

OREN E CUNNINGHAM

1893-1982

Researched and compiled by Faye Bell (2014) SLC

Oren E Cunningham's beginnings are obscure and the records are meager. He was born 20 September 1893 and I believe he was a WW I veteran. **This will have to be a memory of Oren only.** As a child, I knew that he was well known in the community of Ten Sleep and worked at odd jobs like the Moses sawmill, even that is faint in my mind. However, when I read Red Lodge, MT records in doing my own family research where my mother (Fae Caines Rogers) lived and where my father Millard F Moses worked for a short time, Oren Cunningham was there, too! It seemed that they knew each other at that time ca. 1915. They both appeared to be working in the timber for Bronson Rogers. "Funnybacon" my father called Oren and it was never done disrespectfully, only in light fun with the play on Oren's name. Ica. 1938, Oren married the widow of Melvin G Caster (also listed on the Ten Sleep cemetery registry). She had two small daughters: Emily and Junie Caster and they lived in Ten Sleep proper with Oren as their stepfather. The marriage was dissolved shortly and Oren resumed his bachelor existence. Sometime in the 1950s, he married Selma R Sturdevant an employee of Leo Rhodes Hardware Store. For a number of years, Oren was a caretaker at the T.S. cemetery. He died 1 January in Thermopolis, Hot Springs County, WY. He was survived by his widow, Selma.

Oren E. Cunningham

Oren E. Cunningham, 88, died Thursday, Jan. 8, at Washakie Memorial Hospital.

He was born on Sept. 20, 1893 in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to William D. and Cora Zentz Cunningham. He married Selma Ames Sturdevant in 1952 at Red Lodge, Mont.

He moved to Red Lodge, Mont., with his family in a covered wagon when he was a small boy. In 1928 he moved to the Ten Sleep area where he homesteaded on the Upper

Nowood River. He sold his place in 1930 and went to work on the Cy Tolman ranch. He retired in 1970 and was the caretaker at the Ten Sleep Cemetery until 1978 when he and his wife moved to the Pioneer Home in Thermopolis.

He was a member of the Ten Sleep Masonic Lodge of which he was a Past Master; the Ten Sleep V.F.W. having served in World War I in the Navy. He was also a member of the St. Albans Episcopal Church in Worland.

He is survived by his wife, Selma of Thermopolis; one brother Emmett "Smokey" Cunningham of South Dakota, and three sisters Ada Matthews, Bertha Pelo and Edna Croft, all of Red Lodge, Mont.

Funeral service will Tuesday, Jan. 12, at 11 a.m. at the Ten Sleep Methodist Church with the Rev. David Caffrey of St. Alban's Episcopal Church and the Rev. George Parmenter of Thermopolis officiating. Burial will be in the Ten Sleep Cemetery. The Ten Sleep Masonic Lodge and the American Legion will provide graveside services. Veile Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Fire Report

The Worland Volunteer Fire Department was called to the Bud King residence, 1100 Hillcrest, at 11:52 a.m. where a header behind the fireplace was on fire.

According to Fire Chief Bob Taylor, the fire box in the fireplace had warped allowing the fire from the box to transfer to the header behind the fire box.

Taylor said that firemen had to remove most of the outside wall of the fireplace in order to reach the fire. Fire damage to the house was minimal but, according to Taylor, most of the