obviously deeply moved and pleased as she looked at the various beautiful windows. She identified several who had donated the windows to the church so many years ago.

Funeral services for Mrs. Morrison will be at 10 a.m. Monday in the Dorothy Moses Morrison Chapel at Barton County Community College, Great Bend, with the Rev. Diana Coberly officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 7 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First Congregational United Church of Christ or to the Golden Belt Humane Society, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 20, 2008

Mary Lee Fellhoelter 1936 – 2008

Mary Lee Fellhoelter, 72, of Great Bend, died April 18 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. Born Feb. 25, 1936, in Thayer, Mo., she was the daughter of Charles and Pauline Swayne Jobe. She married Lawrence A. Fellhoelter on June 30, 1955, at Hays. She was a certified medical aide, and was a resident of Great Bend for 1 1/2 years, moving from Hays. She had also lived in Goddard and Ness City.

Mrs. Fellhoelter was a member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Great Bend, and the Sacred Heart Altar Society in Ness City. She was also an avid volunteer with the Foster Grandparent Program in Hays.
Survivors include her husband, Larry (Lawrence) of the home; a son, Chuck Fellhoelter and wife Belinda of Great Bend; two sisters, Billie Swim of Dodge City and Charline Anderson of South Port, Ind.; two grandchildren, and other survivors, Andy Fellhoelter and family and Pat Fellhoelter and family.

A rosary service will be at 7 p.m. today at Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Ness City. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Ness City, with Father Henry Hildebrandt presiding. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Ness City. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lung Cancer Research Foundation and the Foster Grandparent Program at Hays.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home*
207 North Pennsylvania
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 20, 2008

Eleanor Ille 1924 - 2008

ODIN — Eleanor Ille, 83, died April 20 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. She was born June 27, 1924, at Odin, the daughter of Joseph V. and Frances M. (Tinkel) Jenisch. She married Leonard Ille on Nov. 16, 1948, at Odin. He preceded her in death on Dec. 12, 1997. She was a homemaker and a lifetime Odin resident.

Mrs. Ille was a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church and St. Ann’s Altar Society, Odin.

Survivors include a son, Loren Ille of Great Bend; two daughters, Doris Ille of Salina and Diane Dolechek and husband Bob of Wichita; three sisters, Anna Boor of Odin, Hilda Ille of Great Bend and Mary Wondra of Claflin; and eight grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four brothers, Albert, Joe, Arthur and Frank Jenisch; three sisters, Gertrude Gerritzen, Olivia Debes and Frances Zorn; and a grandchild, Frances “Frankie” Ille.

A vigil service followed by an Altar Society rosary will be at 6:30 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Family Catholic Church, Odin, with Father Dwight Bircket and Father Pascal Klein officiating. Burial will be at Holy Family Cemetery, Odin. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today. Memorials are suggested to Father Don Debes Missionary Work, Papua, New Guinea, or to the Heartland Cancer Center. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 22, 2008

Deborah Kay Reif 1949 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Deborah Kay Reif, 58, died April 20 at Anschutz Inpatient Pavilion/UCH, Aurora, Colo. She was born Dec. 30, 1949. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 22, 2008

Lester William Weiszbrod 1907 - 2008
ST. JOHN — Lester William Weiszbrod, 100, died April 20 at Pratt Regional Medical Center. Born June 12, 1907, at Ensign, he was the son of William F. and Minnie (Fritzemeyer) Weiszbrod. A lifelong resident of Stafford County, he was a retired farmer. On Oct. 16, 1930, he married Mildred Althea (Tucker) at Seward. She died June 29, 1998.

Survivors include two daughters, Nancy A. Brown, St. John, and Linda L. Williams, Topeka; five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by two sons, Duane and Eldon, and four brothers, Fred, Albert, Clifford and Leroy.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Minnis Chapel, St. John, with Pastor Wade Russell presiding. Burial will be at Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel. Memorial donations to the Leisure Homestead Alzheimer’s Unit may be made in care of Minnis Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel, Inc.
Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
620-786-9440
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 22, 2008

April 23, 2008

Jim L. Hogan

GARDNER — Jim L. Hogan, 69, of Gardner, died April 18. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 10, at St. Rose Catholic Church, Great Bend. Cremation has taken place. Inurnment will be in Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery, Great Bend. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Humane Society.

Survivors include his wife, Jane A. (Brunner) Hogan of the home; mother, Elsie M. (Hickel) Hogan of Great Bend; a son, Kelly Hogan of Broken Arrow, Okla; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Jim was preceded in death by his father, Marvin Hogan, and son, Scott Hogan.

Arrangements are by McGilley & Frye Funeral Home, Olathe.
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 23, 2008

Deborah Kay Reif 1949 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Deborah Kay Reif, 58, died April 20 at Anschutz Inpatient Pavilion in Aurora, Colo. She was born Dec. 30, 1949, in Hoisington, the daughter of Herbert M. and Doris L. (DeWald) Boxberger. A lifetime resident of Hoisington, she was an assistant loan officer at First Kansas Bank, Hoisington.

She was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington.

Survivors include two sons, Keith Reif and wife London, and Terry Reif and wife Anita, all of Hoisington; her mother, of Hoisington; a brother, Doug Boxberger, Hoisington; a companion, Larry Brack, Hoisington; and five grandchildren, Bradley, Brooke, Brady, Mallory and Gabrielle Reif. She was preceded in death by her father.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington, with Pastor John Bender officiating. Burial will be at Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. The family will be present from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Memorial donations for the Lung Transplant Unit at the University of Colorado or for Emmanuel Lutheran Church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
LEAVENWORTH — Alan Loren Dunavan, 59, died April 21 at Providence Medical Center’s Cardiac Unit. Born March 24, 1949, in Great Bend, he was the third son of Ira and Mildred Dunavan. He married Janet Lynn Clayton on Dec. 27, 1970, at Allen. Retired Lt. Col. Dunavan received a bachelor of music education degree from Wichita State University and a doctorate of jurisprudence from Washburn University. After three years teaching instrumental and choral music and two years practicing private law, Alan was commissioned into the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps.

His 28 years of service in various JAG positions culminated in an assignment as the Command Judge Advocate at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks in Fort Leavenworth. After retirement, he substitute-taught in local public school districts, then returned to the USDB as a civilian to continue service as the deputy Command Judge Advocate.

A lifelong trumpet player, Alan was a member of the Argonne Rebel Drum and Bugle Corps in his younger years and was a current member of the University of Saint Mary Community Band. As an active member of the Church of the Open Door, Alan also pursued his musical interests as the church’s music leader.

Survivors include his wife, of the home in Leavenworth; two daughters, Colleen Sara Dunavan of Pawnee Rock and Susan Mae Dunavan and her fiancé, Tim Keefer, of San Jose, Calif.; his brother, Bob Dunavan and wife Janice; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Sheryl Dunavan, Stan and Mary Clayton, Gary and Ann Musson and Jack and Pat Clayton; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Daniel Dunavan, and a nephew, Michael Dunavan.

Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Church of the Open Door, Leavenworth. A graveside service will be held in Pawnee Rock at 1 p.m. Monday. Visitation will be at the church in Leavenworth from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday. Memorials for missionary support or music ministry may be sent to the Church of the Open Door, 4800 20th St., Leavenworth, KS 66048.

Funeral arrangements provided by Davis Funeral Chapel, Inc.*
531 Shawnee
Leavenworth, KS 66048
913-682-5523

George Edward Miller Jr. 1926 - 2008

George Edward Miller Jr., 82, Great Bend, passed away April 22. Born Jan. 28, 1926, in Ada, Okla., he was the first son of George Edward and Quepha (Burch) Miller Sr. A 1944 graduate of Marietta (Okla.) High School, he served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He moved to Great Bend in 1948 as an employee of Halliburton Services, and continued to work in the oilfield drill-stem testing business with Johnson Testers, then Western Testing Company. In 1951, he married Marjorie Ann Niedens, of Great Bend, in Hutchinson. In 1954, he became a partner in Miller-Donelson Testing Company, which later became Miller Testing Company. In 1976, he also formed Blue Goose Drilling Company with partner Jay Mull of Wichita, and in 1978 became sole owner and president until the time of his death.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Great Bend, Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA), the National Stripper Well Association, the Kansas Oil & Gas Museum, American Legion Post 180 in Great Bend, and a past director of the Great Bend Petroleum Club. He and Marge also enjoyed hosting friends and family at their cabin in Cuchara, Colo., for the past 17 summers.

Survivors include his wife, Marge, of the home; three sons, Martin and wife Tonya (Wilson) Miller of Ellinwood and their children, Justin, Kelly, Lindsay, Eli and Asher; Todd and wife Katherine (Keenan) Miller of Wichita, and children Emily, Eric and Ellie; two daughters, Sara (Miller) Zimmerman and husband Joey of Great Bend, and children Meredith, Jared, Brent and
Georgia; and Judy (Miller) Schneider and husband Lloyd of Logan, and children Landon and Libby; and a great-grandson, Britton. He was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Burch Miller.

A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. James A. Strasen officiant. A private family inurnment will be held at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to memorial funds for the church or for American Legion Argonne Post 180 or for the Golden Belt Humane Society may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 24, 2008

Delta M. Baker 1930 - 2008

Delta M. Baker, 77, of Great Bend, died April 23 at the Hospice House, Hutchinson, after a lengthy battle with breast cancer. Delta was born Nov. 15, 1930, to Clayton and Marie Hartman Brack in the old Great Bend Hospital. After graduation from Otis Rural High School in Otis, Delta received a Certificate of Graduation from Brown-Mackie School of Business in Salina. Delta worked in various positions at Centel in Great Bend. She retired as the associate personnel manager after nearly 29 years of service with the company.

Delta is survived by her spouse, Clinton E. Baker of Great Bend; her son, Donald D. Coddington of Montrose, Colo.; and two daughters, Dianne M. Cooper and her spouse Gary J. Cooper, Jr., and Debra S. Hasty, all of Alvin, Texas; four grandsons, three granddaughters, and one great-granddaughter. Delta is also survived by two stepdaughters, JoAnn and Shannon Baker of Seattle, Wash., and one stepgrandson.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Great Bend at 10 a.m. Monday, with the Rev. Adam Wutka presiding. Interment will take place at the Otis Lutheran Cemetery. Memorials may be given to Heartland Cancer Center, Great Bend, or Reno County Hospice House, Hutchinson, in care of Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home and Crematory, Hutchinson. To leave a special message for the family online, visit www.PenwellGabel.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home and Crematory*
300 E. 30th Ave.
Hutchinson, KS 67502

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 24, 2008

April 25, 2008

Frederick M. Overbaugh 1914 - 2008

OSAGE CITY — Frederick M. Overbaugh, 93, passed away April 22 at his home in Osage City. He was born on April 25, 1914, in Lawrence, the son of Henry and Mary Schreiner Overbaugh.

Fred had lived in Vassar, where he owned and operated the Overbaugh Garage from 1938 until 1968. He then moved to Osage City when he began work with the Kansas Department of Transportation. He retired from KDOT in 1979 and moved to the Overbaugh Farm near Burlingame where he lived for 15 years. In 1994 he moved back to Osage City where he had lived since.

On June 12, 1937, Fred was united in marriage to Beulah Warren in Overbrook. To this union three children were born.

Fred was preceded in death by his brother William in 1932, a granddaughter-in-law, Debra Jo Glover, and a great-granddaughter, Gracie Renee Dorr.
Fred is survived by his wife Beulah of 70 years, his son Charles of Vassar, two daughters, Mary Lou Glover of Burlingame and Kary Sue Miller and husband Jim of Hoisington, 11 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and several stepgreat-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Fred will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Osage City United Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Overbrook Cemetery. Fred will lie in state from 2 to 8 p.m. today at Feltner Funeral Home in Lyndon, where the family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Osage City United Methodist Church or PRN Hospice and sent in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Feltner Funeral Home*
822 Topeka Ave.
Lyndon, KS 66451
785-828-4433
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 25, 2008

Jane F. Stephens 1947 - 2008

LA CROSSE — Jane F. Stephens, 61, died April 24 at her home in La Crosse. Born Feb. 5, 1947, in Great Bend, she was the daughter of Vernon and Ida Mae (Kraisinger) Bieber. She was a 1965 graduate of Bison High School and a 1968 graduate of the Dominican School of Nursing in Great Bend. She married Mike C. Stephens on March 22, 1969, at the United Methodist Church in Bison. A lifelong resident of Rush County, she was an RN at the Rush County Nursing Home in La Crosse.

Mrs. Stephens was a member of the United Methodist Church in La Crosse.

Survivors include her husband, Mike C. Stephens of La Crosse; a son, Jeff M. Stephens of Salina; and a brother, Mike Bieber of Beloit. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the United Methodist Church in La Crosse with the Rev. Linda Bolz and Father Charles Mazouch officiating. Burial will be at the La Crosse City Cemetery. Friends may visit from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the Janousek Funeral Home in La Crosse, with family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m. The casket will be closed. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church in La Crosse or to the Rush County Nursing Home in La Crosse.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 25, 2008

April 27, 2008

Norman L. Bastion

SALTON CITY, Calif. — Norman L. Bastion, 76, of Salton City, passed away April 11. He was born in Paola, graduating from Osawatomie High School in 1949. His classmates continue to enjoy an alumni gathering each year, so they have stayed in touch throughout the years. After serving his country in the Air Force, Norm attended and graduated from Ottawa University. He continued to live and raise his family in Kansas with his wife Edwena, until 1981, at which time he moved to Payette, Idaho, and began a new chapter of his life.

Shortly thereafter, he met and married Gloria, his current wife. They both worked in law enforcement and had much in common. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Larned, where they both worked in the mental health field.

Five years later (1987), it became necessary, and fortunate for Norm, to receive a heart transplant, providing him with renewed health. Norm was devoted to his donor family and dedicated in preserving their gift of life. As a result of the Caylor family’s organ donation, and Norm’s self-discipline, he survived 20-plus years to see children marry, grandchildren grow, and the opportunity for him and Gloria to pursue new and exciting life adventures. Over the years
the Bastions and the Caylor's have come to love and embrace one another as family, respecting, appreciating and enjoying their unique relationship.

Upon retiring from the State of Kansas Mental Health System, he and Gloria hit the road in their RV and traveled throughout the Western United States for 2 1/2 years. They eventually landed in the desert of Southern California (Salton City), where they continued to reside.

Norm, an avid outdoorsman and a dead aim with both bow and gun, proved his shooting prowess by winning the Kansas State Trapshooting Championship in 1973.

As a people person, he held membership in the Masons Lodge, Abdullah Shrine and the Plum Creek Methodist Church. Among his many hobbies, he enjoyed jewelry making, tying jigs, wood carving, gardening, trapshooting, fishing and hunting of all kinds.

Norm was preceded in death by his parents, brother and sister. He is survived by two daughters, Bambi Chronister and Gabrielle Hamler, both of Kansas; three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, four stepchildren and eight stepgrandchildren. He loved them all!

Always the prankster, as well as a man of outstanding ethics, he consistently displayed honesty, integrity, loyalty and a great sense of humor. Norm will be missed by all who experienced his zest for life and sense of adventure. Memorials are suggested to the Midtown Ronald McDonald House in Wichita or to the Cancer Society of California.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 27, 2008*


LARNED — Daniel A. Woods, 47, died April 24 of a brain hemorrhage at Wesley Medical Center, Wichita. He was born on May 2, 1960, at Clarksville, Texas, the son of William O. and Lorraine (Ebertowsky) Woods.

His professions included cattle buyer, hay broker and truck driver. He loved fishing, hunting and spending time with friends and family.

He is survived by his loving family, including his mother, of Larned; his brothers, William G. (Bill) and wife Sharla, Larned, James O. and wife Janice of Crossville, Tenn., David and wife Debra, and John, all of Larned; his sister Carolyn and husband Ty Teegerstrom of Hugoton; 20 nieces and nephews and 20 great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel in Larned with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Cremation will take place after the funeral and burial will be in the Larned Cemetery at a later date.

Memorials may be sent to the Dan Woods Memorial Fund in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
P.O. Box 477
916 Main
Larned, KS 67550
(620) 285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 27, 2008*

R.L. “Bob” Branan, 81, of Great Bend, died April 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center. Services are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, 1425 Patton Road, in Great Bend.

April 29, 2008

Betty Jo Laudick 1933 - 2008

Betty Jo Laudick, 74, of Great Bend, died April 27. Her final days were spent with her family. Born Oct. 26, 1933, in Lyons, she was the daughter of Edwin F. and Margaret Ehly Clarke. She married Robert H. Laudick on Aug. 8, 1951, at Little River. He died on Jan. 9, 1999. A resident of Great Bend since 1963, coming from Lyons, she was a former bookkeeper for Wells Furniture in Great Bend.

Mrs. Laudick was a member and organist for the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, Altar Society, Pilot Club and enjoyed afternoon and evening bridge club.

Survivors include six sons, Douglas Laudick of Cedar Falls, Iowa, Dennis Laudick and wife Mona of Wichita, Ron Laudick and wife Paula of Hudson, Gregory Laudick and wife Tricia of Lenexa, Curtis Laudick and fiancée Cheryl Nulman of Chapin, S.C., and Bill Laudick and wife Teri of National City, Mich.; a daughter, Cheryl Armstrong and husband Gregg of Olathe; 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Edwin D. “Jr.” Clarke.

Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. and a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., both today at Bryant Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Great Bend with Father Floyd McKinney officiating. Interment will be at 2 p.m. at the Lyons Municipal Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 29, 2008

Verna M. Carmichael 1915 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Verna M. Carmichael, 93, died April 26 at Wesley Towers Thorne Care Center in Hutchinson. She was born Feb. 3, 1915, in Barton County, the daughter of George L. and Esther M. Marquis Carroll. Verna married Charles Howard Carmichael on April 3, 1936, at Hoisington. He passed away Feb. 17, 2007. She had lived in Hutchinson since 2000, coming from Hoisington.

Mrs. Carmichael was a member of Mitchell Chapel United Methodist Church, Hutchinson, transferring from Vine United Methodist Church, Hoisington. She was a former Sunday school teacher, mother adviser of Rainbow Girls, member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Lake Barton Golf Club and the Petroleum Club. She graduated from Hoisington Rural High School.

She was the co-owner of Verna’s, a ladies’ clothing and bridal shop in Hoisington, for more than 20 years.

Survivors include a daughter, Georgia McGonigle and husband Jerry of Hutchinson; a granddaughter, Kimberly M. Copp and husband John of Buhler; a great-granddaughter, Jessica M. Beck; a great-grandson, Derek L. Beck; stepgreat-grandchildren, Daphne, Brayden and Elliott Copp; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a son, Jon Douglas Carmichael.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the
funeral home, with the family receiving friends from 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Mitchell Chapel United Methodist Church, Hutchinson, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 29, 2008

Margaret M. Feist 1907 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Margaret M. Feist, 100, died April 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend. Born Dec. 5, 1907, in Ellinwood, she was the daughter of Peter Heinz and Mary Robl. She attended grade school at Sts. Peter and Paul School and at District 13. A Great Bend resident for the past year, she was formerly of Ellinwood. She married Henry L. Feist on Nov. 19, 1929, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. He died May 29, 1979.

Mrs. Feist was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ellinwood, the Altar Society and Daughters of Isabella.

Survivors include four sons, Aaron and Myrna Feist of Sharon Springs, J. Alan and JoAnn Feist of Downs, Donald and Rita Feist of Ellinwood and Kenneth and Bonnie Feist of Chetopa; a daughter, Marlene Feist and companion Carol Dwyer of Great Bend; 15 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, James, five brothers, Frank, Jake, John, Pete and Ed, and three sisters, Mamie Hammeke, Katheryn Jenisch and Loretta Heinz.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. today at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ellinwood with Father Charles Mazouch officiating. Burial will be at the Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery, north of Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to the Heritage Center or St. Joseph School Living Legacy Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple, Inc. Funeral Home*
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 29, 2008

R.L. “Bob” Branan 1926 - 2008

R.L. “Bob” Branan, 81, of Great Bend, died April 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born June 24, 1926, at Great Bend, he was the son of Charles Lynn and Marion Hamilton Branan. He married Berdetta Burkhead on Sept. 3, 1949, in Beloit. They divorced. He then married Lucille Hickel Kaiser on Jan. 15, 1973, in Claflin. She survives. He was the former owner of Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Claflin.

Mr. Branan was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, American Legion Post No. 180 and the Masonic Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 424.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include two sons, Thomas Branan of Newton and James P. Branan of Hutchinson; two stepsons, Gary Kaiser of Clarksville, Tenn., and Jim Kaiser of Littleton, Colo.; a daughter, Laurie Branan of Independence, Mo.; a grandson, Dexter Branan of Tokyo, Japan; four stepgrandchildren, Tonya Bennett of Olathe, Kim Kaiser of Las Vegas, Nev., Evan Kaiser of Erie, Pa., and Gavin Kaiser of Savannah, Ga. He was preceded in death by a sister, Jane Shaw Greenside.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Inurnment will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Claflin Cemetery. There will be no viewing, due to cremation. Visitation with the register book present will be from 9 a.m. to 9
p.m. Thursday. Donations to memorial funds for the Claflin Library or the Claflin Cemetery may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 29, 2008

Alva Rennie Brantz 1919 - 2008

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — Alva Rennie Brantz, 88, died Feb. 20 in Fort Collins, Colo. She was born May 13, 1919, in West Hartford, Conn., the daughter of William and Mary Rennie, both born in Alva, Stirlingshire, Scotland.

Alva Rennie graduated from West Hartford High School. She married Edward Brantz in 1941 in Avon, Conn., while Edward was attending Hartford Seminary. In 1945, Alva and Ed and their two young sons moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Edward directed the South Omaha YMCA. The following year the Brantz family moved to Ralston, Neb., outside Omaha, where Ed served as pastor for Ralston’s First Community Church.

Alva taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, participated in numerous church activities and lovingly raised her children.

In 1957, Alva and Ed and their three children moved to Great Bend. Edward served as pastor of the First Congregational Church and Alva continued her active role in the church fellowship by teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir and carrying out all the responsibilities that fall to a minister's wife.

Seven years later, in 1963, Edward and Alva moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, where Edward started a new Congregational Church. Alva not only continued her varied roles in the church, but she also participated actively in Hawaii’s League of Women Voters and the environmentally oriented Life of the Land organization.

Alva was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Hall Brantz, in 1984. Surviving are her sons, Rennie Brantz, his wife Lana and son Douglas of Boone, N.C., and Malcolm Brantz, his wife Sue and their children Stephen and Cassie of Littleton, Colo.; and her daughter, Claudia Karp, her husband Robert and children Keegan, Garrett, and Ethan of Fort Collins, Colo. Also surviving are her two older sisters, Dorothy Astman of Long Island, N.Y., and Mrs. Vi Sanders of Columbus, Ohio. A family memorial service will be held in Estes Park, Colo., in July.

In 1976 she and Edward moved to Denver, Colo., where Edward worked for the U.S. Labor Department’s CETA program and served as interim pastor for several churches. After Edward’s death in 1984, Alva and her sister Dorothy traveled widely for a number of years, visiting Scotland, England, Scandinavia, Israel and China. She and Dorothy also spent a number of winters in Hawaii attending Elder Hostel programs. Alva volunteered for years in service organizations like JeffCo Action in Lakewood, Colo. During her last two years she lived in assisted living facilities in Fort Collins.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 29, 2008

April 30, 2008

R.L. “Bob” Branan 1926 - 2008

R.L. “Bob” Branan, 81, of Great Bend, died April 26 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born June 24, 1926, at Great Bend, he was the son of Charles Lynn and Marion Hamilton Branan. He married Berdetta Burkhead on Sept. 3, 1949, in Beloit. They divorced. He then married Lucille Hickel Kaiser on Jan. 15, 1973, in Claflin. She survives. He was the former owner of Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Claflin.
Mr. Branan was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose, American Legion Post No. 180 and the Masonic Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 424.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include two sons, Thomas Branan of Newton and James P. Branan of Hutchinson; two stepsons, Gary Kaiser of Clarksville, Tenn., and Jim Kaiser of Littleton, Colo.; a daughter, Laurie Branan of Independence, Mo.; a grandson, Dexter Branan of Tokyo, Japan; four stepgrandchildren, Tonya Bennett of Olathe, Kim Kaiser of Las Vegas, Nev., Evan Kaiser of Erie, Pa., and Gavin Kaiser of Savannah, Ga. He was preceded in death by a sister, Jane Shaw Greenside.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the funeral home with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Inurnment will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Claflin Cemetery. There will be no viewing, due to cremation. Visitation with the register book present will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday. Donations to memorial funds for the Claflin Library or the Claflin Cemetery may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at [www.bryantfh.net](http://www.bryantfh.net).

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 30, 2008

Mary E. Alford, 75, of Great Bend, died April 28 at Select Specialty Hospital in Wichita. Born Jan. 3, 1933, in Batavia, Ohio, she was the daughter of Daniel and Rita Williams Wolfe. A resident of Great Bend for 3 1/2 years, coming from Bullhead City, Ariz., she was a former cashier for Walgreen’s in Bullhead City, Ariz.

Survivors include two sons, Mitchell Wolfe of Batavia, Ohio, and Edrik Alford of Salinas, Calif.; a daughter, Evonda Trevino and husband Frank of Great Bend; a brother; many sisters; six grandchildren, Michael Osborn, II, Misty Osborn, Derick Kreidel, Darshanna Kreidel, Amanda Alford and Daniel Alford; and five great-grandchildren, Isaiah Gutierrez, Michael Osborn, III, Gage Osborn, Delilah Osborn and Megan Osborn. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and a sister.

There will be no service or visitations as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the Barton County Food Bank in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at [www.bryantfh.net](http://www.bryantfh.net).

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 30, 2008

Carl Wayne Brown, 62, of Great Bend, died April 26 at Olathe Hospital, Olathe. He was born July 19, 1945, at Great Bend, the son of Archibald Connett Brown and Lena Velma Reily Brown. He was a resident of Great Bend, Wichita, and Olathe. He was a graduate of Great Bend High School. His life partner was Bernetta Potts. He was a retired truck driver, and had served in the U.S. Army.

Survivors, in addition to his life partner, include two sons, Tony Reed of Great Bend and Justin Everett and wife Brandee of Olathe; three brothers, Chester Brown and wife Rowena of Detroit, Mich., Charles Brown and Cecil Brown and wife Odess, all of Great Bend; a sister, Helen Lucas of Great Bend; nine nieces, Lillian Brown, Linda Brown, Lois Brown, Debra Reece, Ann Perry, Velma Sykes, Calvinita Lewis, LiAnna Shorté and Chantelle Brown; seven nephews,
David Brown, Michael Lucas, Calvin Lucas, Carl Lucas, Eric Brown, Clint Brown and Anthony Brown; and seven grandchildren, Jazire Everett, Justena Everett, Julian Everett, Jayna Everett, Justin Everett Jr. and Serenity Everett, all of Olathe, and Jeremy Reed of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Lois White.

The family will greet friends from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, followed by a remembrance service at 3 p.m., at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. Funeral services will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the charity or organization of the donor’s choice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, April 30, 2008

May 1, 2008

Patrick O’Bryan Gilpin 1977 - 2008

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Patrick O’Bryan Gilpin, 30, passed away April 26 in Manteo, N.C., as a result of a two-car collision. Patrick was born May 2, 1977, in Liberal. He graduated from Larned High School in 1995. He then went into the Navy for 4 1/2 years, doing search and rescue and special ops. He continued on to Old Dominion University, where he received his bachelor’s degree in history with a double minor in political science and education. After achieving his degree he was hired by Vitamin Water as an area sales manager.

Patrick was an amazing soul who always strived to be better and accomplish more despite the many hardships he endured throughout his life. He still achieved and excelled at everything he did. He was an MMA fighter and boxer, never losing a fight. He also enjoyed working out every chance he got and always prided himself in his appearance.

Patrick had a huge heart for those that he loved and would do anything for them. He always had a strong desire for a family of his own, to be able to do things the way he always wished they had been done for him during his childhood. Regardless of all the negative that was presented to him, he always overcame it and turned it into a positive.

Patrick’s resilient character gave him the strength to overcome all his tragedies with love and laughter.

Left to cherish his loving memories are his girlfriend, Elizabeth Casella, his best friend and brother, Don Bailey, and many, many other friends whom he considered and loved like family. Patrick was a strong person who finally got what he always wanted, a family and being loved like he always deserved. Patrick died in peace and is now in a better place looking down over us all.

A memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. today in his honor at Twiford Colonial Chapel, Chesapeake, Va. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family in Patrick’s memory, in care of Twiford Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.twifordfh.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Twiford Funeral Home*
929 S. Battlefield Blvd.
Chesapeake, VA 23322
757-482-3311
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 1, 2008

May 2, 2008

Glenn Dean Koci 1930 - 2008
Glenn Dean Koci, 77, of Great Bend, died April 30 at his residence. Born June 4, 1930, at La Crosse, he was the son of Emil and Antoinette (Oliverius) Koci. He married Marilyn Alger on Jan. 30, 1954, at La Crosse. She died May 11, 2006. He was a farmer and a rural postal carrier for 34 years, retiring in 1995. He was a Signal Corps Army veteran overseas.

Mr. Koci was a member of VFW Post 3147, La Crosse, and ZCBJ Lodge, Timken.

Survivors include a daughter, Linda Koci, and her husband, Steve Ball, of Bison; two sons, Donald Koci, and his wife, Laurie, of Wichita, and Lyle Koci of Great Bend; a brother, Dennis Koci, of Martinez, Calif.; and two grandchildren, Sarah and Ryan Glenn Koci.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with Father Ultan Murphy officiating. Inurnment will be on a later date, in the La Crosse Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. today, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m., at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to the charity or organization of the donor’s choice. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 2, 2008

Billy Gene Stanka 1928 - 2008

NESS CITY — Billy Gene Stanka, 79, went to meet his Lord on April 30 at the Trego-Lemke Memorial Hospital in WaKeeney. Born Aug. 16, 1928, in Hammon, Okla., he was the son of William H. and Tressa Morgan Stanka. He married Bety Rogers at Altus, Okla., on April 22, 1946. Then on Feb. 7, 1976, he married Nancy Wheatcroft at Great Bend. She survives. He was a seismograph surveyor and had been a resident of Ness City since 1976, coming from Barton County.

Mr. Stanka was a member of the United Methodist Church and the Walnut Valley Masonic Lodge, both of Ness City, and the Isis Shrine, Salina.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include two daughters, Sharla Schremmer and husband Jerry of Hoisington, and Cindy Hoffman of Broken Arrow, Okla.; a brother, Joe Stanka and his wife Jean of Fulshear, Texas; two grandsons, Aaron and Christopher Little; two granddaughters, Erica Havenstein and Stacy Schremmer; three great-grandsons, Alex, Taylor and Ty; and three great-granddaughters, Lauren, Payton and Brea.

Graveside service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Utica Cemetery, Utica, presided by the Rev. Darlene Nonhoff. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Ness City. Memorials may be given to the United Methodist Church, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home*
207 N. Pennsylvania
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 2, 2008

Ella Marie Boese 1920 - 2008
ROZEL — Ella Marie Boese, 88, died April 30 at Medicalodge, Kinsley. She was born Feb. 8, 1920, near Rush Center, the daughter of Willie A. and Christina K. Josefiak Eilts. A homemaker, she was a longtime resident of the Burdett and Rozel communities. She married Vernon Glenn Boese on July 11, 1937, at La Crosse. He died May 22, 1977.

Mrs. Boese was baptized in the Lutheran faith.

Survivors include four sons, Lavern of Great Bend, and Robert, Rodney and Brent, all of Rozel; three daughters, Glenna Belcher and Marva McDonald, both of Kinsley, and Sandra Sauer of Rozel; two sisters, Ruby Trout of Rush Center and Elaine Horacek of Helena, Mont.; 20 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Shirley Shank, two brothers, Martin and Glenn Eilts, a sister, Buelah Ellis, and two grandsons, Robin Belcher and Joshua A. Boese.

A graveside service will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Browns Grove Cemetery, Burdett, with Pastor Richard Zimmerman presiding. Visitation will be until 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Saturday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned. Memorials are suggested to the Burdett Emergency Medical Service in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway/P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 2, 2008

Mable Evelyn Hewitt 1918 – 2008

ELLINWOOD — Mable Evelyn Hewitt, 90, died May 2 at the Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born April 27, 1918, at Guild, Mo., she was the daughter of Charles and Eva Tyrell Crank. She married Wayne Hewitt on Dec. 28, 1946. He died Feb. 24, 1989. She received her teaching certificate from Southwest Missouri College in Bolivar, Mo., and taught eight years in one-room classrooms before becoming a homemaker.

Survivors include two sons, Gary Hewitt and Kerry “Butch” Hewitt, both of Ellinwood; five daughters, Kathryn Bohling of Auburn, Neb., Gwen Deal of Liberal, Barbara Penka of Alma, Judy Gregg of Newark, Del., and Janis Hewitt of Oklahoma City, Okla.; 13 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Karen Brown, two brothers, a sister and a granddaughter, Jessica Hewitt. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Monday at Minnis Chapel in Stafford with Mark Tomlin presiding. Burial will be in the Stafford Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. today at the chapel. Memorials are suggested to Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church or Golden Belt Hospice in care of the chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
125 N. Main
Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5261
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

Dorothy C. Welsch 1915 – 2008

Dorothy C. Welsch, 92, of Great Bend, died May 2 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. She was born Nov. 4, 1915, in Edwards County, the daughter of Thomas and Mabel May Monoghan. She married Monroe Welsch on April 20, 1936, at Radium. He died in 1980. A homemaker, she was a resident of Great Bend since 2000, coming from Trousdale. She was of the Christian faith.
Survivors include a daughter, Dorothy Nutting and husband Larry of Great Bend; a daughter-in-law, Beverly Welsch of Osage City; a niece, Areminta Starkey of Valley, Wash.; three grandchildren, Troy Welsch of Larned, Mark Welsch of Pratt and Lori Katz of Wichita; two step-grandchildren, Debra Keller and Lori Dishman both of Osage City; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Thomas Welsch and Darrell Welsch and a grandson Brian Welsch.

Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. on Monday at Fellsburg Cemetery in Fellsburg. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to noon on Monday at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Gideon’s International in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Lavina E. Bender 1924 – 2008

RUSSELL — Lavina E. Bender, 84, of Russell, died April 29 at the St. Joseph Village in Manhattan, while being cared for by her family. Lavina was born Jan. 8, 1924 on the family farm in rural Barton County, the daughter of Floyd and Elma E. (Keil) Brack. She grew up on the family farm near Galatia in the Barton County area. She attended school in the Haig School District No. 81 and graduated from the eighth grade on May 24, 1938. She was very active in the Lutheran Church and was baptized on March 2, 1924, in Otis and later confirmed in the Lutheran faith on June 20, 1937. On Nov. 9, 1947, she married Ruben Bender at the Bender Hill Lutheran Church south of Russell. They made their home on the Bender family farm located in the Bender Hill Community. From this union they were blessed with three children, Dianna, Duane and Ramona. Ruben preceded Lavina in death on Jan. 15, 2006.

Lavina was a hard-working homemaker and assisted Ruben in taking care of the farm. She enjoyed cooking, baking, quilting, tatting, knitting and sewing. She enjoyed gardening and also enjoyed canning her own fruits and vegetables that she had grown in her garden. She was an active member of St. John’s Lutheran Church and was very involved in Martha’s Circle. She was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Russell Regional Hospital Auxiliary, and a past honorary member of the Zeta Mu Sorority. In Lavina and Ruben’s later years they enjoyed traveling the U.S. together on various bus tours and with their family.

Those she leaves behind are a son, Duane L. Bender and wife Margaret of McPherson; two daughters, Dianna Michaelis and husband Richard of Sioux City, Iowa, and Ramona Kramer and husband Vincent of Manhattan; a sister, Darlene Bender of Bella Vista, Ark.; and one granddaughter, Catherine E. Bender of Shawnee. She was also preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Marvin and LaVern Brack.

A celebration of Lavina’s life is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Monday at the St. John’s Lutheran Church in Russell. Burial will follow at the St. John’s Lutheran Cemetery in Russell. Visitation will be from noon to 8 p.m. today at the Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary in Russell with family present from 5 to 8 p.m. Memorials may be given to St. John’s Lutheran Church of Russell and may be sent to the mortuary at 610 N. Maple, Russell, KS 67665. Condolences may be sent via mail or by e-mail by going to www.pvpmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 N. Maple
Russell, KS 67665
785-483-2212
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

William Duane Abel 1937 – 2008
CADIZ, Ky. — William Duane Abel, 70, died April 27 at Alive Hospice in Nashville, Tenn. Born Dec. 16, 1937, in Great Bend, he was the son of William and Evelyn (Fredrick) Abel. He married Nadine Ochs on Sept. 21, 1958, in Hoisington. She survives. A resident of Cadiz since 1999, coming from Illinois, he was retired from retail sales in the food business.

Mr. Abel was a United States Army veteran. He was a member of the Cadiz United Methodist Church where he served on the board of trustees, administrative board, building committee and was a member of the choir and Methodist men’s group, the Lions Club where he served a term as president and had received two distinguished Lions awards for dedicated humanitarian services, all of Cadiz, and a past member of the Elgin, Ill., Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

Survivors include his wife, Nadine Abel of Cadiz, and a sister, Connie L. Johnson of Wichita.

Memorial graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Hoisington Cemetery with the Rev. Wayne Flanders officiating. Memorials are suggested to the Cadiz United Methodist Church. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

Arlene L. Disney 1929 – 2008

Arlene L. Disney, 78, of Great Bend and formerly of Salina, died May 2. Born Sept. 9, 1929, in Topeka, she was the daughter of Alvin and Mabel Burkhardt and moved to Salina in 1942. On Jan. 25, 1948, she married Howard Disney at the First United Methodist Church in Salina. After her husband’s death in 2003, she moved to Great Bend.

She worked for First Bank & Trust in Salina and later worked for the Saline County Clerk’s Office until her retirement in 1994.

She was a member of the First United Church, Salina; Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars No. 311; American Legion Auxiliary; Barton County Silver Cougar Club; Barton County Historical Society; was past-secretary of the Saline County Democratic Central Committee; and was past-precinct committeewoman for Saline County.

Survivors include two sons, Guy Disney of Great Bend and Gary Disney and his wife, Diana of Topeka; a sister Betty Harris of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Monday at Ryan Mortuary, 137 N. 8th, Salina. Burial will be in Roselawn Memorial Park, Salina. Visitation will be from 3 to 5 p.m. today and until the hour of the service on Monday at the mortuary. The family suggests memorials to the First United Methodist Church, Salina or Hospice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Ryan Mortuary Inc.
137 N. 8th St.
Salina, KS 67401
785-825-4242
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

William F. “Bill” Werhahn 1921 – 2008
William F. “Bill” Werhahn, 87, died May 2 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center in Great Bend. Born April 12, 1921, in Great Bend, he was the son of C.H. Will and Bertha Fleske Werhahn. He attended Great Bend schools. He married Darlenne Thompson on Oct. 26, 1952, in Alexander. A farmer and stockman and past president of the Kansas Polled Shorthorn Association, he served on the National Polled Shorthorn Board of Directors.

Mr. Werhahn was a decorated serviceman of World War II, serving with the United States Army. He was a member of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Great Bend, the Masonic Lodge No. 15, the American Legion Argonne Post 180 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3111 in Great Bend, the Isis Shrine in Salina and several Co-op’s in the area.

Survivors include his wife, Darlenne “Dot” Werhahn of the home; a son, Randall Werhahn of Pawnee Rock; a daughter, Jan Hannah and husband Tom of Florissant, Colo.; and five grandchildren, McKinna Werhahan, Collin Werhahn, Nicholas Werhahn, Alicia Hannah and Kalee Hannah. He was preceded in death by six sisters, Bertha Donovan, Hilda Peckham, Louise Haxton, Martha Drehle, Erna Dyer and Selma Unruh. Graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the Great Bend Cemetery with the Rev. Adam Wutka officiating. Friends may visit from 1 to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the St. Mark Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Roadv Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

Lucy Anna Heinz 1911 – 2008

ELLINWOOD — Lucy Anna Heinz, 96, died May 2 at Ellinwood District Hospital. Born Aug. 12, 1911, in rural Ellinwood, she was the daughter of Jacob and Josephine Bieberle Heinz. A lifetime Barton County resident, she was a farmer and homemaker.

She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Claflin.

Survivors include her cousins. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Leo Heinz and Jacob Heinz, and a sister, Anna Heinz.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Monday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Claflin, with the Rev. Charles Mazouch officiating. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood. Altar Society Rosary will be at 3 p.m., and a Vigil at 7 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery, north of Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to the Ellinwood Hospital Auxiliary or Sts. Peter and Paul restoration in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple, Inc. Funeral Home
113 N. Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

Patsy D. Muller 1934 – 2008

ELLINWOOD — Patsy D. Muller, 73, died May 2 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. Born May 14, 1934, she was the daughter of Vernon and Clara M. (Scott) Barry. A lifetime resident of Ellinwood, she was a helper at Barton County Farm Bureau, a farm wife and operator at the Ellinwood Telephone Company. She married Harold Muller on June 5, 1955, in Ellinwood.
Mrs. Muller was a member of the Immanuel United Church of Christ, Altar Guild and Women’s Fellowship and the Order of the Eastern Star, all in Ellinwood.

Survivors include her husband, Harold Muller, of Ellinwood; a son, David and Kala Muller of Ellinwood; a daughter, Diane and Mark Hockensmith of Inola, Okla.; and four grandchildren, Jessica and Derek Muller and Kirby and Abby Hockensmith. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Vernon Barry Jr.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Immanuel UCC in Ellinwood with the Rev. Larry Young officiating. Burial will be at the Lakin-Comanche District Cemetery. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday at Kimple Funeral Home.

Memorials are suggested to the church.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple, Inc. Funeral Home*
113 N. Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 4, 2008

Agnes Mabel Mittendorf 1916 - 2008

Agnes Mabel Mittendorf, 91, of Great Bend, died May 3 at River Bend Assisted Living in Great Bend. She was born Sept. 14, 1916, at Ipswich, England, the daughter of Walter James Rose and Ellen Drane Rose. She married Reginald George Jay in 1940. He died in 1944. She married Herbert Robert Mittendorf on March 27, 1944, at Ipswich, England. She had been a Great Bend resident for the past six months, and was formerly of Largo, Fla., and Little Rock, Ark. She retired in 1982 from Food Service at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock.

Survivors include two sons, Michael Jay of Ellinwood and Darrell Wayne Mittendorf of Everett, Wash.; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Kimple Funeral Chapel, Ellinwood, with the Rev. John Grummon officiant. Friends may call from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Barton County Humane Society.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 6, 2008

Sharon Kay Werth 1947 - 2008

NESS CITY — Sharon Kay Werth, 60, died May 4 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Dec. 7, 1947, in Hays, she was the daughter of Henry and Leah Wittig Schneidewind. A lifetime resident of Ness County, she was a homemaker. She married Richard Gabel in Ness City. He died Sept. 17, 1974. She married Richard Werth on June 3, 1978, in Ness City.

Mrs. Werth was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Altar Society, both of Ness City.

Other survivors include her son, Darren Werth; a brother, Harold Schneidewind of Great Bend; a sister, Gloria Vogel of Hays; and two grandchildren.
Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Fitzgerald Funeral Home in Ness City. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Father Henry Hildebrandt presiding. Burial will be at the Sacred Heart Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the American Diabetes Association and the Sacred Heart School.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Fitzgerald Funeral Home, Inc.
207 N. Pennsylvania
P.O. Box 96
Ness City, KS 67560
785-798-3243
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 6, 2008

Bessie Dueser French 1914 - 2008


Mrs. French was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women in Pawnee Rock, the Elks Auxiliary and a half-century charter member of EHU.

Survivors include a daughter, Joan “Jo” Rosenbaum of Great Bend; a brother, Alison Griffin of Lyons; two sisters, Alline Casteel, Landcaster, Mo., and Loleta Schill of Geneseo; four grandchildren, Terry Dueser, Shelly Herring and husband Paul, Shawnda Heimerman and husband Jim and Brent Rosenbaum; eight great-grandchildren, Brett, Brandon and Madison Dueser, Rachel and Jack Herring, and Colyn, Kirstyn and Taitlyn Heimerman; and one great-great-grandson, Elliott Trip. She was preceded in death by a son, Russell Dueser; a brother, David Griffin; and two sisters, Opal Ford Evers and Rena Amend.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 6, 2008

Eleanor Marie Hickel 1923 - 2008

Eleanor Marie Hickel, 85, of Great Bend, died May 6 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center, Great Bend. She was born April 28, 1923, at Odin, the daughter of Fred and Anna Kirmer Zorn. She married William Hickel on Sept. 28, 1941, at Odin. He died Nov. 30, 1986. She had worked for Suburban Cleaners for more than 20 years, and was a lifetime resident of Barton County.

Mrs. Hickel was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Altar Society and formerly a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church of Hoisington.
Survivors include two daughters, Joyce Teichmann of Great Bend and Karen Hatfield of Manhattan; five brothers, Leonard Zorn of Claflin, Elmer Zorn of Hoisington, Alvin Zorn of Smith Center, Edwin Zorn of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Gerald Zorn of Great Bend; four sisters, Matilda Schremmer and Ann Schremmer, both of Hoisington, Marion Schroeder of Newton and Helen Holliday of Inman; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Frank Zorn, Bernard Zorn and Richard Zorn, and one sister, Margaret Steiner.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiant. Interment will be at 2 p.m. at the St. John Catholic Cemetery, Hoisington. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for the Holy Family School Endowment Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 7, 2008

Louise Mace Vice 1915 - 2008

ST. JOHN — Louise Mace Vice, 93, of St. John, died May 5 at Leisure Homestead, St. John. Born Feb. 16, 1915, at Macksville, she was the daughter of Frank Olin and Elisabeth (Hendrickson) Mace. A lifelong resident of Stafford County, she was a homemaker and a graduate of St. John High School in 1934. On Dec. 12, 1933, she married Cecil Eldon Vice at Lyons. He preceded her in death.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Order of the Eastern Star and Daughters of the American Revolution, all of St. John.

Survivors include three daughters, Carmen Sue Gard, Wichita, Karen Irey, Norman, Okla., and JoAnne Massey, St. John; a brother, Lloyd Eldon Mace, Spokane, Wash.; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and a son, Keith.

Graveside Service will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday at Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John, with Pastor Ron Moser presiding. Visitation will be on from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel, St. John. Memorials are to South Wind Hospice or First United Methodist Church in care of Minnis Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel, Inc.
P.O. Box 34
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-786-9440
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 7, 2008

Jim L. Hogan 1938 - 2008

GARDNER — Jim L. Hogan, 69, died April 18 at Olathe Medical Center, Olathe. Born Sept. 13, 1938, at Great Bend, he was the son of Marvin J. and Elsie M. Hickel Hogan. He married Jane A. Brunner on Aug. 1, 1987, at Topeka. She survives. He was in sales for the banking industry. He was a veteran.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include his mother, Elsie Hogan of Great Bend; a son, Kelly Hogan of Broken Arrow, Okla.; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father and by a son, Scott Hogan.
A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Inurnment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Great Bend. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken place. Donations to a memorial fund for Golden Belt Humane Society may be made in care of Bryant Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 7, 2008

Juanita Ruth (Hensley) Myers 1924 - 2008

BELLA VISTA, Ark. — Juanita Ruth (Hensley) Myers, 83, of Bella Vista, died May 4 at her home. She was born June 17, 1924, in Cowley County, to Lee R. Hensley and Ruth (Pack) Hensley. She moved to Bella Vista from Great Bend in 2003.

Mrs. Myers was a member of the Judson American Baptist Church of Bella Vista.

Survivors include her husband, Roy L. Myers of Bella Vista; two sons, Roy Lynn Myers and wife, Jackie, of Great Bend, and David L. Myers of Portsmouth, N.H.; three brothers, Edward Hensley and wife, Arlene, of Ocala, Fla., Danny Hensley and wife, Marilyn, of Liberty, Texas, and Bill Hensley of Lombard, Ill.; one sister, Shirley Bradford and husband, Wendell, of Harriman, Tenn.; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, a sister, a niece and a daughter-in-law.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Judson American Baptist Church, 1702 Forest Hills Blvd., Bella Vista, Ark., with the Rev. Harry Hensley officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the church, at P.O. Box 3029, Bella Vista, AR 72715. On-line condolences may be made at www.funeralmation.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bella Vista Funeral Home & Crematory*
2258 Forest Hills Blvd.
Bella Vista, AR 72715
479-855-1611
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 7, 2008

Duane L. Deutsch 1945 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Duane L. Deutsch, 63, died May 2 at his residence in Hoisington. Born March 31, 1945, in Hoisington, he was the son of Otto and Alvina (Niedens) Deutsch. He was a graduate of Hoisington High School and Kansas State University. A farmer, he was a lifetime Hoisington-area resident. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Survivors include numerous cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Velda Deutsch.

A graveside memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 24, at the Hoisington Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the charity or organization of the donor’s choice. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 7, 2008
Mary Louise “Mary Lou” Gilpin 1926 - 2008

EUFALUA, Okla. — Mary Louise “Mary Lou” Gilpin, 81, of Eufaula, Okla., passed away quietly surrounded by family on May 1, at Jordan’s Nursing Home, Bridgman, Mich. She was born in Scandia on Dec. 19, 1926, to Archie B. and Ida E. Carpenter. She married Robert L. Gilpin on Oct. 6, 1946, in Claflin. Mary Lou was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

She loved to read, knit, crochet and quilt. Up until her stroke, she was very active in her quilting club. Mary Lou made quilts for armed service soldiers, travel bags for foster children and fabric books for Alzheimer’s patients.


Cremation has taken place. Memorials may be made to Hospice at Home or the Humane Society. Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan, is handling arrangements for the family.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hoven Funeral Home*
414 E. Front
Buchanan, MI 49107
269-695-2363

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 8, 2008

Erma V. Moore 1926 - 2008

Erma V. Moore, 81, of Great Bend, died May 7 at Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, Wichita. She was born June 4, 1926. Service arrangements are pending with Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 8, 2008

Christina M. Gerritzen 1919 - 2008

ODIN — Christina M. Gerritzen, 88, died May 7 at Cherry Village Residential Care in Great Bend. Born July 17, 1919, in Gloensvdralk, Holland, she was the daughter of John and Christina Derks Langenweld. When she came to the United States she was a housekeeper for Father Cornelius Leunissen in Odin. She married Albert H. Gerritzen on Aug. 23, 1953, in Odin. He died Nov. 23, 1987. A longtime resident of Odin, coming from Holland, she became a U.S. citizen on Jan. 15, 1957.

Mrs. Gerritzen was a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church and Altar Society, both in Odin.

Survivors include a brother, William Langenweld of Holland; two sisters, Lies Brands and Gertrude Nauts, both of Holland; and nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Odin with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at the Holy Family Cemetery in Odin. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday with a Vigil Service at 7 p.m. followed by an Altar Society rosary at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the Holy Family Cemetery Fund. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
May 9, 2008

Erma V. Moore 1926 - 2008

Erma V. Moore, 81, of Great Bend, died May 7 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus, Wichita. She was born June 4, 1926, in Kansas City, Kan., the daughter of William F. and Gladys Myers Willard. She married Luther Moore, Jr., on March 12, 1950, at Great Bend. He died March 16, 1981. A homemaker, she was a lifetime resident of Great Bend. She was a member of the Great Bend High School graduating Class of 1944.

Mrs. Moore was a member of First Christian Church, Great Bend, where she served as an elder, deacon, Sunday school teacher and on various other committees, and she was a board member of the Great Bend Boys Home. Erma loved the Lord and loved her family. Her greatest joy was watching her grandchildren grow up.

Survivors include a son, Lane Moore, and wife LaDonna, of Great Bend; two daughters, Leesa Butler and husband Roger, of Great Bend, and Libbie Moore of Leawood; six grandchildren, Aubree Moore and fiancé David Miller, of Nashville, Tenn., Jesse Moore and wife Meghan of Bartlesville, Okla., Lacey Moore of Dallas, Texas, Breanna Ramirez and husband Fernando, and Skyler Butler, all of Kansas City, Mo., and Cade Butler of Lawrence; and one great-grandson, Elian Ramirez. She was preceded in death by four brothers, Lloyd Wilhite, Neil Willard, Harold Willard and Jack Willard.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at First Christian Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiant. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday with the family to receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Memorial donations to First Christian Church for its Building Fund or Scholarship Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 9, 2008

Alan Weber 1938 - 2008

COLDWATER — Alan Weber, 69, died May 7 at his home in Coldwater. He was born Nov. 3, 1938, in Protection, the son of Frank and Laurine (Schesser) Weber. He married Lovella Cusick on Oct. 14, 1977, at WaKeeney. He was the head mechanic and co-owner of Coldwater Motor Company in Coldwater for 42 years. He was a lifetime resident of Comanche County. He attended Coldwater Grade School and graduated from Coldwater High School in 1956. He was trained as a technical specialist by the Ford Motor Co.

Mr. Weber was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and Coldwater Lions Club, both of Coldwater.

Survivors include his wife, of Coldwater; one brother, Charles A. Weber of Marion, Iowa; two sisters, Gena “Kathy” Hoover of Emporia and Jane Hoff of Claflin; four stepchildren, Darrell Cusick of Newton, Diana Gordon of Ashland, Terry Cusick of San Antonio, Texas, and Ramon Cusick of Danville, Ind.; nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.
A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Hatfield-Prusa Funeral Home, Coldwater, with the Rev. Dennis Carter presiding. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery, Coldwater. Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to South Wind Hospice in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hatfield-Prusa Funeral Home
Box 417
Coldwater, KS 67029
620-582-2154
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 9, 2008

May 11, 2008

Bernice Whelan 1928 – 2008

NEWTON — Bernice Whelan, 79, died May 8 at the Village Shalom in Overland Park. She was born Nov. 13, 1928, at Dodge City to Albert and Edna (Buhrle) Kregar. On Aug. 2, 1948, she married Cecil Whelan. He preceded her in death on June 6, 1984. Bernice moved to Newton in 1967 from Great Bend. Bernice was a homemaker and also worked as a legal secretary and food demonstrator at Dillons. She tole painted for many years and also loved to be outside gardening and doing yard work with her husband. Bernice greatly looked forward to spending time with her loving family and many friends.

Mrs. Whelan was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Newton.

She is survived by her daughter, Yvette Stark of Overland Park; a son, Michael Whelan of Great Bend; two sisters, Lucille Hendrickson of Liberal and Ruth Pittel of Hollister, Calif.; Three grandchildren, Machaela Whelan, Kinnat Whelan and Kyra Stark.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Zion Lutheran Church in Newton with the Rev. Dean Von Stroh presiding. The casket will be open prior to the service at the church. Memorials may be made out to Kansas City Hospice or The American Cancer Society in Care of Petersen Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Petersen Funeral Home*
215 North Main
Newton, KS 67114
316 283-2525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 11, 2008

Carl Soden 1915 – 2008

Carl Soden, 92, of Great Bend, died May 8 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born May 21, 1915, at Hardy, Ark., the son of James Walter and Mahala Elizabeth Brummit Soden. He married Dorothy O. Brueggaman Dec. 21, 1946, in Mission. She survives. He was a schoolteacher and also started the Great Bend Recreation Center here, retiring in 1981. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1949, moving here from Coffeyville. He was a World War II Army/Navy veteran, attaining the rank of lieutenant.

Mr. Soden was a member of St. John Episcopal Church, Rotary, The American Legion and VFW in Great Bend. He was a charter member of Kansas Parks and Recreation, and was a past president and a member of the Hall of Fame. He was a graduate of Caney High School and is a member of that school’s Hall of Fame. He was a member of the Emporia State University Alumni and of Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity. Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include a daughter, Doris Butler, M.D., Wichita, and four grandchildren, Erika, Karen Beth, Kirsten and Derek. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Sara “Sally” Johann Soden, one brother, Cecil Soden, and two sisters, Helen Eagle and Ann Emerson.
A graveside memorial service will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Great Bend Cemetery, with Father Mark Cowell officiant. Inurnment will take place at that time, with military rites conducted by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Donations to memorial funds for the Great Bend Recreation Commission or for Barton County Community College Foundation for the benefit of the History Department may be made in care of Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 11, 2008

May 13, 2008

David G. Imler 1944 - 2008

On Saturday evening, May 10, our Heavenly Father called David G. Imler, 63, of Great Bend, home. He passed away at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. David Galen Imler was born at 4:20 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1, 1944, in Nuckolls County, near Superior, Neb. He was welcomed by not only his parents Galen and Marcile Earnestine Imler but an older sister Sharlene and big brother Ernie. In all, the Imlers had 12 siblings. David grew up around Superior. In 1962 he left school and joined the U.S. Navy. Boot camp was in San Diego, Calif. He completed his education in the Navy. While serving his country he met and married Carolyn “Elaine” Estrada on May 28, 1964, in Chula Vista, Calif. She survives. He was a retired truck driver for Koch Industries. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1981, coming from Lincoln, Kan.

Mr. Imler was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, a life member of VFW Post 7428, Hoisington, and of Eagles Lodge No. 646 and American Legion Argonne Post 180, both of Great Bend. He loved his family, life and camping with family and friends. He didn’t know any strangers, only knew them as friends.

He leaves behind his wife, Elaine, of the home; four sons, Jerry Imler and wife Treasa of Olmitz, Dan Imler and wife Barbara, and Roy Imler, all of Lawton, Okla., and Glenn Imler of Great Bend; two daughters, Angelina Langen of Great Bend and Tuesday Noonan of Pawnee Rock; his mother, Marcile Imler of Hardy, Neb.; two brothers, Gary Imler and wife Judy of Pittsfield, Mass., and Kirk Imler of Cuba, Kan.; three sisters, Sharlene Taylor of Ajo, Ariz., Mary Gruszka and husband Joseph of Mankato and Teresa Dyke and husband Terry of Cuba, Kan.; two brothers-in-law, Gene Estrada of Stroud, Okla., and Robert Estrada of San Diego; a sister-in-law, Ramona Jones and husband Dennis of Shafter, Calif.; seven grandchildren, Bill, Kasi, Alysia and Matthew of Lawton, Okla., and Taylor, Paige and Jessica of Great Bend; one stepgrandchild, Derrick; and one step-great-grandchild, Devan. He was preceded in death by four infant children, his father, five brothers, Sherman Dean Imler, Edwin Ray Imler, Lonn Boyd Imler, Ernie Imler and Dennis Dale Imler; and a sister, Janet Mae Schnopp.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiant. Interment will be at the Golden Belt Cemetery, Great Bend, with military honors conducted by a U.S. Navy Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Donations to the David G. Imler Memorial Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 13, 2008

Velda Foster Pfister 1906 - 2008
LARNED — Velda Foster Pfister, 101, died May 10 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born Oct. 26, 1906, in Pawnee Rock, the daughter of Melvin B. and Ella Cooper Foster. A lifetime area resident, she was a homemaker and a registered nurse.

Mrs. Pfister was a member of the United Methodist Church of Pawnee Rock, Daughters of the American Revolution and 20th Century Club. She graduated from the Halstead School of Nursing in 1928. On Oct. 28, 1929, she married Cecil A. Pfister of Pawnee Rock. He died Oct. 18, 1969.

Survivors include a granddaughter, Kim Murrison, and two great-grandchildren, Alicia Murrison and Cody Murrison, both of Louisville, Ky.; a son-in-law, Jim Oliverson, Louisville, Ky.; a sister-in-law, Maxine Foster, Pawnee Rock; a nephew, Bob Foster, Larned; and a niece, Kathleen Foster, Hutchinson. She was preceded in death by a daughter, C. Verdell Oliverson, a brother, Doyle Foster, and twin sisters.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned, with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary. Burial will be in Pawnee Rock Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to the American Heart Association in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
916 Main
P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 13, 2008

Dr. Stanford D. Splitter 1919 - 2007

OAKLAND, Calif. — Dr. Stanford D. Splitter, 88, died Oct. 20 in Oakland. He was born Jan. 19, 1919, near Lorraine, to Louis B. and Anna Kroesch Splitter. On Dec. 11, 1943, he married Janet Stoltenberg in Kansas City. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1940 and from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1944. A physician, he started a medical practice in Berkeley, Calif., in 1950, retiring in 1991. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Medical Corps, serving in Panama.

Survivors include his wife, Dr. Janet Splitter of Oakland, Calif.; a brother, Earl Splitter of Plantation, Fla.; three nephews, Dr. Gary Splitter, Melvin Splitter and Wayne Mehl; and three nieces, Rosalie Splitter, Marianne Splitter and Eleanor Splitter. He was preceded in death by brothers Karl and Vernon, a sister, Ethel Mehl, and nieces Clarissa Splitter Pound and Ann Marie Mehl Thomas.

A memorial service will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at First Baptist Church, Lorraine, with the Rev. George Redington presiding. Inurnment will be in the First Baptist Church Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association, 426 17th St., Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94612.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Parsons Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 45
Ellsworth, KS 67439
785-472-3861
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 13, 2008

Robert Lee (Bob) Schroeder 1928 - 2008

May 14, 2008
BOULDER, Colo. — Bob Schroeder of Boulder, Colo., died (or as he wanted his obituary to read, “kicked the bucket”) on May 11, of metastatic prostate cancer at the HospiceCare Center in Louisville, Colo. He was 80 years old. He never lost his irreverent sense of humor or his zest for life. He was born March 19, 1928, during a spring snowstorm on a ranch near Albert, to William Lester and Maisie May Schroeder. He married Joan Conover in Great Bend on Nov. 21, 1953.

He graduated from high school in Great Bend and earned a degree in industrial engineering from the University of Tennessee, where he enjoyed the fellowship of his brothers in the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity. He received a graduate degree in Spanish and international management from the American Institute for Foreign Trade in Glendale, Ariz.

At the end of World War II he served for two years in the U.S. Navy Construction Battalion, known as Seabees, in the Philippines. Bob had a lengthy career in sales and management, living overseas with Armco International, a steel company. His first assignment was in Maracaibo, Venezuela; followed by Caracas, Venezuela; Barcelona, Spain; Puerto Rico; Bogota, Colombia; and Sydney, Australia.

He retired early to Boulder, and learned to ski. He enjoyed hiking in the mountains and bicycling on the Boulder bike paths. Also, after retirement he continued traveling and keeping in touch with the friends he had made in many places.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, of Boulder; a daughter, Lauren Carpenter, of Philadelphia, Pa.; and a son, Kurt Schroeder, of San Francisco. He was very proud of his grandchildren, Meredith Carpenter, studying at Stanford, and Russell Carpenter at SUNY (State University of New York), Binghamton, N.Y.

Respecting his wishes, no services will be held. Cremation has occurred and the family will dispose of his ashes at a later date. Memorial gifts may be made to HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties, 2594 Trailridge Drive East, Lafayette, CO 80026. Please share thoughts, memories and condolences at dailycamera.com/legacy.

Funeral arrangements provided by
M.P. Murphy & Associates*
Funeral Directors
4984 Idylwild Trail
Boulder, CO 80301
303-530-4111
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 14, 2008

Truman Lee McFann 1930 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Truman Lee McFann, 77, died May 13 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. He was born Sept. 21, 1930. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 14, 2008

May 15 , 2008

Truman Lee “T.L.” McFann 1930 - 2008

CLAFLIN — Truman Lee “T.L.” McFann, 77, died May 13 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Sept. 21, 1930, at Virgil, he was the son of Leo Leslie and Bertha (Proehl) McFann. He worked as a meter technician in Pawnee Rock for K-N Energy Gas Company. He was a lifetime resident of Barton County. He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving in the Army Signal Corps.

Mr. McFann was a member of the United Methodist Church, Claflin.

Survivors include three daughters, Marcia Bouker and Susan Brown, both of Hays, and Julie Lange of Baraboo, Wis.; four sons, Dean McFann of Scott City, Clay McFann and Glen McFann, both of Rozel, and Hoyt McFann of Great
Robert R. Smith 1914 - 2008

Robert R. Smith, 93, of Great Bend, died May 14 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Dec. 11, 1914, at Hoisington, he was the son of Herbert and Mayme (Tromer) Smith. He married Margaret Murphy on Oct. 11, 1946, at Great Bend. She survives. He was a retired brakeman/conductor for the Missouri Pacific Railroad. A lifetime resident of the Hoisington and Great Bend area, he was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Coast Guard.

Mr. Smith was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend; a former member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and VFW Post 7428, both of Hoisington. He was a former chairman of the board of the Great Bend Commission on Aging; active in the Barton County Historical Society, and in Friends of the Library, Great Bend; he served for 13 years on the Hoisington City Council; was local and assistant general chairman for the United Transportation Union and served as a representative for Barton County in the Silver Haired Legislature for six years.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of Great Bend, include three sons, Dennis Smith of Gainesville, Fla., Terry Smith of Salina and Mark Smith of Shadyside, Md.; four daughters, Sharon Schremmer of Wichita, Linda Whitt of Hutchinson, and Jan Morgenstern and Mary Dumler, both of Hoisington; 15 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Tremor Smith, and a great-grandchild, Kirsten Ochs.

A special vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket and Father Ultan Murphy officiating. Burial will be at the St. John Church Cemetery, Hoisington, with military rites conducted by VFW Post 7428 and American Legion Post 286. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer’s Foundation in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 15, 2008

Alice M. Harris 1921 - 2008

LARNED — Alice M. Harris, 87, died May 9 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born May 8, 1921, in Burdett, she was the daughter of Curtis D. and Blanche Hayward Smith. She married Orbin G. Harris in Hutchinson on April 18, 1954. He died June 27, 1977. A longtime resident of Larned, she was a homemaker.
Mrs. Harris was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Larned.

Survivors include three brothers, Dwight L. Smith of Larned, Clarence R. Smith of San Diego, Calif., and Maurice R. Smith of Cloudcroft, N.M.; two sisters, Eleanor M. Adams of Larned and Lola Shannon of Springfield, Mo.; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Bernard D. Smith, Harold W. Smith and Clyde E. Smith, and a sister, Helen E. Halling.

Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the St. Joseph Memorial Hospital Chapel in Larned with Pastor Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Inurnment will be in the Larned Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday to sign a register at Morell Funeral Home in Larned. Memorials may be sent to the First United Methodist Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 15, 2008

May 16, 2008

Winifred Victoria Jessie (Hudspith) Rouse 1913 - 2008

SUSSEX, England — Winifred Victoria Jessie (Hudspith) Rouse, 94, died following a severe stroke in Worthing Hospital, Sussex, England, on May 11. The daughter of Herbert and Victoria Hudspith, Auntie Winnie, as she was known by her nieces and nephews, was born Sept. 7, 1913, in London, England.

The Hudspiths’ third child, her two brothers, Stanley and Herbert predeceased her, as did her parents, and her husband, the Rev. Harold Rouse. The couple was married later in life and there were no children. Before World War II, Winnie worked as a nanny and at a large London crèche, among the very poor. During the war, she was a secretary in London.

Later, she owned and operated a small hotel in Surrey, serving teas and her own delicious homemade cakes for morning coffees and afternoon teas.

As all the Hudspith family, she was raised as a member of the Congregational Church.

She was also predeceased by one nephew, John Hudspith.

Winnie is survived by her caretaker and friend for many years, Ruth Fisher; one sister, Marjorie Harrington of Great Bend; one nephew, Peter McCallum of Wichita; and five nieces, Brenda Kelley (Tom) of Grand Junction, Colo., Rosalind Neeland (Dennis) of Great Bend, and Angela Atkins (Gerald), Vickie Ward (Brian), and Laurie Sandercock (Conrad), all of England.

Cremation and a memorial service will be held on Tuesday, May 20.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 16, 2008*

May 18, 2008

Leona L. Jenisch 1916 – 2008

ODIN — Leona L. Jenisch, 91, died May 16. Born Aug. 26, 1916, at Odin, she was the daughter of Emil and Josephine (Zorn) Schneweis. She married Arthur Jenisch on Oct. 16, 1946, at Odin. He preceded her in death Nov. 24, 2002. She retired from St. Rose Hospital in Great Bend as a registered nurse. She was a lifetime Odin resident. Mrs. Jenisch was a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church and St. Ann’s Altar Society, both of Odin.
Survivors include a son, Mel Jenisch, Wichita; and a brother, Edwin Schneweis, and wife Lucille, Great Bend. She was preceded in death by five brothers, John Schneweis, Wilhelm Schneweis, Father Emil Schneweis, Lawrence Schneweis and Leonard Schneweis; six sisters, Gabriella Habiger, Anna Schneweis, Sister Pauline Schneweis, Christina Demel, Mathilda Boor and Gertrude Rziha.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today, followed by an altar society rosary, both at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Family Catholic Church, Odin, with Father Pascal Klein officiant. Burial will be at Holy Family Cemetery, Odin. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Golden Belt Home Health and Hospice, Great Bend, or Harry Hynes Hospice, Wichita. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Vernon H. Bartonek 1922 – 2008

Vernon H. Bartonek, 86, of Great Bend, died May 16 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Feb. 4, 1922, at Olmitz, he was the son of Adolph J. and Anna Riedel Bartonek. He married Leona Lichter on May 29, 1945, at Olmitz. He was a farmer and stockman and had worked in maintenance for the state highway Department of Transportation for 19 years and for Fuller Brush for nine years. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1997, coming from Olmitz.

Mr. Bartonek was a member of St. Ann’s Catholic Church at Olmitz. Survivors include his wife, of the home; a son, Alan Bartonek and wife Linda, of Salina; two sisters, Mary Goode of Great Bend and Esther Hildreth of Wichita; two grandchildren, Daniel Bartonek and Lynae Thompson; and four great-grandchildren, Derrick Bartonek, Krystle Bartonek, Brenna Thompson and Blake Thompson. He was preceded in death by a brother, Eugene “Babe” Bartonek.

A vigil service will be at 7:30 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the funeral home, with Father Ultan Murphy officiant. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for St. Ann’s Catholic Church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.


Brenda Alcala, 23, of Great Bend, died May 16 at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Campus in Wichita. She was born March 26, 1985, at Durango, Mexico, to Alfredo and Zenaida Reyes Alcala. She was formerly employed by Fuller Brush and Great Bend Packing. She had been a resident of Great Bend since 2003, coming from Durango, Mexico.

Miss Alcala was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend.
Survivors include her parents, of the home; companion, Gilberto Santana and family, Great Bend; three brothers, Jose Alfredo Alcala, Joel Alcala and Erik Alcala, all of Great Bend; and three sisters, Maura Alcala, Maria Dolores Alcala and Luisa Yoselin Alcala, all of Great Bend.

Memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, with Father Floyd McKinney officiating. There will be no visitation as cremation has taken place.

Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 18, 2008

James B. Davis Jr. 1925 – 2008

LARNED — James B. Davis Jr., 82, died May 16 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. He was born Oct. 19, 1925, in Frankfort, Ind., the son of James Bruce and Edna Alice Roth Davis. He married Grace M. Buhrer at Las Animas, Colo., on April 12, 1946. She died Oct. 2, 1994. A resident of Larned since 1928, he was a retired carpenter. Mr. Davis was a member of the First United Methodist Church, and a Life Member of American Legion Post No. 106, both of Larned. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Survivors include two sons, Steve A. and Gene A., both of Larned, one daughter, Karen Blair, Scott City; three brothers, Donald, of Larned, Byron E., Gatesburg, Ill., and John W., Phoenix, Ariz.; three sisters, Lois Foss, Kingston, Tenn., Alice Pychop, Larned, and Bonnie Story, Kinsley; nine grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Morell Funeral Home, Larned, with Pastor Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Visitation will be from noon until 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Larned cemetery. Memorials may be sent to Welcome Inn Seniors in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc .com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124, 1021 Broadway
Larned, KS 67550-0124
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 18, 2008

May 20, 2008

Helen D. Menzer

HOISINGTON — A memorial service will be held Saturday, to honor Helen D. Menzer of Hoisington, who died June 13, 2002, at the age of 76. The graveside service will be for family only.

Following this, there will be a reception starting at 4 p.m. in Hoisington, on the corner of Main and Broadway, in the South Tap Room. Everyone is welcome.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 20, 2008#

Anna M. Hunsley
Anna M. Hunsley, 94, of Great Bend, died May 19, 2008, at Life Care Center of Andover. Arrangements will be announced by Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 20, 2008

Charles R. “Jiggs” Walls 1920 - 2008

BUSHTON — Charles R. “Jiggs” Walls, 87, died May 17 at Labette Health Hospital, Parsons. He was born July 7, 1920, at Estella, Okla., the son of John Wesley and Bessie (Williams) Walls. He married Velma “Fern” Barnwell on April 17, 1948, at Topsy, Okla. He worked for Northern Natural Gas at Bushton as a backhoe operator for 33 years before retiring. He had been a resident of Bushton since 1954, moving to Parsons in 2007.

He grew up near Vinita, Okla., and helped his father farm. He served in World War II in the Sea Bees in the South Pacific.

Mr. Walls was a member of the United Methodist Church of Bushton. He loved to garden and play cards. He was a wonderful and caring husband, father and grandfather who loved his family.

Survivors include his wife, of Parsons; son DeWayne Walls and wife Geraldine, Jetmore; two daughters, Gail Walls, Wichita, and Brenda Butler and husband Keith, Parsons; two sisters, Allie May McGlasson, Vinita, Okla., and Mary Lou Cooper, Owasso, Okla.; a brother, Keith Walls, Boise, Idaho; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; three step-grandchildren; seven step-great-grandchildren; and two step-great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Vivian, Lee, Ralph and Earl (Shorty) Walls, and one sister, Thelma Jent.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the United Methodist Church in Bushton, with the Rev. Gene Langhofer officiating. Burial will be at Bushton Cemetery with military graveside rites. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Memorials are suggested to the church, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 146, 415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
(620) 653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 20, 2008

Joyce Jeanette Schiller 1932 - 2008

Joyce Jeanette Schiller, 75, of Great Bend, died May 18 at Kansas Heart Hospital, Wichita. Born Aug. 6, 1932, at Otis, she was the daughter of John E. and Elizabeth Wilhelm Kaiser. She married Joseph John Schiller on Aug. 25, 1954, at Great Bend. He died Feb. 4, 2006. She was a homemaker and a lifetime Barton County resident.

Mrs. Schiller was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, Altar Society and Sunflower Polka Club, all of Great Bend, and EHU.

Survivors include a son, Paul Schiller and wife Lynn of Great Bend; a daughter, Ruth Ann Bealer and husband Richard of Great Bend; four grandchildren, Lisa Schiller Gwin, Jenni Schiller, Zach Bealer and Ryan Bealer, all of Great Bend; and a stepgranddaughter, Nicole Jacks of Rapid City, S.D. She was preceded in death by one sister, Lillian Durant.

An altar society rosary will be at 4 p.m. Thursday and a vigil service follows at 7 p.m. Thursday, both at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for Prince of Peace Parish may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
May 21, 2008

Magdalene M. Bentz 1915 - 2008

TAMPA, Kan. — Magdalene M. Bentz, 92, died May 12 at the Midland Hospice House of Topeka. Born Nov. 19, 1915, on a farm near Tampa, she was the daughter of Gerhard and Wilhelmine Meyer (the youngest of 12 children). She graduated from Tampa Rural High School in 1934 and from St. Louis Lutheran School of Nursing in 1938. She married Paul George Bentz on June 7, 1942. He died on May 26, 1965. A lifelong resident of the Tampa area, she was a registered nurse.

Mrs. Bentz was a lifetime member of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Tampa, where she was baptized and confirmed.

Survivors include four daughters, Annita Huff and Marilyn Keeler, both of Topeka, Rosalie Lorson and husband Steven of Salina, and Gloria Schultz and husband Pete of Herington; two brothers, Tony Meyer of Ramona, and George Meyer and wife Millicent of Ellinwood; a sister-in-law, Alma Meyer; a daughter-in-law, Cyndi Bentz of Hope; 15 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband and a son, Myron Paul Bentz, on July 17, 1997.

Funeral service was on May 16 at the St. John’s Lutheran Church in Tampa, with the Rev. Clark Davis officiating. Burial was at the North Tampa Cemetery. Organist was Lori Moldenhauer. The casket bearers were Carl Bentz, Paul Bentz, Kevin Kickhaefer, Aaron Lorson, Eric Lorson and Nathan Lorson. The family requests memorials to the Midland Hospice House of Topeka or the St. John’s Lutheran Church of Tampa, in care of Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home, Herington Chapel.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Penwell-Gabel-Herington Chapel*
404 S. Broadway
Herington, KS 67449
785-258-2244
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Frank Charles White 1929 - 2008

Frank Charles White, 78, of Great Bend, died May 19 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Oct. 1, 1929, in Muskogee, Okla., he was the son of Frank and Anna Peck White. He was raised in Coyville by his father’s parents after his mother’s death at the age of 23, on Oct. 4, 1929. He started school in 1936 and graduated from Coyville High School in 1948. He married Doris Ann Bayer on April 3, 1960, in Great Bend. She survives. A resident of Great Bend since 1959, coming from Wichita, he worked as a power plant operator for Western Power, Arthur Mulligan Plant for 37 years and for Fuller Brush. He was a blood donor and enjoyed photography, crafts, welding, walks with his dog, feeding the birds and the public library. He loved God, his church and family.

Mr. White was a United States Navy veteran of the Korean War, serving with the Seabees from 1950 to 1954. He was a member of the First Christian Church and a lifetime member of the Barton County Historical Society.

Survivors include his wife, Doris, of the home; a son, Rodney Joel White of Fort Worth, Texas; a daughter, June A. White of Great Bend; a granddaughter, Rachel Hannahruth White of Fort Worth, Texas; and many friends.
Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the First Christian Church in Great Bend with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiating. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home, with family receiving friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Inurnment will be at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the First Christian Church or Sunflower Diversified Services, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Anna M. Hunsley 1913 - 2008


Mrs. Hunsley was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and Altar Society, both of Hoisington, and Daughters of Isabella, Great Bend.

Survivors include three sons, Joseph G. Schon and wife Sandy of Scottsbluff, Neb., Wayne E. Schon and wife Norma of Newton and Darrel T. Schon and wife Leisa of Andover; a daughter Jean Otte and husband Gary of Fort Collins, Colo.; a brother, Joe Rziha of Hoisington; a sister, Catherine Hipp, Wichita; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Frank A. Rziha, and seven sisters, Sister May Jordan, Margaret Olsen, Elizabeth J. Rziha, Agnes Penka, Mathilda Reif, Helen McCann and Rose Schneider.

A vigil service will be at 6 p.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiating. A graveside burial service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Great Bend Cemetery, Great Bend. Visitation will be from noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Harry Hynes Hospice or St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church Building Fund, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Margaret Louise Smith 1923 - 2008

Margaret Louise Smith, 84, of Great Bend, died May 20 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. She was born Aug. 5, 1923. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Donald Harm Folkerts 1925 - 2008

MANHATTAN — Donald Harm Folkerts, 82, of Manhattan, died May 19 at Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan. He was born in Larned on July 19, 1925, to Harm and Mabel Folkerts. He grew up on a farm near Albert,
attended grade school in District 19, Pawnee County, and graduated from Larned High School. He was a Star Scout and attended Boys State in 1942. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as Boatswain’s Mate, Second Class, aboard the USS Agawam. He witnessed the surrender of Japan and was awarded the Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the Philippine-Liberation Campaign Ribbon. After returning from the war, he attended Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, now Kansas State University, where he graduated in 1950. He was awarded honoraries in Phi Kappa Phi and the Agriculture Education Society. He married Helen Cazier on Aug. 6, 1950, at the Danforth Chapel on the Kansas State campus. They moved to Eureka, where he taught agriculture classes to veterans at Eureka High School until 1952. He then worked for Combs Poultry Farms as a sales representative in north central Kansas for 15 years. After serving the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, for 25 years, he retired in 1990. After his retirement, he volunteered for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and as a Master Gardener in Mitchell County.

He cherished his loving wife, family, and his Lord. He enjoyed gardening, hunting, traveling, and watching sports. He also served as a Boy Scout leader and taught Sunday School at Concordia Lutheran Church. He was a member of First Lutheran Church in Manhattan where he attended Sunday School, was a member of the Guild, and served as a greeter. He was also a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Survivors include his wife, Helen, of the home; three daughters, Deanna Swank and her husband, Charlie, of Ellinwood, Denise Wilson and her husband, Craig, of Emporia, and Donita O’Hearn and her husband, Don, of Leicester, N.C.; two sons, Daryl Folkerts and his wife, Debbie, of Manhattan, and Darwin Folkerts and his wife, Debbie, of Andover; eight grandchildren, Tanner Swank, Jeremy Wilson, Michael, Connor, and Ryan O’Hearn, and Chase, Max, and Tessa White. Other survivors include three sisters, Evelyn Mazurkiewicz of Los Lunas, N.M., Glenna Rose Row of Overland Park and Georgie Bauer of Pawnee Rock; three brothers, David Folkerts and Denny Keenan of Great Bend, and Terry Keenan of Ness City, as well as stepbrothers and stepsisters, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Ave. in Manhattan. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First Lutheran Church, 930 Poyntz Ave. in Manhattan with the Rev. Dr. Keith Wiens officiating. Burial will be at Peace Lutheran Church Cemetery, RR 1, in Albert at 3:30 p.m. Friday with the Rev. Robert Albin officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association or First Lutheran Church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home Web site at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home*
1616 Poyntz Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-539-7481
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Maurine Grizzell Lovell Riggio 1917 - 2008

GLENDALE, Calif. — Maurine Grizzell Lovell Riggio, 90, passed away April 26 in Glendale, Calif. She was born May 1, 1917, on a wheat farm at Claflin, the fifth of eight children. She attended grade school and high school in Claflin and graduated from Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, now Kansas State University, with a degree in home economics and dietetics. For more than 30 years she worked in the dietary department at Cedars Hospital in Los Angeles, retiring in 1980.

She was an active and longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, Calif., including the Homebuilder’s Bible Class, the American Dietetic Association, and a member of the Hollywood Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution.

Survivors include Willis C. Grizzell of Garden Grove, Calif., Lenora V. Grizzell of Hartford, Conn., Miriam G. Zieber of Audubon, Pa., and 10 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter, and siblings Mildred Bowman, Richard Grizzell, Robert Grizzell and Bette Jones.
A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the United Methodist Church in Claflin with the Rev. Gene Langhofer officiating. Interment took place May 5 in the Claflin Cemetery. Any correspondence may be sent to Miriam Grizzell Zieber, 12232 Shannondell Drive, Eagleville, PA 19403. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Arnold “Fay” Bethurem 1930 - 2008

SHERIDAN, Wyo. — Arnold “Fay” Bethurem, 78, died May 17 at Westview Health Care Center. Fay was born to Harrison “Arnold” and Geneva Brundage Bethurem on April 27, 1930, in Sheridan, Wyo. Upon leaving Sheridan High, he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1947. During his stint in the military he served in Guam, during the Korean Conflict, and in Davis, Calif., at the Naval Radio Station. Fay was honorably discharged on Aug. 22, 1955. He married Williscene “Billie” L. Johnson in Sheridan at the Presbyterian Church on Nov. 16, 1950. After the Navy he brought his growing family home to Sheridan to work with his uncle, Ralph Brundage, on the family ranch. He loved picnics and gatherings with family and friends, especially during the holidays. He was very particular when decorating the Christmas tree, creating a masterpiece that was admired by all. Fay enjoyed the mountains, fishing and hunting. He had an unending thirst for knowledge and loved watching the History Channel. Fay loved traveling with his wife, Billie, stopping to check out historical sites on their way to visit family and friends.

Fay was a member of the Shrine Oriental Band and had a great time performing in the area parades. He also volunteered at the Sheridan VA Medical Center and was a member of the Sheridan School District Number 2 Board of Education where he served as chairman for many years. He was an active member and officer of Woodland Park Parent Teachers Association during the years of his children’s attendance there, the Big Horn Mountain Eagles No. 4169, where he enjoyed gathering with friends and family on Tuesday evenings, the American Legion, a Master Mason of the Big Horn Mountain Lodge No. 43, a life member of the Sheridan Elks Lodge No. 520 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Billie, of Sheridan, Wyo.; a son, Kip Bethurem and wife Shirley of Sheridan, Wyo.; two daughters, Keri Bethurem, formerly of Gillette, Wyo., and Konni Bethurem-Mitchell and husband Randy of Ellinwood; five grandchildren, Kolter and Cruz Bethurem of California, Ryan Motes of Iowa, Hannah Ryan and husband Chris of Sheridan, Wyo., and Aaron Mitchell of Kansas; and his brother, Conrad Bethurem of Sheridan, Wyo. He was preceded in death by his parents, a younger brother and a grandson.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Kane Funeral Home, Sheridan, Wyo., with Pastor Brian Johnson officiating. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials in Fay’s name to the Shrine Travel Fund, 145 W. Loucks, Sheridan, WY 82801.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kane Funeral Home*
689 Meridan Street
Sheridan, WY 82801
307-673-5837
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

Russell Dean Bird 1930 - 2008

GARFIELD — Russell Dean Bird, 78, died May 20 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. He was born Feb. 23, 1930, in Larned, the son of Ralph Russell and Sarah Grace Monger Bird. He married Karen Ann Everett at Seward on

Mr. Bird was a member of the United Methodist Church, Garfield, and a former member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors, besides his wife, include four sons, Russell D. Bird Jr. of Fowler, Charles R. and Randall R., both of Larned, and Alan L. of Garfield; a daughter, Debbie Bird of Larned, and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Michael, a sister, Joyce Losey; and a grandchild.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned, with Pastor Ryan Webster presiding. Burial will be in the Garfield Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Thursday at Beckwith Mortuary. Memorials may be sent to the Pawnee County Humane Society in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left and this notice viewed at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
916 Main/P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 21, 2008

May 22, 2008

Frank Charles White 1929 - 2008

Frank Charles White, 78, of Great Bend, died May 19 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born Oct. 1, 1929, in Muskogee, Okla., he was the son of Frank and Anna Peck White. He was raised in Coyville by his father’s parents after his mother’s death at the age of 23, on Oct. 4, 1929. He started school in 1936 and graduated from Coyville High School in 1948. He married Doris Ann Bayer on April 3, 1960, in Great Bend. She survives. A resident of Great Bend since 1959, coming from Wichita, he worked as a power plant operator for Western Power, Arthur Mulligan Plant, for 37 years and for Fuller Brush. He was a blood donor and enjoyed photography, crafts, welding, walks with his dog, feeding the birds and the public library. He loved God, his church and family.

Mr. White was a United States Navy veteran of the Korean War, serving with the Seabees from 1950 to 1954. He was a member of the First Christian Church and a lifetime member of the Barton County Historical Society.

Survivors include his wife, Doris, of the home; a son, Rodney Joel White of Fort Worth, Texas; a daughter, June A. White of Great Bend; a granddaughter, Rachel Hannahruth White of Fort Worth, Texas; and many friends.

Funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the First Christian Church in Great Bend with the Rev. William F. Johnson officiating. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, with family receiving friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Inurnment will be at a later date. Memorials are suggested to the First Christian Church or Sunflower Diversified Services, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 22, 2008

Vernelia Williams 1920 - 2008
Vernelia Williams, 87, of Great Bend, died May 20 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. She was born Dec. 11, 1920, at St. Leo, the daughter of Aloysius “A.J.” and Elizabeth Schommer Schwager. She married Howard Williams on June 20, 1946, at Great Bend. He died Oct. 19, 1983. She was a homemaker and worked at Harrison School Junior High as a school cook, retiring in 1976. She was a longtime resident of Great Bend.

Mrs. Williams was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima, Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella and was very active in Girl Scouts.

Survivors include two sons, Stanley Williams and wife Roberta of Wadsworth, Ill., and G.R. Williams and wife Lee Anne of Larned; a son-in-law, Frank Bartonek and wife Lynn of Conway Springs; a daughter, Linda Keith and husband Ed of Almena; 10 grandchildren, Sheena and Royce Bruce of Windom, Wendy and Jason Schmidt of Oakley, Ryan and Karman Keith of Holyoke, Colo., Tess and Shawn Couch of Larned, Luci and Troy Martin of Larned, Charles Williams of Wadsworth, Ill., Nancy and Thomas Tyler of Overland Park, and Katie, Mark and Shaun Bartonek, all of Conway Springs; and 13 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Alice Bartonek, three brothers, George Schwager, Gerald Schwager and Sylvester Schwager, and one sister, Dorothy Mueller.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home. Vigil Service with D of I Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the church, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiant. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, and from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Donations to a memorial fund for the Holy Family School Endowment Fund may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Norman N. Dreiling, 74, of Great Bend died May 21 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. He was born Jan. 28, 1934, in Ellis County, the son of Nick P. and Mary Catherine Rupp Dreiling. He married Shirley T. Anderson on Sept. 3, 1955, at Plainville. She survives. He was the principal owner and operator of Allied Cementing for 41 years. The business started in Russell in 1967 and later grew to seven other locations across Kansas serving the oil and gas industry. He was a resident of Great Bend and Ellinwood for 37 years.

Mr. Dreiling was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, Knights of Columbus, Elks Lodge and Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of the home, include two sons, Steven Dreiling and wife Jan of Lawrence, and Jayson Dreiling and wife Penni of Ellinwood; a daughter, Jeri Mitchell and husband Larry of Pratt; a brother, Gerald Dreiling of Hoisington; three sisters, Shirley Ann Bollig of Hays, Erma Jean Staab of Manhattan and Joyce La Barge of Topeka; and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two brothers and three sisters.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery North. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for the Alzheimer’s Association or for the Kansas Oil and Gas Museum may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Margaret Louise Smith 1923 - 2008

Margaret Louise Smith, 84, of Great Bend, died May 20 at Cherry Village Nursing Home, Great Bend. She was born Aug. 5, 1923, in Florence, the daughter of Ralph and Selena “Clement” Murphy. She married Robert R. Smith on Oct. 11, 1946, at Great Bend. He died May 14, 2008. A homemaker, she was a lifetime resident of Hoisington and Great Bend.

Mrs. Smith was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, and a former member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington; a member of the altar society; Daughters of the American Revolution, which she served as secretary; Barton County Historical Society, Barton County Democrats and a Girl Scout leader.

Survivors include three sons, Dennis Smith of Gainesville, Fla., Terry Smith of Salina and Mark Smith of Shadyside, Md.; four daughters, Sharon Schremmer of Wichita, Linda Whitt of Hutchinson, and Jan Morgenstern and Mary Dumler, both of Hoisington; a brother, Mike Murphy of Atlanta, Ga.; a sister, Coleen Murphy of Great Bend; 15 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, John Patrick Murphy, and a great-granddaughter, Kirsten Ochs.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at the St. John Church Cemetery, Hoisington. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer’s Foundation or to the St. John Church Building Fund, in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home
415 North Main/Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Clement Thomas Birzer 1938 - 2008

Clement Thomas Birzer, 69, of Great Bend died May 20 at his home. Born July 31, 1938, at Great Bend, he was the son of Nicholas P. and Victoria D. Birzer. He was a resident of Great Bend for 10 years, coming from St. John.

Survivors include a brother, Cletus J. Birzer, of Farmersville, Texas, and a sister, Martha R. Lundsford, Harlingen, Texas. He was preceded in death by both parents and by a brother, Austin N. Birzer.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church, St. John, with Father Rene Guesnier as celebrant. Visitation will be from 5 until 8 p.m. today at Minnis Chapel, St. John. There will be no rosary. Memorials may be given to the church in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel, Inc.
St. John, KS 67576
1-620-786-9440
HUTCHINSON — Jerry James Wenke, 37, died May 16, in Hutchinson. He was born Jan. 16, 1971, in Arkansas City.

Survivors include his daughter, Tristan Wenke; stepson, Dakota Pasquel; mother, Cathy Blenden; father, Jerry B. Wenke; grandmother, Betty P. Wenke; two sisters, Brianna White and Emily Wenke; aunt, Rozann Espino; four nieces, one nephew, cousins and many close friends. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Jerry P. Wenke, and grandparents Carl and Marge Davidson.

He will be sadly missed for his great sense of humor and contagious laughter. We love you and will miss you forever.

Cremation has taken place and private services will be held at a later date. You may send your condolences to www.cornerstoneofwichita.com.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 23, 2008*

Russell Gary Seachris 1959 - 2008

PRESHO, S.D. — Russell Gary Seachris, 48, of Presho, S.D., died May 20. His services will be held at 2 p.m. today at American Lutheran Church in Presho, with a time of fellowship to follow. Russell was born June 25, 1959, to William and Marlene Seachris in Winner, S.D. He resided in Presho with his son, Chuck.

He is survived by his children: Charles “Chuck” Seachris of Presho, Lindsey Seachris of Rapid City, S.D., Clinton Seachris of Springfield, Mo., and Amber Seachris of Great Bend; his mother, Marlene Seachris of Rapid City, S.D.; two sisters, Jeanette Gasser and Sandy (Jeff) Nespor, both of Rapid City, S.D.; and his brother, Mark (Monica) Seachris of Presho, S.D. He was preceded in death by his father, William “Bill” Seachris and his grandparents, Charles and Mary Seachris.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Isburg Funeral Chapel
439 S. Pierre St.
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 224-8836
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 23, 2008

Donald Lee Davis

LARNED – Donald Lee Davis, 75, died May 21 at his home in Larned. Service arrangements are pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 23, 2008

Sylvia Ann (Reneau) Cavender 1931 - 2008

YATES CENTER — Sylvia Ann (Reneau) Cavender, of Yates Center, entered into this life Sept. 21, 1931, and left for her eternal life on May 20, 2008. She left this world peacefully, with a smile on her face, and her loving family by her side. Sylvia was born to Paul and Viola (Reno) Reneau in Yates Center. She grew up and attended school there, along with her three siblings, Phyllis (Jim) Simon, Lawrence (Judith) Reneau, and the late Gale Reneau. She married Shirley “Rocky” Cavender on April 13, 1950, in Amarillo, Texas. Rocky passed away in October 2006.

Sylvia’s immediate survivors include her five children and three adopted grandchildren, Michael Wade Cavender Sr., Shirley Deane (Clay) Sattler, Patrick Daniel (Becky) Cavender, Kevin Thomas Cavender, Kelly Ann Arnold, Michael Wade Cavender Jr., Christopher Patrick (Cari) Cavender and Joseph Kelly Cavender. She is also survived by numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.
Sylvia was a Marine wife who lived in Texas, Virginia, California and Kansas before finally retiring to Yates Center. She lived with her mother, Viola, for over 30 years, raising their children and grandchildren together.

Sylvia earned her General Education Diploma at the age of 60, and received a college scholarship for earning the highest score in the state that year. She attended Allen County Community College and took various art classes, while earning her associate of art degree.

Sylvia worked as a waitress at the Petroleum Club, among other places, and once owned a nightclub, but mostly spent her life raising children for decades.

Sylvia was terminally ill with COPD and given three months to live in March of 2007, but fought like a soldier, to keep breathing, for another 15 months. Her numerous caretakers included her daughter, Shirley, son, Patrick and his wife Becky, son, Michael Jr., and granddaughters, Shannon Goodwin, Brandie Parker, Brooke Parker, Bobbie Goodwin, Sumer Cavender, Maryiah Cavender and her hospice nurses, Joann Legan and Kelly Brown.

Sylvia was an artist, a poet, a dreamer, a gardener, a wonderful daughter, sister, mother, grandmother and friend. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Funeral services will be at Campbell Funeral Home, Yates Center, at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Interment will be at Yates Center Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday. Memorials may be made to Heartland Hospice, 1410 Woodlawn Blvd., Derby, KS 67037.

Funeral arrangements provided by

Campbell Funeral Home*
310 W. Rutledge
Yates Center, KS 66783
620-625-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 23, 2008

May 25, 2008

Donald Lee Davis 1933 - 2008

LARNED — Donald Lee Davis, 75, died May 21 at his home in Larned. He was born Feb. 20, 1933, at Larned, the son of James Bruce and Edna Alice Roth Davis. A lifetime Larned resident, he was a retired carpenter at Larned State Hospital. Mr. Davis was an Army veteran, and member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, both of Larned.

On May 15, 1954, he married Bonetta Fay Buhrer at Larned. She survives. Other survivors include a daughter, Debra Lea Clawson and husband Jeff; two brothers, Byron Eugene Davis, Gatesburg, Ill., and John Wallace Davis, Phoenix, Ariz.; three sisters, Lois May Foss Kingston, of Tennessee, Alice Elizabeth Pochop, of Larned, Bonnie Ann Story, Pratt; and two granddaughters, Shannon Fisher and husband Aaron, Wichita, and Karrie Sleder and husband Matt, Liberal. He was preceded in death by a brother James Bruce Davis Jr.

A memorial graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Larned Cemetery, with the Rev. Wade Russell presiding. Friends may sign the register from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and 9 a.m. until service time Wednesday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned. Cremation has taken place. Inurnment will be in the Larned Cemetery, Larned. Memorials may be sent to the Jordaan Memorial Library for Children’s Books in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc. Condolences may be left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.*
P.O. Box 477/916 Main
Great Bend (Kan) Tribune, May 25, 2008

Meriden Camille Locke

OLATHE — Meriden Camille Locke, infant stillborn daughter of Erica and Dustin Locke, passed away May 21 at Olathe Medical Center. A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Olathe. Burial will follow at Oak Lawn Memorial Gardens. The family suggests contributions to The Birth Place, c/o Olathe Medical Center Charitable Foundation, 20333 West 151st, Olathe, KS 66061. To leave a special message for the family, please visit the Web site at www.PenwellGabel.com.

Meriden also leaves family pet “Coco,” paternal grandparents Monty and Valerie Locke, maternal grandparents Jim and Carol Bergen, paternal great-grandparents Pam Haltom and Lete Locke, maternal great-grandmother Ella Bergen, uncle Ryan Locke, aunt Erin Bergen, and many loving relatives.

She’s a little touch of heaven,  
sent down from above.  
She’s filled our lives with happiness  
And our hearts full of love ...  
Forever, our little “Junebug.”  
Sweet baby Meriden, we love you  
to the moon and back!

Funeral arrangements provided by  
Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home*  
Olathe Chapel  
14275 S. Blackbob Rd.  
Olathe, KS 66062  
Phone: (913) 768-6777

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 25, 2008

Alma Leona (Popp) Lech 1922 – 2008

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. — Alma Leona (Popp) Lech, 85, of Arlington Heights, Ill., passed away on May 14 at her home. Born Oct. 15, 1922, in Bison, she was the daughter of Henry and Mary (Leinweber) Popp. She married Edward Lech on Jan. 29, 1949. He survives.

Alma was a loving and gracious woman who was beautiful inside and out, being a blessing to her family and to all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband, Ed, of the home; daughter, Suzanne Deahr of Arlington Heights; two granddaughters, Julie and Jeff Ivens and Jessica Deahr, both of Arlington Heights; three sisters, Geneva Steinert, Ruby Wells and Betty Wziard, all of Great Bend; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; son-in-law, Dennis Deahr; three brothers, Walter Popp, Elmer Popp and Richard Popp; and a sister, Virginia Azzaro.

Funeral service for Alma was held on May 17 at Glueckert Funeral Home of Arlington Heights. Memorial contributions may be given to Vitas Hospice, 580 Waters Edge Drive, Lombard, IL 60148.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 25, 2008


Suzette “Suzie” Elaine Fettermann, 61, died May 22 at St. Frances in Wichita. She was born Feb. 11, 1947, in Turon, the daughter of the late Keith Sr. and Evelyn (Kelley) Welch.
A lifelong resident of Turon, she worked in the Pratt area for many years. She was a member and past president of the Pratt Rotary Club and was Rotarian of the Year 2007-2008, a former member of the Turon Methodist Church, and participated in lots of volunteer work. She was an avid bowler and loved her bowling league friends. She never met a stranger and was always quick with a radiant smile. On March 26, 1971, she married Rolla Fetterman in Pratt. He survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Robin Fetterman, currently with a Department of Defense contractor “AAI” in Iraq serving the military and Marty and Bridget Fetterman of Sedalia, Mo.; a daughter; Misha and Brian Middleton of St. Joseph, Mich.; a brother, K.C. Jr. and Melba Welch of Wichita; two sisters, Charlotte and Kenny Theis of Turon, Brenda and Rex Banta of Windsor, Co.; three grandchildren, Cortney Middleton of Stevensville, Mich., and Jake and Emily Fetterman of Sedalia.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. on Wednesday at the Turon Community Center, with K.C. Welch Jr. and Butch Lambert presiding. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday at Larrison Mortuary in Pratt and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday at Larrison Funeral Home in Turon. Memorials may be made to the Suzie Fetterman PCC Nursing Scholarship Fund in care of the mortuary. Condolences may be left for the family at www.larrisonmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Larrison Mortuary Ltd.*
300 Country Club Road
Pratt, KS 67124
Phone: (620) 672-6436
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 25, 2008

May 27, 2008

Lorena Freda Otte Calcura 1916 - 2008

Lorena Freda Otte Calcura, 92, of Great Bend, died May 24 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She was born April 6, 1916, at Great Bend, the daughter of Henry and Zelphia Essmiller Otte. She married Jasper Calcura on Jan. 23, 1942 at Great Bend. He died May 23, 1974. A lifetime resident of Great Bend, she was a homemaker.

Mrs. Calcura was a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Sunflower EHU, and was a former 4-H leader.

Survivors include three sons, Jim Calcura and wife Margaret, Kansas City, Kan., Rich Calcura and wife, Martha, Overland Park, and Mark Calcura and wife, Melanie, Great Bend; two daughters, Marla Calcura, Overland Park, and Rhonna Calcura and husband, Joe Youngberg, Aurora, Colo.; and six grandchildren, Jamie Calcura, Megan Calcura, Matt Calcura, Grant Calcura, Chris Calcura, and Taylor Calcura. She was preceded in death by a brother, Alvin Otte.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. Gary Brooks officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery, Great Bend. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, and from 9 a.m. until service time Friday, all at the funeral home. Memorials may be given to the Golden Belt Community Foundation. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3039
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 27, 2008

May 28, 2008
Irene Blakely  1908 - 2008

STAFFORD — Irene Blakely, 99, died May 26 at the Leisure Homestead, Stafford. Born July 18, 1908, at Preston, she was the daughter of Clarence and Itaska Brown Hoffman. She was a 1926 graduate of Preston High School. She was a homemaker and a longtime resident of Beeler.

Mrs. Blakely was a member of the Stitch and Chatter Club in the Buda Community, Beeler Methodist Church, was a longtime children’s Sunday school teacher at both the Buda Community Church and Beeler Methodist Church, a member of the Beeler Methodist Church Board of Trustees and loved her gardening and raising chickens.

On Oct. 23, 1928, she married Dwight Blakely. He died Jan. 3, 2002. She is survived by a daughter, Dwilette Paulsen, and her husband Dale of Stafford; five grandchildren, Daniel Paulsen, Deana Bender, David Paulsen, Dawn Paulsen and Darla Smith; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Zenith Community Church with the family presiding. Burial will be at the Stafford Cemetery. There will be a memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Beeler Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials to the Beeler Methodist Church or South Wind Hospice in care of Minnis Chapel, Stafford. Online condolences may left at MinnisChapel.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel*
125 North Main
Stafford, KS 67578
620-234-5261
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 28, 2008

Doris Lee Cory  1928 - 2008

LITTLE RIVER — Doris Lee Cory, 79, died May 20 at Rice County District Hospital, Lyons. She was born Dec. 7, 1928, in Little River, the daughter of Leland E. “Lee” and Florence Viola Mills Briscoe. She married Virgil L. Cory on Aug. 30, 1947 at Little River. He died April 30, 1999. She was a lifetime resident of Little River. A homemaker, she was a former bookkeeper at Windom Grain in Windom, and former record keeper at Young Historical Library in Little River. She graduated from Little River High School in 1947.

Mrs. Cory was a member of the United Methodist Church, Busy Homemakers EHU, Dwight Lampson Auxiliary to Post 258, and Rice County Homemaker Extension Board; and a former Pleasant View 4-H Club leader for 13 years, and a senior center member, all of Little River.

Survivors include a son, Virgil Lee Cory of Tulsa, Okla.; two daughters, Rhonda Feldman of Lyons and Kimberly Miller of Ellinwood; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was Friday, May 23, at the church in Little River, with The Rev. Theresa Forshee officiating. Burial was at Bean Memorial Cemetery, Little River. Memorial donations are suggested to Sandstone Heights Nursing Home or the Little River High School Library, in care of Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home, Lyons.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer-Sillin Funeral Home
214 West Ave. South
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 28, 2008

Dr. Richard V. Koch  1940 - 2008

He was born Nov. 7, 1940, in Great Bend, to Vernon J. Koch and Esther L. Harnett. He graduated from Great Bend High School in 1958. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics and chemistry from St. Mary’s of the Plains College in 1962 and taught school in Andale. He then received a Master of Science degree from Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia in 1968 and then began teaching chemistry at St. Mary’s College in Dodge City. In 1979 he earned his Doctor of Arts in Chemistry from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. That same year, he became a professor of chemistry at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island. He taught for 27 years until he retired in 2006 and moved to northwest Arkansas to be close to his family.

Survivors include two brothers, Mike Koch of Rogers, Ark., and Jerry Koch of New Braunfels, Texas; one sister, Mary Pinkerton of Rogers, Ark.; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, John.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. today at Rollins Funeral Home Chapel, Rogers, Ark.

Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday at Bryant Funeral Home in Great Bend. A graveside service will follow at 11:30 a.m. at Hillcrest Cemetery, Great Bend. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryant.fh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 28, 2008

Geneva M. Carroll 1919 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Geneva M. Carroll, 88, died May 26 at Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center, Great Bend. She was born July 10, 1919, in Barton County, the daughter of James B. and Clarissa (Larkin) Carroll. She was a provider of child care in her home. She was a lifetime resident of Barton County.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Hoisington, and enjoyed gardening and raising rabbits.

Survivors include two sisters, Betty Smith of Hoisington and Edith King of Houma, La.; her adoptive family, Connie Howery and her family of Larned; and 18 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two brothers, James W. “Pete” Carroll and Bill Carroll, an infant brother, James Carroll, and two sisters, Ruby Farnsworth and Irene Hickey.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Steve Dezotell officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. today with the family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m., and 9 a.m. until service time Thursday, all at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to First United Methodist Church or to Kans for Kids Fighting Cancer, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 28, 2008

Rachel B. “Brownie” Johnson 1917 - 2008
HENDERSON, Nev. — Rachel B. “Brownie” Johnson passed away peacefully on April 25 at the age of 90. She was born Aug. 5, 1917, in Galatia and was raised in Great Bend. In 1941 she moved to California, was married and had three sons. She resided in the southern California area for many years before moving to Henderson, Nev., to be near her eldest son.

She is survived by three sons, Jack and wife Shirley of Boulder City, Nev., Ron and wife Kim of Elk Grove, Calif., and Steve and wife Cherie of Libby, Mont.; two sisters, Louise Gunn of Great Bend and Lois Childers of Kingman, Ind.; two sisters-in-law, Eva Brown of Long Beach, Calif., and Jean Brown of Silver City, N.M.; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joe and Ethel Brown; two brothers, Leon Brown and Douglas Brown; and two sisters, Ulanda Dorfshaffer Pugh and Ava Cole.

Interment will be at a later date in her hometown of Great Bend.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 28, 2008*

May 29, 2008
No deaths reported

May 30, 2008

Frank W. Untereiner 1926 - 2008

RUSSELL — Frank W. Untereiner, 81, of Russell died on May 27 at the Wheatland Nursing Center in Russell. Frank was born on July 24, 1926, in Collyer, the son of Carl and Margaret (Munsch) Untereiner. Frank’s father died at a young age so he and his sisters found themselves moving from town to town in order for their mother to find work. Frank himself had to start working at a young age in order to help provide for his mother and sisters.

Frank was united in marriage to Isabelle D. Brack on June 24, 1931 in Milberger, and from this union they were blessed with five children; Frank Jr., Carl, Margaret, Sharon and Sarah. Frank was a hard worker and worked as an oil field roustabout for many years. He worked as an independent cemetery grave digger and lawn care worker. Later in life he worked for Russell Manufacturing as a lathe operator.

Frank was a member of the St. John Lutheran Church in Russell. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing games and putting puzzles together.

His surviving family include his wife Isabelle of the home, sons Frank W. Untereiner Jr. of Russell and Carl S. Untereiner of Leavenworth, daughters Margaret L. Untereiner and Sharon Herbel both of Russell and Sarah Younger of Olmitz; 6 grandchildren and one great-grandson. He was preceded in death by his parents and three sisters, Helen Harmison, Fransia Maddox and Edna L. Untereiner.

A celebration of Frank’s life will be held at 10:30 a.m. today at the St. John Lutheran Church of Russell with burial to follow at the St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Russell. A memorial has been established with the church in Russell and may be left with the mortuary and sent to 610 N. Maple, Russell, KS 67665. Memorials and condolences may be sent to the mortuary, condolences may also be sent via e-mail by going to www.pypmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 N. Maple
Russell, KS. 67665
785-483-2212
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 30, 2008

Ronald N. Bowen 1937 - 2008
LURAY — Ronald N. Bowen, 71, died May 27. He was born Jan. 3, 1937, at Ripley, Okla. He was a retired mechanic.

Survivors include his wife, LaVona Jean Bowen, of the home; three sons, Ronald E. Bowen of Chase, Thomas H. Bowen of Hutchinson and Darrell L. Bowen of Luray; two daughters, Lora Ensz of Mt. Pleasant and Cheryl D. Pemberton of Raymore, Mo.; two brothers, Carl D. Bowen of Cushing, Okla., and Allison Bowen of Kingman; 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Lucas. Burial will be in the Luray Cemetery. Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. today at Rodrick & Minear Luray Chapel. Donations to the Ronald N. Bowen Memorial Fund may be made in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Rodrick & Minear Funeral Home
P.O. Box 248
Lucas, KS 67648
(785) 698-2213
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, May 30, 2008

June 1, 2008

Glen Gregory Rowley 1961 – 2008

WICHITA — Glen Gregory Rowley, 46, died May 22 at his home in Wichita. He was born July 13, 1961, at Hays, the son of Claude H. Rowley Jr. and Joyce (Bitter) Rowley. He married Rita Erikson. She preceded him in death. He was a maintenance employee at Wichita State University for over 20 years, where he earned several awards and special recognitions. He had been a Wichita resident for nearly 40 years, coming from northern Barton County.

Mr. Rowley was a member of College Hill United Methodist Church in Wichita. Survivors include a daughter, Tereasa Rowley, Wichita; stepmother, Beverly Rowley; two sisters, Wilhelminne Cowdrey, Wichita, and Claudina Rowley, Potomac, Md.; eight stepsisters, June, Diane, Sonnia, Rose, Ann, Faye, Corinna and Michelle; one granddaughter, a niece and two nephews.

Funeral services were May 29 at Hillside Funeral Home West in Wichita, with the Rev. Alan Lindal officiating. Burial was in White Chapel Memorial Garden Cemetery in Wichita. Condolences may be sent to Wilhelminne Cowdrey, 1157 North Lakewind, Wichita, KS 67212.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 1, 2008


HOISINGTON — Eileen R. Grauer, 61, died May 31 at Clara Barton Hospital in Hoisington. Services are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington.

June 3, 2008

Betty Millard 1935 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Betty Millard, 73, died June 1 at her home in Hoisington. She was born May 11, 1935. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 3, 2008

Charles Hood 1954 - 2008
HOISINGTON — Charles Hood, 54, died May 29 at Olathe Medical Center, Olathe. He was born Jan. 25, 1954. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 3, 2008

Ramon Munguia 1921 - 2008

ELLSWORTH — Ramon Munguia, 86, died June 1 at Ellsworth County Medical Center, Ellsworth. He was born July 2, 1921, in Guatemala, the son of Maria Contreras. He married Carmen Rousset May 4, 1948, at El Paso, Texas. She survives. He was a retired teacher and librarian, having taught at Hoisington, Stanton County, Ellsworth and Quivira Heights. He was a resident of Ellsworth for the past five years, moving from Lorraine. He received a master’s degree from Fort Hays State University.

Mr. Munguia was of the Protestant faith.

Survivors include his wife, Carmen; two daughters, Alma Radenberg of Hoisington and Ruth Powell of San Jose, Calif.; six grandchildren, Paul Powell, Molly Powell, Katrina Ritter, Melanee Radenberg, Carrie Pearson and Ryan Powell; and two great-grandchildren, Zachary and Riley Powell.

A memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Don Fisher officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. There will be no visitation, as cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the Nazarene Church, Hoisington, or to the Ellsworth Ambulance Service, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 3, 2008

Lucille Maxine Powell

WICHITA — Lucille Maxine Powell, 93, formerly of Great Bend, passed away May 31. Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, with funeral services to be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, both at Hillside West, 2929 W. 13th N., Wichita. Interment will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Greenwood Cemetery, Newton. Lucille is survived by sisters Catherine Brown and Dorothy Renfro, both of Wichita, grandchildren Kim (Cheryl) Hagen of Gosquet, Calif., Debra (Richard) Ward of Colbert, Wash., and Mary Ann (Brent) Fry of Kalispell, Mont.; 11 great-grandchildren, and nine great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alden Powell, one daughter, Phyllis Barrow, her parents, four brothers and three sisters. Memorials suggested to First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530; and CKMC Volunteer Auxiliary, 3515 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hillside Funeral Home*
2929 West 13th N.
Wichita, KS 67203
(316) 682-5575
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 3, 2008

Mary Bell Francis Ahnert 1925 - 2008

Mary Bell Francis Ahnert, 82, of Great Bend, died June 1 at the Presbyterian Manor in Sterling. Born Oct. 25, 1925, in San Antonio, Texas, she was the daughter of Joseph Lee and Edna I. Stevenson Yancey. She was a graduate of Ellinwood High School. She married Donald G. Ahnert on June 3, 1946, in Great Bend. A longtime resident of Great
Bend, having lived the past one and one-half years in Sterling, she was retired from Hughes Aircraft as a silkscreen operator in Tucson, Ariz.

Mrs. Ahnert was a member of the Peace Church in Hudson, Eastern Star in Beggs, Okla., a Girl Scout leader and a school bus driver, both in Grants, N.M., and the Aerospace Union.

Survivors include her husband, Donald, of the home; three sons, Donald Joe Ahnert and Ronald G. Ahnert and wife Uana, all of Chandler, Ariz., and Robert L. Ahnert and wife Gail of Nickerson; a daughter, Dianna K. Ball and husband Roger of Mesa, Ariz.; a sister, Betty Jo St. Germaine of Tucson, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Lee H. Yancey and Robert Harley Yancey; and a granddaughter, Jamie Ahnert.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Friday at the Peace Church, four miles north of Hudson, with the Rev. Roger Ball officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Peace Church in care of Birzer Funeral Home in Sterling.

Virginia E. Lupfer 1917 - 2008

LARNED — Virginia E. Lupfer, 90, died May 31 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Larned. Born Nov. 5, 1917, in Larned, she was the daughter of Newton I. and Bertha F. Kiddoo Lupfer. A lifetime resident of Larned, she was a retired assistant cashier at the First State Bank and Trust Company of Larned.

Ms. Lupfer served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women, Chapter CB PEO, Larned Ambassadors and the Santa Fe Trail Association, all of Larned.

Survivors include four cousins, Ann Casady, Janis and John Anthes, David and Pat Lupfer and Catherine Lupfer; and several cherished friends and family.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday at Morell Funeral Home in Larned with Pastor Dennis Scheibmeir presiding. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at the Larned Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Fort Larned Historical Society in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomelc.com.

Eileen R. Grauer 1946 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Eileen R. Grauer, 61, died May 31 at Clara Barton Hospital in Hoisington. Born Nov. 10, 1946, in Hays, she was the daughter of Herbert and Jeanne (Reinking) Baker. She married Paul F. Grauer on Aug. 19, 1966, in Wilson. He survives. She attended school in Simpson and Wilson and graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1971 with a bachelor of science degree and a master’s degree in Speech and Language Pathology.
A resident of Hoisington for the past 24 years, she worked for United Cerebral Palsy of greater St. Louis, as a speech pathologist, returned to Kansas in 1972 and attained accreditation in learning disabilities while a graduate assistant at FHSU. She worked for Barton County Special Services Co-op for 21 years in the Great Bend, Hoisington and Claflin school systems.

Mrs. Grauer was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Great Bend, past president of United Methodist Women, held various offices in the church, was a member of the choir and taught Sunday school for many years.

Survivors include her husband, Paul F. Grauer of Hoisington; two daughters, Christy Lynn Grauer of Kansas City, Mo., and Beth Ann Grauer of Beaufort, S.C.; her mother, Jeanne Baker Anschutz of Wilson; and a sister, Linda Baker of Garden City. She was preceded in death by her father, Herbert Baker, and two sisters, Carol Jeanne Baker and Christine Ann Baker.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. today at Trinity United Methodist Church in Great Bend with Pastor Julie Shields officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. to service time today at the church. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Western Kansas Mexican American Ministries. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 N. Main
P.O. Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 3, 2008

Betty A. Millard 1935 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Betty A. Millard, 73, died June 1 at her Hoisington residence. Born May 11, 1935, at Hoisington, she was the daughter of Esten M. and Blanche (Todd) Stehwein. She married Jack V. Millard on July 2, 1952, at Clayton, N.M. He died March 12, 1982. Retired from her occupation, she was a lifetime resident of Hoisington.

Mrs. Millard was a member of the Hoisington VFW Auxiliary.

Survivors include three sons, Terry Millard and Jack Millard, both of Great Bend, and Kelly Millard of Mukwonogo, Wis.; three daughters, Susan Craven and Tracy Millard, both of Great Bend, and Norma Millard of Franklin, Wis.; a daughter of the heart, Marcia Schremmer of Hoisington; two brothers, Bill Stehwein of Fairlawn, N.J., and John Stehwein of Fort Lupton, Colo.; four sisters, Barbara Vinyard of Lakewood, Colo., Sue Behr of Great Bend, Kitty Schremmer of Russell and Judy Linker of Enid, Okla.; 19 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Richard Millard, and two daughters, Janice Millard and Mari Cook.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 4, 2008
Lee Roy Schrader 1920 - 2008

Lee Roy Schrader, 87, of Great Bend, died June 2 at South Wind Hospice, Pratt. Born July 12, 1920, in Rush County, he was the son of Ernest and Mary Wagner Schrader. He married Viola Dome on April 8, 1947, at La Crosse. She survives. He was a veteran of World War II, serving with the U.S. Air Force. He was a lifetime resident of Rush and Barton counties.

He attended the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick, and was a member of the VFW and American Legion, both of La Crosse.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include four daughters, Kathy Butler of Frisco, Texas, Becky Soukup of Ellsworth, Leann Fischer of Great Bend and Connie Harms of Brighton, Colo.; a sister, Vida Irvin of Hays; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Harry Schrader and Chester Schrader, and a sister, Elsie Davis.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday with Father Floyd McKinney presiding, at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Charles Mazouch officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for the Great Bend Senior Center or for Barton County Relay For Life may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 4, 2008

Leona Mae Rice 1917 - 2008

LARNED — Leona Mae Rice, 91, died June 2 at Newton Medical Center, Newton. She was born April 29, 1917, at Gallatin, Mo., the daughter of Clarence E. and Eva Hart Barker. She was a retired personnel clerk at Larned State Hospital, Larned.

Mrs. Rice was a member of the First Christian Church, Larned, and she belonged to the Rebekahs Lodge, was a Girl Scout and troop leader, a former accountant at J.C. Penney’s, and a former secretary for Dr. Thomas Powell. She was the church treasurer for five years, volunteered for the Thrift Shop and belonged to the women’s circle and sewing group.


Survivors include a son, C. Bartley Brannam, Burke, Va.; a daughter, Cynthia Ann Wyss, Newton; five grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three brothers W.H. “Bill” Barker, Fred Barker and Clarence Barker Jr., and two sisters, Dorothy Huntzinger and Nancy Base.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned, with the Rev. Donna Friesen presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Thursday at the mortuary. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery, Larned. In Lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to the Larned First Christian Church or the Harry Hynes Hospice of Newton, both in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., P.O. Box 477, Larned, KS 67550. Visit www.beckwithmortuary.com to leave personal condolences.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
Lucille Maxine Powell

WICHITA — Lucille Maxine Powell, 93, formerly of Great Bend, passed away May 31.

Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. today, with funeral service at 11 a.m., at Hillside West, 2929 W. 13th N., Wichita. Interment will take place at 2 p.m. today at Greenwood Cemetery in Newton.

Lucille is survived by sisters Catherine Brown and Dorothy Renfro, both of Wichita, grandchildren Kim (Cheryl) Hagen of Gosquet, Calif., Debra (Richard) Ward of Colbert, Wash., and Mary Ann (Brent) Fry of Kalispell, Mont.; 11 great-grandchildren, and nine great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alden Powell, one daughter, Phyllis Barrow, her parents, four brothers and three sisters.

Memorials are suggested to First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530; and CKMC Volunteer Auxiliary, 3515 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Hillside Funeral Home*
2929 West 13th N.
Wichita, KS 67203
(316) 682-5575
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 4, 2008

June 5, 2008

Charles P. Hood 1954 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Charles P. Hood, 54, died May 29 at Olathe Medical Center, Olathe. Born Jan. 25, 1954, at Hays, he was the son of Melvin and Reta (Decker) Hood. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Hood was of the Protestant faith.

Survivors include his mother, Reta Hood, of Hoisington; three brothers, Jason Hood of Larned, Jerry Hood, M.D., of Austin, Texas, and Jeff Hood of Great Bend; two sisters, Janet Hood of Hoisington and Jolene Helmick of Wichita. He was preceded in death by his father, D. Melvin Hood.

A graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the Hoisington Cemetery, with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Memorials are suggested for Charles Hood Funeral Expense in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 5, 2008

June 5, 2008

Jerry D. Bell 1940 - 2008
Jerry D. Bell, 68, of Great Bend died June 3 at Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. He was born March 12, 1940, at Wellington, the son of Alva and Ines Martin Bell. He married Marva Jo Dillmon on Nov. 25, 1959, at Wellington. She survives. He attended Mayfield and Dusty Corner Grade School and Wellington High School, where he graduated in 1958. He owned and operated service stations including Pine Lodge Service Station and a Vickers Service Station. He worked for the co-ops at Wellington, Menlo, Winona, Idalia, Colo., and retired as manager of the Alexander Co-op. He served several years on the Alexander Volunteer Fire Department and in the past farmed, was an over-the-road truck driver for Appel Trucking, Dodge City, and Groendyke Trucking, Liberal.

Mr. Bell was a member of the First Christian Church, Wellington, Walnut Valley Masonic Lodge, Rush Center, Isis Shrine Temple, Salina, Scottish Rite, Fort Hays Shrine Club, Fort Hays Cycle Patrol and the Russell Shrine Club.

Left to mourn are his wife, of the home; a son, J.D. Bell and wife Diane of Ness City; a daughter, Sonya Foos and husband Kevin of Bazine; four grandchildren, Laura Bell, Olivia Bell, Jason Foos and Valarie Foos; many aunts, uncles, cousins and numerous other close friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Margie Bell, and a son, J.R. Bell.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Bryant Funral Home, Great Bend, with the Rev. Leroy Cole officiant and Masonic rites conducted by Walnut Valley Masonic Lodge. Interment will be at 4 p.m. Monday at Prairie Lawn Cemetery, Wellington. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday, with the family to receive friends from 5 to 6 p.m., at the funeral home. Donations to memorial funds for the Alexander Volunteer Fire Department or for the Alexander United Methodist Church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 5, 2008

Ruben Francis Samora 1929 - 2008

TOWANDA — Ruben Francis Samora, 79, of Towanda, formerly of Cherryvale, died June 3 at the Kansas Veterans Home in Winfield. He was born to Evaristo Samora and Mable Cooper during the Great Depression in 1929. Both parents passed away in the late 1930s. Ruben attended Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School and Church in Cherryvale. Mr. Samora received a GED from Field Kindley High School in Coffeyville. He attended the Southeast Kansas Technical School, studying machine technology and acquiring college credit hours at Coffeyville Community College.

In October of 1948 Ruben enlisted in the United States Army. In Germany, Ruben served with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. This Regiment’s mission was to maintain law and order in the former Nazi Germany after World War II. Mr. Samora served in this unit until May of 1952 when he was honorably discharged with the rank of staff sergeant.

In September of 1953 Mr. Samora married Geneva Castorena, who survives. The couple raised 10 children.

Mr. Samora received his bachelor of arts degree in education from Wichita State University and a master’s degree from Pittsburg State College in trade and industry in 1970. Mr. Samora taught machine shop courses at Derby Senior High School from 1966 to 1969. In 1968 Mr. Samora was hired by the Boeing Company in Wichita as a machinist where he worked until 1992 for a total of 24 years, at which point he retired. The next 10 years he was a cost analyst in finance for Boeing, flying to various subcontractor locations that manufactured parts for the Boeing Company in the United States. In 1969, Ruben was also hired by Barton County Community College, where he taught Conversational Spanish and Machine Technology until 1979.

Mr. Samora was a life member of the American Legion Thomas Hopkins Post No. 4 in Wichita and the Knights of Columbus in Kansas for more than 30 years. He was a 4th degree member.
Survivors include his wife, Geneva; three sons, Paul and Louis Perez of Augusta and Phillip Perez of Wichita; and six daughters, Gloria Zorn of Towanda, Anna Pierce of Lyons, Teresa Wadsworth of Wichita, and Victoria Chambers, Mabel Adams and Rita Burns, all of Hoisington; 30 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Richard Samora; two brothers, John and Nick; and two sisters, Mabel and Margarita.

Reciting of the Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the Potts Chapel in Cherryvale. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Cherryvale with Father Daniel Vacca officiating. Burial will follow at the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at the Potts Chapel in Cherryvale. Memorials are suggested to the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church or the Alzheimer’s Association in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Potts Chapel*
P.O. Box 801
Independence, KS 67301
620-331-5600
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 5, 2008

William F. Oberle 1916 - 2008

CLAFLIN — William F. Oberle, 92, died June 4 at Ellinwood District Hospital, Ellinwood. He was born June 2, 1916. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 5, 2008

Betty A. Millard 1935 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Betty A. Millard, 73, died June 1 at her Hoisington residence. Born May 11, 1935, at Hoisington, she was the daughter of Esten M. and Blanche (Jennings) Stehwein. She married Jack V. Millard on July 2, 1952, at Clayton, N.M. He died March 12, 1982. Retired from her job as a ward clerk at Clara Barton Hospital, she was a lifetime resident of Hoisington.

Mrs. Millard was a member of the Hoisington VFW Auxiliary.

Survivors include three sons, Terry Millard and Jack Millard, both of Great Bend, and Kelly Millard of Mukwonogo, Wis.; three daughters, Susan Craven and Tracy Millard, both of Great Bend, and Norma Millard of Franklin, Wis.; a daughter of the heart, Marcia Schremmer of Hoisington; two brothers, Bill Stehwein of Fairlawn, N.J., and John Stehwein of Fort Lupton, Colo.; six sisters, Julia Thorne of Hoisington, Barbara Vinyard of Lakewood, Colo., Sue Behr and Jeanie Martin, both of Great Bend, Kitty Schremmer of Russell and Judy Linker of Enid, Okla.; 19 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Richard Millard, and two daughters, Janice Millard and Mari Cook.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, with the Rev. Dick Ogle officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society, in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 5, 2008
Alvin Keith Nolte 1941 - 2008

ERIE, Colo. — Alvin Keith Nolte of Erie, Colo., died June 3 at his residence. He was 66. Alvin was born Nov. 19, 1941, in Stafford, to Otto and Leoda (Barrow) Nolte. He graduated from Great Bend High School in 1959 and then attended Phillips University in Enid, Okla. During high school, Alvin worked for The Great Bend Tribune. Alvin served in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1965. He was a member of crash rescue and was stationed on Okinawa, Japan, for a while.

Alvin married Carol Bailey in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Dec. 20, 1964. He worked in the oil and gas industry for 26 years and saw work as a truck driver, oilfield gauger and field supervisor. He worked in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Montana and Colorado during his career and retired from Suncor Energy. Alvin was a hard worker and worked long hours. His greatest interest always was his family and spending time with them.

Mr. Nolte was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Loren Lee Nolte. Survivors include his wife, Carol of Erie; two sons, Eugene Nolte of Thornton, Colo., and Floyd Nolte and his wife Rebecca of Erie; two daughters, Barb Liddle and her husband Michael of Frederick, Colo., and Darlene Gallagher and her husband Kevin of Erie; a sister-in-law Donna Pawson and her husband Charlie of Hayburn, Idaho; nine grandchildren, Kyle and Miranda Liddle, Hannah, Haley and Katie Gallagher, Austin and Cody Nolte, and Mathieu and Alax Nolte.

A memorial service to celebrate Alvin’s life will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at his daughter’s home in Erie. Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Howe Mortuary and Crematory Service of Longmont.

Memorial contributions may be given to HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties, 2594 Trailridge Drive East, Suite A, Lafayette, CO 80026.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Howe Mortuary and Cremation Services*
439 Coffman Street
Longmont, CO 80501
Phone: (303) 776-2434
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 6, 2008

William F. Oberle 1916 - 2008

CLAFLIN — William F. Oberle, 92, Claflin, died June 4 at Ellinwood District Hospital. Born June 2, 1916, in rural Rice County, he was the son of William and Barbara (Kirmer) Oberle. He married Martha Miller Hromadnik on April 30, 1975, at Holy Name Church in Bushton. She died March 1, 2005. A lifetime resident of the Bushton and Claflin area, he was a retired farmer and stockman.

Mr. Oberle was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Claflin.

Survivors include a brother, Urban Oberle of Claflin; four sisters, Barbara Orth of Bushton, Anna Nordman of Albert, and Rita Stoss and Dorothy Stoss of Great Bend. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Ambrose, Philip and Andrew Oberle; infant brothers, Clement and Jerome Oberle; and a sister, Mary F. Hertach.

Vigil service will be at 7:30 p.m. today at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Claflin. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the church with Father Charles Mazouch officiating. Burial will be at the Holy Name Cemetery in Bushton. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. today at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and at the church after 6 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Holy Name Cemetery or Claflin Ambulance Fund, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Elizabeth “Betty” Schroeder 1914 - 2008

FARGO, N.D. — Elizabeth “Betty” Schroeder, 93, formerly of Great Bend, had a stroke in her home at Riverview Place in Fargo, N.D., on April 9 and passed away on June 4 after a brief stay at Rosewood on Broadway. Elizabeth Josephine Woydziak was born on the family farm in rural Russell County, near Dubuque, on Nov. 8, 1914, to Alexander and Frances Hitschmann Woydziak. She married Duart A. Schroeder on Jan. 30, 1937. They had two sons, Donald, born in 1938, and Galen, born in 1942. He died May 14, 1993. She graduated from Dorrance High School in 1932 and attended the Dominican School of Nursing in Great Bend. She graduated as a registered nurse in 1935 and worked at St. Rose Hospital in Great Bend and as a private-duty nurse.

The family lived at Great Bend, Glasco, Minneola and near Heizer in Kansas. In 1950, Duart’s work with Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America took the family on pipeline construction, where they lived in Texas and Arkansas. They returned to Great Bend in 1952. Elizabeth worked at St. Rose Hospital and later became the office nurse for Drs. Leiker, Kendall and McAllester for 22 years until her retirement in 1976.

Mrs. Schroeder was a member of Prince of Peace Parish at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Altar Society, was active in the Daughters of Isabella, and served for years as a hospital auxiliary volunteer with Central Kansas Medical Center. She moved to Fargo in 2005 to be closer to family and made her home at Riverview Place.

Survivors include two sons, Donald Schroeder and wife Dianne of Igo, Calif., and Galen Schroeder and wife Mary of Fargo; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Raymond Woydziak, and a sister, Genevieve Riffel.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. Sunday at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend, followed by a vigil service with D of I Rosary at 7 p.m., also at the funeral home. Funeral service will be at 9 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Floyd McKinney officiant. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Holy Family School Endowment Fund in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 6, 2008

Fannie M. Watkins

Fannie M. Watkins, 97, died June 5 at her home in Great Bend. Service arrangements are pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary, Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 6, 2008

June 10, 2008

Julie Ann Cronk 1968 - 2008
HASTINGS, Neb. — Julie Ann Cronk, 39, passed away on June 7. She was born June 10, 1968, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. She graduated from Adam Central High School in 1986 and worked at Good Samaritan Village as a nurse’s aide. She was blessed with four children, Brittany, 19, Byron, 14, Brianna, 12, and Brandon, 10. She loved spending time with her children.

Survivors include her children, all of Hastings, Neb.; her mother and stepfather, Diane and Jerry Peterson of Hastings, Neb.; her father and stepmother, James and Janet Bauer of Ellinwood; a brother, Michael Bauer and wife Amanda and nephew Ryan Bauer of Hastings, Neb.; a sister, Kimberly DuBois and husband James, and nieces, Taylor and Brooke DuBois, of Windsor, Colo.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. today at All Saints Chapel, GSV, in Hastings, Neb., with the Rev. Joel Remmers officiating. Burial will be at the Clay Center Cemetery in Clay Center, Neb. Memorials are suggested to the family for Julie’s children’s education fund. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.brandwilson.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Brand-Wilson Funeral Home*
505 N. Bellevue
Hastings, NE 68901
402-462-5169

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 10, 2008

Lois Lorraine Stalker 1915 - 2008

AMARILLO, Texas — Lois Lorraine Stalker, 92, of Amarillo, died June 8 in Amarillo. Born Sept. 1, 1915, on a farm north of Seward, she was the daughter of William and Martha (Keenan) Bordewick. On Nov. 22, 1937, she married Cecil F. Stalker at Pratt. A homemaker and farmer, she moved to Amarillo in 1976. She was a graduate of Radium High School and a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Amarillo.

Survivors include a son, Robert “Bob” Stalker and wife Susie, Amarillo; five grandchildren, Annette Stout and husband Rodney, Donna Stalker, Robert Stalker Jr. and wife Jennifer, Lisa Joyce and Jeremy Stalker; five great-grandchildren, Amber Stout, Jessie Stout, Christopher Joyce, Stephanie Joyce and Joseph Stalker. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Orville, husband Cecil in 1977, and a son, Kent Raymond Stalker, in 2007.

Funeral Mass will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Seward, with Father Rene Guesnier as celebrant. There will be no visitation. Burial will be in the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery, Seward.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel*
125 North Main
St. John, KS 67578
1-620-786-9440

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 10, 2008

Mary Ida Jones 1938 - 2008

LARNED — Mary Ida Jones, 70, died June 6, near Larned, as the result of a motor vehicle accident. Born Feb. 10, 1938, in Haviland, she was the daughter of William and Olive Estelle Brown Cody. A resident of Larned since 1987, she was a retired registered nurse at Larned State Hospital.

Ms. Jones was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include three sons, Thomas Cady of Salina, Curtis Whley of Great Bend and Cody Whley of Larned; a daughter, Trish Warren of Hutchinson; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several stepchildren and stepgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Georgia Dawn Tammen, and a brother, Ben Cody.
Memorial service will be at 11 a.m. today at Morell Funeral Home in Larned with Pastor Bill Fitzgerrel presiding. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to service time today. Cremation has taken place. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society in care of the funeral home. Personal condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 124
Larned, KS 67550-0124
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 10, 2008

John Wm “Bill” Atwell Jr. 1948 - 2008


Mr. Atwell was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include one son, Micah Ethan Atwell of Stillwater, Okla.; one stepson, Joel Collyer Wiseman of Stillwater, Okla.; two stepdaughters, Mistine Devine of Great Bend and Scotti Wilson of Miami, Fla.; his mother, Greta Atwell of Larned; one brother, Samuel Raymond Atwell; two sisters, Zelma Desfosses of San Miguel, Calif., and Blanche Marie Padron of Larned; and one grandson, Trenton Rahe Devine. He was preceded in death by his father.

A celebration of life service will be announced at a later date. Cremation has taken place. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society in care of Morell Funeral Home, Larned. Personal condolences may be left at www.morellfuneralhomellc.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Morell Funeral Home*
1021 Broadway/PO Box 124
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2177
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 10, 2008

June 11, 2008
No deaths reported.

June 12, 2008
No deaths reported.

June 13, 2008
No deaths reported.

June 15, 2008
Nathan Meltzer 1918 – 2008

HOUSTON, Texas — Nathan Meltzer, a man remembered for his inquisitive mind, generous way with people and dedication to his family, passed away June 7. Nathan was born Sept. 13, 1918, in New York City. As a young boy, he was active in Boy Scouts. At 11 years old, he won his entire Boy Scouts uniform by collecting Libby’s labels. The
uniform served him well throughout his Boy Scout years. Nathan, in addition to being awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, earned the Silver Beaver Award and the Shofar Award in the Kanza Council of Boy Scouts.

From a young age, he was a patriotic man, dedicated to serving his country. Nathan was a master sergeant in the United States Army Air Corps, serving as a meteorologist during World War II, but refusing to carry a gun. He was a member of The American Legion and so proud that his children participated in Boys State and Girls State.

Nathan and his wife Anne were married for almost 61 years. They raised their family in Great Bend. He started the successful Meltzer Oil Company and was a member of the American Petroleum Institute, the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association and the Great Bend Petroleum Club. Nathan was an active member of Rotary International and recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award. Nathan worked hard, but treasured time with his family. His wife and children were the most important things in his life. Nathan was a president of the PTA and always involved in education and community service.

Nathan and Anne moved from Kansas to Scottsdale, Ariz., and eventually to Houston, Texas, to be closer to family. He was an avid reader, both of history and current events. Nathan loved to listen to NPR, especially “Car Talk.” He was an athletic man who enjoyed golf, hockey and swimming. Nathan was a successful businessman and helped teach his children about the stock market. He also enjoyed classical music and was a world traveler. He and Anne took more cruises than anyone could count and always came back with lively stories of the friends they made and the places they experienced. Nathan never met a stranger, and he was as kind to the person bagging his groceries as he was to his own friends. His children remember him always inviting their friends to stay for dinner; at the Meltzer home, friends were treated like family. Nathan was a wonderful storyteller with a memory few could match. Friends and family would light up at his stories.

In 1998, Nathan received the honor of a 50-year membership as a 32nd-degree Mason. He was a Shriner as well, always supporting their endeavors.

A lifetime member of B’nai B’rith, Nathan was a proud member of the Jewish community. He was president of the A.Z.A. order of the Wichita chapter of B’nai B’rith. Most recently, he was a member of Congregation Beth Yeshurun.

Nathan is survived by his loving wife, Anne; his four children, Dr. Steve Meltzer and his wife B.J., Dr. Victor Meltzer, Fara Meltzer-Gaitz and her husband Dr. Jeffrey Gaitz, and Hal Meltzer and his wife Pamela; his sister Sarna Strom; his grandchildren Simone, Zachary and Ethan Gaitz, Karie and Elizabeth Meltzer; Scott, Melissa and Leslie Meltzer, and Nicholas and Sterling Meltzer, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside ceremony was held Sunday, June 8, at 4 p.m. in the Beth Yeshurun Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that donations be made in Nathan’s memory to the charity of your choice, in a multiple of 18 (Chai) dollars.

Funeral arrangements provided by Houston Jewish Funerals*
6605 S. Rice Ave.
Bellaire, TX 77401
(713) 666-0257
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 15, 2008

Robert “Roy” Rogers 1933 – 2008

Robert “Roy” Rogers, 74, of Great Bend, died June 13 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. He was born Oct. 7, 1933, at Perryton, Texas, the son of C.W. and Allene Bennett Rogers. He married Nancy L. Hainer on Sept. 2, 1956, at Dodge City. She survives. He was a lease operator for Groendyke Transport, Liberal, and past owner of The Insurance Shoppe, Great Bend. He was a resident of Great Bend since 1974, coming from Liberal. He served with the U.S. Army with the rank of private first class.
Mr. Rogers was a member of the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, Gamma Chapter, at Wichita State University, and Midian Shrine of Wichita; and Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter 104, of Liberal. Roy was also a member and deacon of the First Southern Baptist Church, Masonic Lodge No. 15, past president and Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary Club, nine-year Great Bend city councilman, and past president of Housing Opportunities, Inc., all of Great Bend. Roy had also served on the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for eight years.

Survivors, besides his wife, Nancy, of the home, include a son, Scot Rogers and wife Linda of Wichita; two daughters, Robin Fabricius and husband Tim of Great Bend and Kristi Bergkamp and husband Scott of Salina; two brothers, Ronald B. Rogers of Pampa, Texas, and Gene W. Rogers of Springfield, Mo.; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at First Southern Baptist Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. Dr. Doyle Smith officiating. Interment will be at the Great Bend Cemetery with military honors conducted by a Fort Riley Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday with the family to receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Donations to a memorial fund for the church may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 15, 2008

Harold S. Blanchard 1918 – 2008

HOISINGTON — Harold S. Blanchard, 89, died June 13 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. Service arrangements are pending with Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington, and will be announced.

Jerome J. Birzer 1929 – 2008

ELLINWOOD — Jerome J. Birzer, 79, died June 13 at Ellinwood District Hospital. He was born Jan. 6, 1929, north of Ellinwood, the son of Joseph F. and Marie Anna Huslig Birzer. He married Mildred J. Norris on May 20, 1952, at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church north of Ellinwood. A lifetime resident of Ellinwood, he was retired from his position as an auto mechanic for Reiter Chevrolet of Great Bend. He graduated from Ellinwood High School in 1946.

Mr. Birzer was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church; Knights of Columbus Council No. 1187; 4th Degree, Quivira Council; member and past president of the Heritage Club; and Rotary 2008 Distinguished Citizen of the Year, all of Ellinwood.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; four sons, Tony Birzer and wife Betty of Ottawa, Tim Birzer and wife Donetta of Lyons, Steve Birzer and wife Janice of Ellinwood and Marvin Birzer and wife Belita of Hutchinson; two daughters, Kathy Hertel and husband Glen of Ellinwood and Bernie Rahe and husband Greg of Emporia; two brothers, Ervin Birzer of Santa Barbara, Calif., and Norman Birzer of Frederick, Md.; three sisters, Theresa Baker of Colby, Marcella Birzer of Ellinwood and Sister Rita Birzer of Cortero, Ariz.; 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Gerald Birzer, and two sisters, Lucille Macek and Margaret Mary Birzer.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ellinwood, with Father Charles Mazouch and Father James Roth officiating. Burial will be at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery north of Ellinwood. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. today at the church, with a parish rosary at 3 p.m. today and vigil service at 7 p.m., followed by a Knights of Columbus Rosary. Memorials are suggested to Ellinwood District Hospital, the Ellinwood Ambulance Fund or St. Joseph School Living Legacy in care of Birzer Funeral Home, Lyons.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer Funeral Home*
214 West Ave. South/PO Box 89
Lyons, KS 67554
620-257-2211

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 15, 2008

Rose Marie Agnes Kisner 1928 – 2008
Rose Marie Agnes Kisner, 80, of Great Bend, died June 12 at Cherry Village Residential Care, Great Bend. Born March 29, 1928, in Ellis County, she was the daughter of Karl and Frances (Dechant) Giebler. She married Raymond Albert Kisner on Sept. 18, 1947, in Ellis. She was a resident of Great Bend since 1974. She was a homemaker and her hobbies and interests included her family, cooking, the outdoors, gardening and dancing.

Mrs. Kisner was a member of the VFW and Eagles auxiliaries.

Survivors include three sons, Deon Lee Kisner and wife Carolyn of Wichita, Ronald Phillip Kisner and wife Kim of Atwood and Vern Ray Kisner and wife Angie of Copeland; a daughter, Sheila Rose Nuss and husband Warren of Great Bend; five brothers, August Giebler of Colorado, Celestine Giebler of Ellis, Lawrence Giebler and Anthony Giebler of Colorado and Edmund Giebler of Hays; numerous nieces and nephews; eight grandchildren, Deanna Putnam, Deonna Brown, Misty Nachtigal, Jeremy Kisner, Christopher Kisner, Travis Kisner, Shaelyn Kisner and Evan Kisner; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond, her parents, two brothers, Paul Giebler and Edward Giebler, and two sisters, Celilia Boza and Mary Knoll.

A vigil service will be at 7 p.m. today at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Rose Catholic Church, Great Bend, under the direction of Father Floyd McKinney. Interment will be at the St. John the Evangelist Cemetery, Hoisington, after the service. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Charter Funerals. The family will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer’s Association of Kansas.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-6161
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 15, 2008

Florence Guenther 1918 - 2008

CREIGHTON, Neb. — Funeral services for Florence Guenther, 90, of Creighton, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. Ludger Catholic Church in Creighton. She died Monday at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk. Father Joe Wray will officiate, with burial in St. Ludger Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Brockhaus Funeral Home in Creighton.

Florence Guenther, daughter of Henry and Anna (Jensen) Collen, was born Jan. 3, 1918, at Creighton, Neb. She graduated from Creighton Public School and taught country school. On Jan. 9, 1939, she married Francis Guenther at Ogallala, Neb. Six children were born to this union. Florence was a homemaker and worked for a time at Heaton’s Grocery in Creighton.

Mrs. Guenther was a member of St. Ludger Catholic Church.

Survivors include her children, Chip and Elaine Guenther, Chuck Guenther, Joan and Dan Waldow, Janet and John Jarosh, Sally and Jon Prescott and Susie Guenther; 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and a sister, Martha Emory.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Brockhaus Funeral Home*
824 Main
Creighton, NE 68729
402-358-3236
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 17, 2008
Milton A. Bender 1925 - 2008

SALINA — Milton A. Bender, 82, Salina, died June 15. Mr. Bender was born Nov. 30, 1925, in Russell, the son of August and Bertha Bender. He worked for the City of Salina for more than 35 years, retiring in 1989 as the park superintendent.

He is survived by his wife Delores; son, Brian of Denver, Colo.; daughter, Brenda Schartz of Salina; two sisters, Tilly Prather of Guyman, Okla., and Esther Fleishmann of Greeley, Colo.; three grandchildren, Jason Briscoe of Salina, Dawn Briscoe of Denver and Sierra Schartz of Salina; and four great-grandchildren, Hailey and Leanda Briscoe of Oklahoma City and Aiden Briscoe and Jordan Komerck, both of Salina. Milton was preceded in death by four bothers and four sisters.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 702 S. Ninth, Salina. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery, Russell. Memorials may be made to the church, Minneapolis Good Samaritan Center or Hospice Care of Kansas. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Ryan Mortuary, Salina.

Orval “Frank” Herman

MOORE, Okla. — Orval “Frank” Herrman, 65, passed away on Father’s Day, June 15, at his home in Moore, Okla. After growing up near Hays, his diverse career began in the U.S. Air Force, included years as a bill collector, serving many companies as an accountant, and finally driving and dispatching for trucking companies. His love of sports led him to a second career as a sports official. He enjoyed many years as a high school football referee and baseball umpire, an umpire and organizer of recreational softball, as well as a horse racing mutuel clerk.

Survivors include his son, Stan of Moore, Okla.; four sisters, Edna Rohr of Derby, Carol Danielson-Murphy and Linda Mayberry, both of Great Bend, and Doris Winslow of Hays; and five brothers, Roy and Les of Hays, Cyril and J.R. of Salina and Leon of Colorado Springs, Colo. He joins in heaven his parents, Reinhold and Josephine, and two brothers, Elmer and Donald.

Services will be at Our Lady of Help Church in Antonino at a time to be determined. Memorial donations in honor of Orval Herrman can be made to VA Medical Center c/o Volunteer Services (Richard Maxey), 921 N.E. 13th, Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

Harold S. Blanchard 1918 - 2008

HOISINGTON — Harold S. Blanchard, 89, died June 13 at Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington. He was born Dec. 1, 1918, at Great Falls, Mont., the son of Harold Eugene Blanchard and Gertrude Underwood Blanchard. He marred
Shirley Lias on Oct. 1, 1942, at Council Grove. She survives. He retired in 1981 as a railroad clerk for the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He was a longtime Hoisington resident, coming from Council Grove.

Mr. Blanchard was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Masonic Lodge No. 331 AF & AM and the Order of the Eastern Star, all of Hoisington.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, of Hoisington, include a son, Larry Blanchard and wife Judy of Lipetsk, Russia; a daughter, Jacque Eichelberger and husband Nelson of Wythville, Va.; two brothers, Don Blanchard of Atlanta, Ga., and Bob Blanchard of Detroit, Mich.; two sisters, Virginia Hunter of Alamo, Texas, and Gertrude Nelson of Washington, N.C.; 11 grandchildren, Vaughn, Paul, David and Sean Eichelberger, Brandon, Jonathan, Timothy and Bethany Blanchard, Laurie Ann Herchenroder, Michele Stipes and Sharon Williams; 11 great-grandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

A prayer service will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington, with the Rev. Steve Little officiating. Burial will be at the Hoisington Cemetery with Masonic graveside rites. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the church in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 North Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 18, 2008

Orval “Frank” Herrman

Funeral service for Orval “Frank” Herrman, 65, of Moore, Okla., who died Sunday at his home in Moore, will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Our Lady of Help Church in Antonino.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 18, 2008#

Robert E. Brack 1932 - 2008

RAYMONDVILLE, Texas — Robert E. Brack, 75, passed away Monday, June 16, at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas. Robert was born Oct. 19, 1932, in Great Bend to Harrison and Lydia (Galloway) Brack. He was a successful business owner and operator of Brack Electric Company for more than 28 years. Robert loved playing golf and cards with his wife and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Nola K. Brack of Raymondville, Texas; a son, Robert A. Brack and wife Phyllis of Bay St. Louis, Miss.; four daughters, Nanette M. Rempe and husband Kenneth of Snellville, Ga., Marla K. Hays and husband Mark of Benton, Ark., Katrina J. Dreher and husband Frank of Enid, Okla., and Melea J. Sechrist and husband Greg of Longview, Texas; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Robert was preceded in death by a son Jaymes L. Brack; parents Harrison and Lydia Brack; and a brother Marilyn L. Brack.

Memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. today at Duddlesten Funeral Home.

Funeral arrangement provided by
Duddlesten Funeral Home*
604 W. Hidalgo
Raymondville, TX 78580
956-689-2151
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 18, 2008
Robert Herold, 87, of Great Bend, died June 15. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at First Assembly of God Church in Great Bend. Charter Funerals, Great Bend, is in charge of arrangements. A complete obituary will be published soon.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 18, 2008

June 19, 2008

Robert B. Herold 1920 - 2008

Robert B. Herold, 87, of Great Bend, a man remembered for his inquisitive mind, generous way with people and dedication to his family, died June 15 in Hays. He was born Sept. 17, 1920, in Ellinwood, the son of Walter and Caroline Herold. He was a graduate of Ellinwood High School and a longtime resident of Great Bend. He started worked in the oil fields at the age of 14 and was still working in the oil fields at the time of his death. He was a farmer east of Ellinwood for a time. Later in his career he worked as a pipe fitter and was a member of the Steamfitters and Pipe Fitters Union Local 441. Robert retired in 1983 but continued as a partner and the president of Carrie Exploration and Development, an oil-producing company he and his older son created.

On Oct. 13, 1944, he married Anna Marie (Nancy) Long in Brooklyn, N.Y. They were married for 52 years. He loved her very much and they raised five children together. Robert Herold was a patriotic man, dedicated to serving his country. He served in the United States Navy for 5 1/2 years during World War II, as a WT1. He was proud to have served on one of the eight escort destroyers that accompanied the USS Hornet on the Doolittle Raid. During his time in the Navy he served on several destroyers in both the Pacific and the Atlantic.

He served on the USS Fanning DD-385 and the USS Kendrick DD-612. He was a member of the Tin Can Sailors. Robert loved Kansas and was a very skilled craftsman who enjoyed rebuilding player pianos for a hobby. In 1962, Robert bought a small home, moved it to its present location and then enlarged it for his family, doing all stages of the move and construction himself. He was especially proud of the brick-laying skills he learned as a young boy. He lived in that home until the time of his death. The family states, Robert was a loving husband and great father. He was friendly, kind, generous and a caring person with a great sense of humor. Robert loved to tell a good story or joke and always seemed to come up with the right story at the right time. He always had time for children and was rarely found without a smile. He was someone who truly loved his family and showed it in many ways. He always encouraged his children to do the right thing and led by example. He was honest, fair and a man of his word.

Robert Herold was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include his five children, son Ronald Herold and wife Audrey, daughter Elizabeth (Penny) Healzer and husband Byron, daughter Roberta Gail Blair-Patterson and husband Ivor, son Daniel Herold and wife Fay and daughter Caroline Albina and husband Chuck; his 14 grandchildren, Valrie (Herold) Schupman, Robby and Shereen, Herold, Deanna (Healzer) O’Brien, David, Sammy and Josh Healzer, Nicole Blair, Amy (Herold) Raymer, Angie (Herold) Hart, Casey Herold, Travis, Jessica and Hanna Albina; his 10 great-grandchildren, Alex, Olivia and Abigail Healzer, Jade Blair, Brandon Schupman, Vincent Herold, Tanner Gillotti, Kadence Herold-Black, Tammy Kincaid and Kendra Crabb. He was also loved and will be missed by many other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, three brothers and one sister, and his wife Nancy who died March 29, 1996.

Viewing and visitation are scheduled for 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and an informal Remembrance Service from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday at Charter Funerals, Great Bend. A celebration of Robert’s life is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday at First Assembly of God, 601 S. Patton, Great Bend. Officiating will be Pastor Dwight Dozier. There will be barbecue to follow at the church. Memorials to be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Charter Funerals*
2115 Washington
Clarence E. Lebbin 1915 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Clarence E. Lebbin, 92, died June 17 at Ellinwood District Hospital. He was born Nov. 4, 1915, at Ellinwood, the son of Will and Clara Panning Lebbin. He married Lucile Richardson on June 18, 1939, at Ellinwood. She died Jan. 17, 1999. He was a lifetime resident of Ellinwood. He retired in 1977 as owner/operator of Lebbin Oil Co. He was a school bus driver and served on the city council and the Ellinwood Fire Department.

Mr. Lebbin was a member of the Mike Herr Hunting Club, and of St. John Lutheran Church and Lions Club and a Scouting volunteer, all of Ellinwood.

Survivors include two sons, Dennis W. Lebbin and wife Carol of Towanda and Kenneth A. Lebbin and wife Debbie of Ellinwood; two daughters, Judy Jenisch and husband Richard of Sublette and Trisha Dove and husband Rob of Great Bend; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Milton, and a sister, Edith Rusco.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. today, and a Vigil Service with D of I Rosary at 7 p.m. today, at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for Prince of Peace Parish, or for the Holy Family School Endowment Fund, may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road

Bertha Mae Priesner 1921 - 2008

Bertha Mae Priesner, 86, of Great Bend, died June 17 at Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation Center. Born Nov. 22, 1921, at Great Bend, she was the daughter of Eric and Adeline Belcher Wells. She married Frank Priesner on Nov. 9, 1940, at Great Bend. He survives. She was a homemaker and a lifetime resident of Great Bend.

Mrs. Priesner was a member of the Prince of Peace Parish at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Altar Society and Daughters of Isabella.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, of the home, include two sons, Richard Priesner and wife Patsy of Grand Junction, Colo., and Roger Priesner and wife Loretta of Bryan, Texas; a daughter, Beverly Lawyer and husband Ronald of Austin, Texas; three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a sister, Eulala Harris.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 4 p.m. today, and a Vigil Service with D of I Rosary at 7 p.m. today, at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Great Bend, with Father Reginald A. Urban officiating. Interment will be at Great Bend Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Donations to a memorial fund for Prince of Peace Parish, or for the Holy Family School Endowment Fund, may be made in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.
Victor Joseph Zecha  1923 - 2008

LARNED — Victor Joseph Zecha, 84, died, June 19 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned. He was born Aug. 18, 1923, in Barton County, the son of William B. and Frances Frenzl Zecha. An area resident since 1946, moving from Odin, he was a farmer and a mechanic for Roth Equipment.

He was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, both of Larned. On May 20, 1946, he married Martha Ann Schneweis in Odin. She died July 11, 2005. Survivors include two sons, David and wife Linda, Larned, and Dan and wife Linda, Yuma, Ariz.; a daughter, Shirley Lemay, Lawrenceburg, Tenn.; a brother, Clarence, Odin; three sisters, Matilda Penka, Odin, Lucille Schneweis, Great Bend, and Doris Weiser, Hoisington; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Raymond, Robert and Herman, and four sisters, Eleanor Johanning, Helen Straub, Agnes Penka and Kathleen Zecha; and a grandson, Dustin Zecha.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Father Bernard Felix officiating. Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. today at the Beckwith Mortuary. Burial will be in the Larned Cemetery, Larned. Memorials may be sent to the Sacred Heart Endowment Fund or the Larned EMS, both in care of the Beckwith Mortuary. Personal condolences may be viewed or left at www.beckwithmortuary.com.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary*
916 Main/P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 20, 2008

Mark William “Sparky” Wagner 1959 - 2008

WASILLA, Alaska — Mark William “Sparky” Wagner, 49, of Wasilla, died June 14 in Wasilla. He was born June 14, 1959, at Great Bend, the son of Lloyd W. and Thelma (Stanley) Wagner. He married Rhonda A. Pierlot on May 31, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nev. She survives. He had lived in Alaska since 2004. He attended school in Phillipsburg and La Crosse, and was a 1977 graduate of La Crosse High School. He was employed as a journeyman electrician in several states.

Mr. Wagner was a member of the United States Marines from 1977 to 1980.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include a son, Kacey Wagner of Excelsior Springs, Mo.; a daughter, Tommi Mae Wagner of Meade; his father, Lloyd, and stepmother Mary Beth Wagner of Rush Center; his stepfather Duane Schwab of Ellinwood; five brothers, Preston Wagner and his wife Maribeth and Tracy Wagner and his wife Sue, all of La Crosse, Terry Wagner and his wife Julie of Rush Center, Ted Wagner and his wife Lisa of Pawnee Rock, and John Schwab and his wife Amanda of Liberal; three sisters, Linda Redona and her husband Keleo of Honolulu, Hawaii, Tammie Wagner of Bremerton, Wash., and Tanya Pierce and her husband Dean of La Crosse; uncles, aunts, many nephews, nieces and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother and a brother, Travis Wagner.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Hope Lutheran Church in Rush Center, with Vicar David Rosales officiating. Interment will be in the La Crosse City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the Janousek Funeral Home in La Crosse, with the family receiving friends from 6 to 7 p.m.; and from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. Saturday at
the church. Memorial donations may be made to the Hope Lutheran Church, Rush Center, or to the American Cancer Society.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Janousek Funeral Home*
719 Pine
La Crosse, KS 67548
785-222-2517
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 20, 2008

June 22, 2008

Vernon A. Yarmer 1930 - 2008

GALATIA/RUSSELL — Vernon A. Yarmer, 78, died June 21 at his home in Russell County. He was born April 16, 1930, in rural Russell County, the son of Frank and Mary Demel Yarmer. He married Arlene C. Stoss on May 22, 1956, at Olmitz. A farmer/stockman, he was a lifetime resident of Russell County.

Mr. Yarmer was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church, and was a choir member for 62 years. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 2100 – 3rd degree, and the Sunflower Polka Club. He loved playing cards and never met a stranger.

Survivors include his wife, of Russell; two sons, Robert Yarmer and wife, Valerie, and Verlin Yarmer Jr. and wife Susanne, all of Russell; three daughters, Rhonda Glassman and husband John, of Russell, Becky Cameron and husband Allen of Grant City, Mo., and Rochelle Kuhn and husband Curtis of Victoria; a brother, Milton Yarmer, Olmitz; 13 1/2 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Mello Yarmer; and an infant sister, Mary Yarmer.

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Ann Catholic Church in Olmitz, with Father Ultan Murphy presiding. Wake service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Burial will be at St. Ann Cemetery, Olmitz. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the St. Ann Church/Choir or American Cancer Society (Pancreas), both in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
P.O. Box 146, 415 North Main
Hoisington, KS 67544
(620) 653-4165
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 22, 2008

June 24, 2008

Vivian Estella Johnson Cronin 1913 - 2008


Mrs. Cronin was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Great Bend Garden Club and several bridge groups, all in Great Bend.
Survivors include a daughter, Alice Finney of Edmond, Okla.; two grandchildren, Shelby Finney and wife Mindy and Jennifer Heinz and husband David; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son-in-law Don Finney, two brothers, four sisters, and a granddaughter, Stephanie Finney.

Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. today at the Great Bend Cemetery with Dr. Dennis Scheibmeir officiating. Friends may visit from 9 to 10:30 a.m. today at Bryant Funeral Home, Great Bend. Memorials are suggested to the First Presbyterian Church or the Great Bend Garden Club, all in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.bryantfh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Bryant Funeral Home*
1425 Patton Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-3525
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 24, 2008

Frances Louise Reichuber 1911 - 2008

ELLINWOOD — Frances Louise Reichuber, 97, of Ellinwood, formerly of Bushton, died June 22 at Woodhaven Care Center in Ellinwood. She was born March 5, 1911, at Bushton, the daughter of Joseph and Louise Oberle Hertach. She married Arnold J. Reichuber on Oct. 24, 1939, at Bushton. He died Nov. 22, 1976. She was a lifetime resident of Rice and Barton counties, and an Ellinwood resident for the past 17 years. She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Reichuber was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and Altar Society and a former member of Holy Name Catholic Church in Bushton.

Survivors include three sons, Arnold Reichuber Jr. and wife Eleanora of Goddard, and Gerald Reichuber and wife Sharon and Leon Reichuber and wife Marilyn, all of Ellinwood; a son-in-law, George Shields of Ellinwood; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, a daughter, Patricia Shields, and brothers Frank and Joe Hertach.

An Altar Society Rosary will be at 3 p.m. and a rosary at 7 p.m., both Wednesday at Kimple Funeral Home, Ellinwood. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Holy Name Catholic Church, Bushton, with Father Dan Lorimer officiant. Burial will be at Holy Name Cemetery, Bushton. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Holy Name Maintenance Fund at Bushton.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Funeral Home*
113 North Main
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 24, 2008

Janice Dee Joylyn (Steinert) Mai 1932 - 2008

RUSSELL — Janice Dee Joylyn (Steinert) Mai, 76, of Russell, died June 21 at Hays Medical Center, Hays. She was born May 9, 1932, in rural Galatia, the daughter of Harold Hugo and Ophelia (Michaelis) Steinert. She grew up in the Galatia area and attended country schools. She graduated from Russell High School in 1950. She was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 21 and battled the disease her whole life.

She was united in marriage to Earlin A. Mai on June 1, 1952, at Trinity Bender Hill Church. This union was blessed with two children, Monty and MeloDee. Before her marriage she worked at the phone company in Great Bend as a phone operator. After her marriage she was a devoted wife and homemaker for her family.
Mrs. Mai was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church as a child, the Trinity Bender Hill Church as an adult until the church closed, and she became a member of the St. John Lutheran Church of Russell. She was active in the Ladies Aid and the church choir at Trinity Bender Hill.

Janice was a 4-H leader when her children were active in 4-H. She enjoyed sewing, cooking, trying out new recipes, doing crafts and attending craft shows, collecting angels, and doing jigsaw puzzles and word search puzzles. Early in life she loved polka dancing and later in life she loved attending 4-H hog shows that her grandchildren were in all over the state.

Her surviving family includes her husband of 56 years, Earlin of the home; son Monty Mai and wife Tiffany of Russell; daughter MeloDee Homeier and husband Gordon of Ellsworth; three grandchildren, Taylor Herbel, Lane Mai and Braden Mai; and three stepgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Celebration of Janice’s Life will be held at 10:30 a.m. today at St. John Lutheran Church of Russell with Pastor Robert Kreier officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Bender Hill Cemetery. Memorials have been established with the American Diabetes Association or the Trinity Bender Hill Cemetery Fund. Contributions and condolences may be left with Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary*
610 N. Maple
Russell, KS 67665
(785) 483-2212
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 24, 2008

Arnol G. Hackett

BELOIT — Arnol G. Hackett, 100, died June 21 at the Mitchell County Hospital Long Term Care Unit in Beloit.

Survivors include two daughters, Carol Trickett of Beloit and Kay Melton of Great Bend; five grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the McDonald Funeral Home in Beloit. Burial will be at the Elmwood Cemetery. Friends may visit from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Solomon Valley Hospice or Long Term Care Activity Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
McDonald-Roberts Funeral Service
910 N. Campbell
Beloit, KS 67420
785-738-2211
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 24, 2008

Freda Evers

Freda Evers, 95, of Great Bend, died June 24 at Woodhaven in Ellinwood. Service arrangements are pending and will be announced by Beckwith Mortuary Inc., Larned.

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune., June 25, 2008

Gregory Joseph Birzer 1960 - 2008
ELLINWOOD — Gregory Joseph Birzer, 47, died June 22 at his home. Born Oct. 4, 1960, in Ellinwood, he was the son of James N. Birzer and Leona Zorn Birzer. A lifetime resident of Ellinwood, he was a farmer/mechanic and general manager of Trailer Specialties Inc. He married Kim Shultz on May 16, 1992, in Ellinwood.

Mr. Birzer was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus of Ellinwood, Sons of the American Legion and Kansas Flywheel Association.

Survivors include his wife, Kim Birzer, of the home; a son, Geoffrey Birzer of Hays; two daughters, Audra Kollar and husband Dusan of Hays, and Kylie Birzer of the home; a brother, Michael Birzer of Ellinwood; a sister, Debora Steinert of Larned; and his mother, Leona Birzer of Ellinwood. He was preceded in death by his father, James Birzer.

Memorial funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, north of Ellinwood, with Father Pascal Klein officiating. Burial will be at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery, north of Ellinwood. Remembrance service will be at 7 p.m. Friday followed by Knights of Columbus Rosary at St. Joseph’s Church in Ellinwood. Friends may visit from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday at Kimple Funeral Home in Ellinwood. Memorials are suggested to St. Joseph’s Living Legacy Fund or Sts. Peter and Paul Repair Fund.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Kimple Inc. Funeral Home*
113 N. Main
P.O. Box 246
Ellinwood, KS 67526
620-564-2300
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 25, 2008

Dorothy Lucille Wyrill Behnke 1923 - 2008

LYONS — Dorothy Lucille Wyrill Behnke, 85, a retired teacher and homemaker, died June 24 at the Hutchinson Hospital, Hutchinson. Born Jan. 21, 1923, in Kirwin, she was the daughter of John Bruce and Angie Scott Wyrill. She graduated from the Kirwin Consolidated High School in 1940. She married Marvin O. Behnke on Oct. 18, 1941, in Phillipsburg. He died on Jan. 31, 1998. She received her bachelor of science degree from Sterling College in 1959, her master’s degree from Emporia State Teachers College in 1970 and her Ph.D from Walden University in Naples, Fla., in 1974. She became a Rice County resident in 1946. She spent 30 years in the teaching profession, first in a one-room rural school in Phillips County, then as a junior high school teacher in Lyons. She then was a primary teacher in a two-teacher rural school in Rice County, a high school teacher at Lorraine and Claflin and eventually a professor of English at Sterling College and an adjunct professor for McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. After retiring from teaching, she served one year with the Lyons Good Samaritan Center as a Human Resources director.

Mrs. Behnke was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Bushton and a hospice volunteer.

Survivors include two sons, Howard and wife Crystal of Lyons and Lance and wife Ramona of Mercer Island, Wash.; two daughters, Angela and husband Monte Linton of Great Bend and Rosalie and husband Richard Stewart of Valley Falls; a daughter-in-law, Cindy Behnke of Sterling; a sister, Beth Jantz of Dodge City; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Carolyn Jean Behnke, a son, Scott Alan Behnke, a brother, John Bruce Wyrill, II; and a sister, Lois Harkness.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Birzer Funeral Home in Lyons with the Rev. David Bolz officiating. Friends may visit from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the church or to Sterling College, all in care of the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Birzer Funeral Homes*
214 West Ave. South
Freda Evers, 95, of Great Bend, died June 24 at Woodhaven in Ellinwood. She was born Aug. 25, 1912, in Barton County, the daughter of John and Johanna Ekhoff Evers. A lifetime Barton County resident, she was a homemaker.

Ms. Evers was a member of the Peace Lutheran Church, Albert, and was associated with activities of her church.

Survivors include many nieces and nephews; locally, two nephews, James Nairn, Great Bend, and Melvin Thompson, Arlington; three nieces, Sandy Haun, Larned, Linda Slavik, Pawnee Rock, and Nancy Lee Crook, Hutchinson. She was preceded in death by 10 brothers, J.F. (Ferd), Edward, Herman, Gerhard, August, Hillert, Arend, Christian, George and Alfred, and six sisters, Catherine Kitch, Mathilda Weaver, Martha Nairn, Margaret Guthals, Elizabeth Neemann and Marie Boese.

Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Peace Lutheran Church, Albert, with Vicar David Rosales presiding. Friends may sign the register from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Memorials may be sent to Peace Lutheran Church, Albert, in care of Beckwith Mortuary, Inc. Visit beckwithmortuary.com to send a condolence to the family.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Beckwith Mortuary, Inc.
916 Main/P.O. Box 477
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-2121

Ruth Hodges Hermes 1921 - 2008

OVERLAND PARK — Ruth Hodges Hermes, 86, Overland Park resident, died June 23 at her home.

The family will greet friends at 9 a.m. today at Trout Funeral Home in Ponca City, Okla. The service will follow at 10 a.m. in the Trout Chapel with the Rev. David Bigger officiating. Burial will be in the Grandview Cemetery in Kaw City, Okla.

Ruth Virginia Hodges, the daughter of Virgil and Ruth Hodges, was born on Dec. 17, 1921, in Yale, Okla. She graduated from Kaw City High School in 1939. On March 14, 1942, Ruth married Loren Hermes in Great Bend. They lived in several towns throughout the Midwest before settling in Kansas. Ruth worked as a legal secretary and also a school secretary for several years. Ruth also worked alongside her husband when they owned and operated the Ben Franklin Store in Kiowa, Kan.

She enjoyed church activities and spending time with her friends and family. Family members surviving include her husband, Loren, of the home; three sons, Steve Hermes and wife Kathleen of Leawood, Jerry Hermes and wife Mary Sue of Sterling, Va., and Kent Hermes and wife Alissa of Kansas City, Mo.; one brother, Kenneth Hodges of Ponca City, Okla.; one sister, Sherill Jones of Douglass; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by six siblings. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kansas City Hospice, 10100 W. 87th St., Suite 100, Overland Park, KS 66212.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Trout Funeral Home*
Richard “Shindig” Schindler

LAKE ELSINORE, Calif. — Mr. Richard “Shindig” Schindler, 39, of Lake Elsinore, Calif., died June 21. He is survived by his wife, Setsuko, sons Gage and Gavin, parents Henry Schindler of Great Bend and Bernadine Schultz, and brother Donald Schindler. He was a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving in Special Forces and recently employed by the Riverside County (Calif.) Sheriff's Department. He was a 1987 graduate of Great Bend High School and a national champion skydiver.

A memorial service will be held at England Family Mortuary in Temecula at 2 p.m. today. A celebration of life will be held after the memorial service at Skydive Elsinore. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to: Gage and Gavin Reich-Schindler Education Fund at Navy Federal Credit Union in Temecula, Calif. (1-888-842-6328).

Funeral arrangements provided by
England Family Mortuary, Inc.
27135 Madison Ave.
Temecula, CA 92590
Ph: 951-695-8555
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 27, 2008

Joan E. Kephart 1934 - 2008

MACKSVILLE — Joan E. Kephart, 74, formerly of Macksville, moving to Great Bend in 2006, died June 25 at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. Born June 11, 1934, at Macksville, she was the daughter of Joe S. and Mildred C. (Starke) Waddle. On Jan. 17, 1978, she married Billy Kephart at St. John. He died in 1982. A longtime resident of Macksville, she was a certified nurse’s aide and past owner of Joan’s Clothing Store in Macksville.

Mrs. Kephart was a member of the Macksville Christian Church, a graduate of Macksville High School in 1952 and attended Adele Hale Business School in Hutchinson.

Survivors include a daughter, Brenda Brack, Great Bend; two stepdaughters, Lynn Furtaw of Gaithersburg, Md., and Amy Kephart of Kansas City, Mo.; three stepsons, Patrick Kephart, Hoisington, Michael Kephart of Cumming, Ga., and Timothy Kephart of Simi Valley, Calif.; a brother, Conrad Waddle, St. John; 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was Preceded in death by both her parents.

Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Macksville Christian Church with Pastor Carey Haner presiding. Burial will be in Farmington Cemetery, Macksville. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today with family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. at Minnis Chapel, Macksville. Memorials may be given to the Christian Church in care of Minnis Chapel, Macksville.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Minnis Chapel
205 N. Main
Macksville, KS 67557
620-348-2285
Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 27, 2008

June 29, 2008
OVERLAND PARK — Bradley A. Peterson, 46, died June 27 at his Overland Park residence. He was born Dec. 10, 1961, in Great Bend, the son of Francis D. and Viola D. (Beck) Peterson. He married Mary Elizabeth Bennett on Oct. 12, 2001, at Leawood. She survives. He was a self-employed attorney and an Overland Park resident since 2000, coming from Hutchinson and Hoisington.

Mr. Peterson was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus Council No. 1521, both of Hoisington, and The Church of the Nativity, Leawood. He was active with the American Cancer Society, and recipient of the Founders Award for his work.

He was a 1980 graduate of Hoisington High School, and a graduate with honors of Fort Hays State University and Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Ore. He was a member of the Kansas, Washington and Oregon bar associations.

Brad lived 100 percent every day of his life, never letting his physical limitations stop him. Brad enjoyed hunting, fishing, the Royals, Chiefs, Jayhawks and spending time with nieces, nephews, and his friends and her children.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, Mary Beth Peterson of Overland Park, include his mother, Viola Peterson, of Hoisington, and many friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Dail “Pete” Peterson.

A K of C Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home, Hoisington. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Hoisington, with Father Dwight Birket officiating. Burial will be at St. John Cemetery, Hoisington. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Midwest Transplant Network or to the St. John Cemetery Fund. A celebration of Brad’s life will be held at a later date in Kansas City, Kan. Check his care page for details. Condolences may be sent and notice viewed at www.nicholsonrickefh.net.

Funeral arrangements provided by
Nicholson-Ricke Funeral Home*
415 Main/PO Box 146
Hoisington, KS 67544
620-653-4165

Great Bend (Kan.) Tribune, June 29, 2008