

Willard A. Baker 1912 to 1997

Funeral services for Willard A. Baker, 84, were held Thursday, June 19 at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Wheatland, with Reverend Delbert Dick and Pastor Marlin Driskell officiating.

Interment was in the Wheatland Cemetery with graveside rites conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Laramie Peak Post 3558.

Mr. Baker died Monday, June 16 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland.

Willard was born Nov. 25, 1912, in Albin, Wyo., to George H. and Bertha (Redstorm) Baker. He received his early education in country schools. Willard homesteaded near Slater and lived and farmed in the Slater area for most of his life; moving to Wheatland in 1990.

He married Mary A. Weber at her parent's home in Wheatland May 2, 1949.

Willard served in the military in the European and African Theater Campaign for three years during World War II; he was the ASCS county committeeman for ten years; served on the board of the Chugwater Farmer's Co-op and Weed and Pest Board; was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Veterans of Foreign Wars Laramie Peak Post 3558; affiliated with the American Missionary Fel-

lowship in Slater and a member of the First Baptist Church of Wheatland. He enjoyed gardening and bird watching.

Willard is survived by his wife, Mary of Wheatland; four children and their spouses, Russell A. and Carol Baker of Leadville, Colo., Craig E. and Virginia Baker of Wheatland, Roberta and Steve McCullough of Mitchell, S.D., and Connie and Phil Siefkes of Sleepy Eye, Minn.; two sisters and three brothers, Clarence G. Baker of Torrington, Edgar Baker of Pine Bluffs, Burt Baker and Margaret Pence both of Torrington, and Edith Bamberg of Portland, Ore.; and 15 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister Vanita Baker.

Serving as pallbearers were Stephen Baker, John Baker, James Baker, Owen McCollough, Aaron McCollough, Joel McCollough and Caleb Siefkes.

Honorary pallbearers were all of his many friends and family.

Memorials to American Missionary Fellowship or the First Baptist Church Handicap Access Fund would be appreciated by the family.

The Platte Funeral Chapel of Wheatland was in charge of the arrangements.