

William W. "Bill" Goodrich

Funeral services for William W. Goodrich, 69, best known as Bill, will be held today, Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1989 at 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Wheatland, Wyo. with Father Kale King and The Reverend Karin Wade of the All Saints Episcopal Church and Reverend Denker Phifer of the United Methodist Church officiating.

A memorial Eucharist was held Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the All Saints Episcopal Church in Wheatland. Mr. Goodrich died Sunday, Sept. 3, 1989 at the Wilson Memorial Hospital in Laramie, Wyo.

He was born Jan. 4, 1920 in Wheatland, the son of G. Ward and Lillie (Ayers) Goodrich. He was reared and educated in Platte County, attending Muir School, a rural school, and graduated from the Wheatland High School in 1937.

He attended the University of Wyoming for two years. He then transferred to the University of Washington where he majored in logging engineering and manned lookout towers during the summers for the U.S. Forest Service.

The Japanese bombing of Dutch Harbor in Alaska prompted him to exchange his civilian timber cruiser status there for active duty in the Sea Bees. Shortly thereafter, the Navy transferred Bill to midshipman's school at the University of Pennsylvania.

Following his commissioning from Cornell as an Ensign, he completed his tour of duty in the Pacific. Bill then returned to the University of Wyoming, graduated with honors with a degree in Civil Engineering and Land Surveying, and received the N.A. Swenson Award for outstanding scholastic achievement.

Before beginning his nearly 40-year ranching career in Northern Albany County on the North Laramie River, he served as a Bureau of Reclamation engineer during reconstruction of Seminole, Pathfinder, Whalen, and Kones Dams. He continued to survey the remainder of his life with his latest project being Contracting Officer and Secretary of the Toltec Watershed Improvement District.

Affiliations and community service included membership in Sigma Nu Fraternity, Wheatland Masonic Lodge #16 A.F. and A.M., Order of Eastern Star Chapter 11 in which he served as patron for Ruth Dodge and Vi Goodrich, member of the Albany County School Board for 25 years, and numerous agriculturally oriented organizations. He was also a member of the All Saints Episcopal Church in which he served as vestryman and senior warden.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Philo Goodrich, who was killed flying the hump in India during World War II; his first wife, Eleanor (Hutchinson) Goodrich, whom he married in June, 1946 in Elmira, N.Y.; and his father, G.W. Goodrich, who was instrumental in establishing the Rural Electric Association in Wyoming.

He is survived by his wife, Viola "Vi" (Skurdell) Goodrich, whom he married Jan. 11, 1958 in Casper, Wyo., of the family ranch in Northern Albany County; his mother, Lillie Goodrich, who is now 96, of Wheatland; two sons, Ralph and his wife Lonnie, Spokane, Wash.; and James of the family ranch in Northern Albany County; two daughters, Nancy Robinson and her husband, John, of Douglas; and Susan Goodrich, Spokane; four granddaughters, Heather Robinson, Kelly Goodrich, Erin Robinson, and Amber Robinson and a grandson, Timothy Goodrich.

Serving as pallbearers will be Bill Conklin, Mike McNamee, Roger Garrett, James Jagusch, Al Buckner, and Jim Talbot.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Glen Dunlop, Bob Thomas, Donny Robbins, Eldon Randall, George Woolsey, Roy Kuehner, Don Sherard, Steve Burnett, Dale Robbins, and Tom Atkinson.

A William W. Goodrich Scholarship Fund in care of the First Interstate Bank, P.O. Box 1307, Laramie, Wyo. 82070 would be equally appreciated by the family.