

NEIL (DOC) GEIS
1925-1991

Worland man dies in crash

Thermop man hurt

By Michael Bloom

Staff Writer

THERMOPOLIS — A well-known Worland man was killed and a Thermopolis relative was injured early Friday in a one-vehicle accident in the Wind River Canyon south of Thermopolis.

Neil Charles Geis, 63, of Worland was pronounced dead at the scene of the early morning one-vehicle accident that happened around 5:30 a.m., according to Sam Donahue, a patrolman with the Wyoming Highway Patrol.

Donahue said Geis and a passenger, George Arnold Pennoyer, 37, of Thermopolis, were driving south on U.S. Highway 20 in a 1986 Dodge pickup truck when the empty horse trailer they were towing started whipping from side to side. Pennoyer is a nephew of Geis.

"The trailer whipped so violently that it apparently caused the driver to strike the guardrail, where (Geis) lost control of the vehicle," Donahue said.

"(The truck and trailer) rolled 105 feet, flipped over the guardrail and landed upside down in the Wind River," he said. "Neither man was wearing a seat belt."

David Veile of Veile Mortuary in Worland said he understood that Pennoyer was trapped in the truck, which was in the river, for more than 15 minutes before someone came to his aid.

It was also reported that Geis and Pennoyer were on their way to Colorado, where they were going to visit Geis' daughter, who was to accompany the men back to Worland.

CRASH *from page 1*

Springs County Memorial Hospital in Thermopolis, and was reported late Friday afternoon to be in stable condition in the intensive care unit.

Funeral services for Geis will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Ten Sleep Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Ten Sleep Cemetery.

A complete obituary will be published in the Tuesday edition of the "Daily News."

Neil C. Geis

WORLAND — Neil C. Geis, 63, of Worland, died Friday, Dec. 27, in a pickup accident in the Wind River Canyon.

He was born Aug. 2, 1928, in Big Trails, a son of Nick E. and Hazel (Harvard) Geis. He was raised and attended school in Ten Sleep.

He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

On Nov. 27, 1952, he married Beth Wain in Worland.

He worked for several ranches in the area before starting a lifelong career as a truck driver. He was 15 years old when he first started driving commercially for the family trucking business, Geis Trucking Co., a cattle hauling business. He became an independent trucker, hauling livestock, road oil and hay cubes, and at the time of his death, was under contract to the Deckert Bros. of Riverton to haul hay cubes.

He enjoyed road trips with friends.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Jeanette Buerger; three daughters, Mrs. Jeanette Buerger, Mrs. Jeanette Buerger and Mrs. Jeanette Buerger; four brothers, Jerry and Lyle, and one sister, Mrs. Jane C. Geis, of Na, Va.; and four grandsons. He was preceded in death by his father, Timothy, and

The casket will be in the Ten Sleep Methodist Church from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. The service is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. in the church, with Rev. C. Rash officiating. Burial will be in Ten Sleep Cemetery.

Veile Mortuary is handling the funeral arrangements.

Memorials may be sent to the Ten Sleep Methodist Church.

(Researched by Faye Bell—SLC, 2016)

Neil Charles Geis was born to Nick and Hazel Irene Harvard Geis on 2 August 1928 and joined his brother Homer. After his birth there were four other children: Harold, Jane, Jerry and Lyle. Another sibling died as a baby—Nicholas V. Geis 1925-1928. Until about 1948, the Geis's lived in Upper Nowood, but they moved their business to Worland circa 1948. The Geis family owned a livestock hauling company and most of the sons enjoyed the occupation of truck drivers for the family business. Neil enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served there 1951-1953 (no military record could be located through Ancestry.com, but it was common knowledge in the locality that he was serving in the Navy) when he married Elizabeth (Beth) Waln, daughter of Mary and Arnold Waln of Ten Sleep October 27, 1952. He and Beth had three daughters: Ava, Clytie and Jeanette. Post military, he drove semis for the Geis Trucking Company headquartered in Worland, WY. He and his family lived in a more rural part of Worland for a number of years. Due to weather conditions, Neil (Doc) was killed in a truck accident on 27 December 1991.