

WALTER ONEY (SLIM) Cheeney
1898-1990

Walter O. Cheeney

TEN SLEEP — Walter Oney "Slim" Cheeney died Friday, Aug. 31, in Washakie Memorial Hospital in Worland. He was 93.

He was born March 10, 1897, in Bayard, Neb., a son of William Oney and Adeline Rebecca (Butcher) Cheeney.

On Oct. 27, 1920, he married Lourina Marie VanZee in Cheyenne.

He moved to the Big Horn Basin in June 1925, after homesteading west of LaGrange since 1918.

He served in the tank corps in WWI. He was a retired rancher and former Mayor of Ten Sleep.

He was a member of the Ten Sleep Methodist Church, American Legion Post No. 44, and the Ten Sleep Lions Club.

Survivors include one son, Edward Homer, of Ten Sleep; two daughters, Dorothy M. Evans, of Ten Sleep, and Helen Marguerite Gregg, on an LDS mission in Lages, Nigeria; one brother, Everett, of Ten Sleep; two sisters, Ella Nagel, of Hornick, Iowa, and Viole Thompson, of Ft. Collins, Colo.; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Public viewing is scheduled from noon to 1 p.m. today. The service is scheduled for 1 p.m. today in the Ten Sleep Methodist Church, with the Rev. Jim Heikas in charge. Burial will be in Ten Sleep Cemetery, with military graveside service conducted by American Legion Post 44.

Veile Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the Ten Sleep Ambulance Service, or the Ten Sleep Senior Citizens.

The following was researched and compiled by Faye Bell (SLC) 2014

Walter Oney Cheeney was born on March 16, 1898 in Meadow Hay, WY. He was a rancher originally from Phillips, WY, but came with his family to Ten Sleep (Nowood area) in 1935. He had served in the U.S. Army during WW I and was a PFC . He married Lourene Marie Van Zee on October 17, 1920 in Cheyenne, WY. The family (two sons and two daughters: Dorothy, Edward Homer, Marguerite and Walter Leonard Cheeney had been here 4 years when their youngest son passed away, Walter, at the age of 8 years. The family prospered on the Nowood ranch. Their children were schooled in the Otter Creek and Ten Sleep schools. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marie in 1976. He was an active member of the VFW and other civic groups of ranchers and farmers. He was Grand Marshall of the Ten Sleep Rodeo in the 1980's (date is uncertain).

Memories: Cowboy boots, long levi-legged, the Stetson, the upright look of an upright man. He and Marie were great for dances that were held in Ten Sleep, particularly those of the Princess era. He seemed a very happy man. fb