



Virgil Beavers

September 17, 1938 – December 16, 2012

Virgil Beavers, 74, of North Platte and a former longtime Ogallala resident. died Sunday, December 16, 2012, in Bryan LGH in Lincoln.

Virgil was born September 17, 1938 at Elm Creek, the son of Samuel and Leora (German) Beavers. He attended grade school at Elm Creek through the eighth grade. Virgil later earned his GED.

He worked at various jobs in western Nebraska. On November 5, 1966 he married Phyllis Cooney at Carson City, Nev. To this union five daughters were born. He was employed as a car mechanic for Chevrolet Co. at Lake Tahoe, Nev. and at Sacramento, Cal.



The family returned to Ogallala in December of 1966 and Virgil began working as a mechanic for Oltman's Garage. He later was employed as a mechanic with the City of Ogallala. In 1970 Virgil joined the Ogallala Volunteer Fire Dept., and in 1978 became the first paid fire chief in the department's history. He retired from that position in 1992 due to his health.

In 1987 Virgil was awarded the department's highest firefighting award when he won the Clinton McQueen Award. He was also prominent in the progression of this department's rescue services by not only building a rescue truck, but also by acquiring the first "Jaws of Life" and was chief when the ambulance squad was absorbed by the fire department in 1985.

In 1997 Virgil and Phyllis moved to North Platte to manage a mobile home park which they were currently doing at the time of his death.

Virgil enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and following their activities. He also enjoyed trips to Las Vegas and Council Bluffs with family and friends. He liked playing cards and Keno.

Preceding him in death were his parents, two sisters, and nine brothers.

Survivors include his wife Phyllis Beavers of North Platte, daughters Pam Roueche, Christine Brown and special friend Randy Terry, and Melissa (Shane) Hughes, all of North Platte; and Rose Marie Beavers of Edgewater, Colo.; and Renee (Troy) Hahn of Elsie.

Two sisters: Vina Shaw of North Platte and Lucille Hobbs of Napa, Idaho. Two sisters-in-law Marilyn Beavers of Grand Island and Pauline Laflan of Brule. Also nine grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 20, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Draucker Funeral Home. The funeral service will be Friday, Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. in the Ogallala First United Methodist Church with Rev. Chuck Rager officiating.

The Ogallala Honor Guard will give funeral rites. Cremation will follow the Service. A memorial has been established in his name.

Online condolences may be sent to webmaster@drauckerfh.com.

Draucker Funeral Home of Ogallala is in charge of arrangements.