

C. ELDON BEAR
(1931-1997)

Clarence Eldon 'Jiggs' Bear

WORLAND — Longtime Worland resident Clarence Eldon "Jiggs" Bear, 66, died on Thursday, March 6 at St. Vincent's Hospital in Billings, Mont.

He was born on Jan. 16, 1931 in Seely, Wyo., a son of Clarence Lee "Jack" and Miriam Louise (Bay) Bear. He was raised and educated in Seely, Sundance and Moorcroft.

Mr. Bear went to work for Black Hills Bentonite as one of the company's first employees at the Moorcroft plant in 1949.

He married Lorraine I. Cordingly on Jan. 16, 1951 in Rapid City, S.D. She died on Dec. 26, 1996.

In 1964 Mr. Bear transferred to Black Hills Bentonite's Casper plant, and in 1971 he moved to Kaycee to work for the company. In 1978 the family moved to Worland, where Mr. Bear worked at Black Hills Bentonite's plant north of town until ill health forced him to retire.

Mr. Bear was an active member of the Big Horn Independent Baptist Church in Worland. His hobbies included tinkering in his shop, playing horseshoes, and visiting with family and friends.

He is survived by three sons, Tim of Crawfordsville, Ore., Terry of Ten Sleep, and Tony of Connell, Wash.; two brothers, Charles and Larry, both of Worland; five sisters,

Ethyle Nicolen of Worland, Ellen Ethridge of Berthoud, Colo., Betty Carlton of Greybull, Sally Davies of Basin, and Meda Grosse of Belle Fourche, S.D.; and 12 grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Bear was preceded in death by his parents; by three brothers, Ernest, Sherman and Harold; and by one granddaughter.

The service was held Monday afternoon at Big Horn Independent Baptist Church in Worland, with Pastor Jerry Johnson officiating. Burial was Monday afternoon at the Ten Sleep Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Big Horn Independent Baptist Church, 420 Obie Sue Ave., Worland, 82401.

Veile Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Researched and compiled by Faye Bell (SLC) 2013

[Clarence] Eldon Bear was born to Clarence and Minar Bear on January 16, 1931 in Wyoming (1940 U.S. Fed Census). He joined 7 children: Medas (sister), Ernest, Ellen L, Betty Mae, Charles D, Sally M and Larry D. Later, two more children were born:

Sherman W and Harold L Bear. The family was living in Little Missouri, Crook County, WY when C Eldon was 9 years old. On the 16 Jan (birth anniversary) 1951 he married Loraine Cordingly in Rapid City, S.Dak. The couple resided in Moorcroft, Casper and Kaycee, WY while he worked for Black Hills Bentonite Co. They had three sons: Tim, Terry and Tony. According to Public Records, he lived in Worland from 1993-1997. His wife passed away in 1996 (T.S. Cem. Registry). As recorded by Montana death records, C[larence] Eldon Bear died on the 6 Mar 1997 in Yellowstone, MT. A grand-daughter, Jamie Lynn Bear, also preceded him in death in August of 1987