



Omer Royce Kelley

May 6, 1944 – March 12, 2012

Omer Kelley, 67, longtime Ogallala resident, died Monday, March 12, 2012 in the Ogallala Community Hospital.

Omer Royce Kelley was born May 6, 1944 in Ogallala, the son of Ervin and Iva Rathbun Kelley. He attended schools in Haigler and Ogallala, graduating from Ogallala High School in 1962.

He was drafted into the Army on June 29, 1965 and served as a gunner and a crew chief in the helicopter division. Omer was awarded the Presidential Citation for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Viet Nam. After being discharged in 1967 he returned home to pursue the ranching and farming business.

Omer married Sandra Bush in 1975. The couple made their home in Ogallala until 1986. They moved to Phoenix, Ariz. where Omer was employed by Central Arizona Project as a heavy equipment operator. He later became an instructor. Upon his retirement Omer and Sandy returned to the Ogallala area. Omer served on the Ogallala Housing Authority for six years and became a life member of the VFW.

His hobbies included caring for his pets and horses and just being in the great outdoors.

Preceding him in death were his parents and infant brother Lloyd.

Survivors include his wife Sandra Kelley of Ogallala; one son Shawn Kelley of Roseburg, Ore; two brothers: Ervin (Claudette) Kelley of Greeley, Colo. and Larry (Lela) Kelley of Hastings; one brother-in-law Bill Bush of Oklahoma City, Okl.; also two grandchildren, Braven and Emily, and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Draucker Funeral Home.

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

Draucker Funeral Home of Ogallala is in charge of arrangements.