

In Memorium

Seabron T. King

Seabron T. "Seab" King, age 91, passed away Sunday, January 7, 2007, at Delta County Memorial Hospital. He was born July 15, 1915 at Wellington, Texas, to Leslie Phillip and Modella Pearl (Price) King, the second of seven children. In 1918, the family moved to southeastern Colorado where they ranched and farmed near the small town of Kim, until 1933, when they moved to Paonia and settled on a farm on Lamborn Mesa. He graduated from Paonia High School in 1934. He worked at various jobs, mainly as a ranch hand, and in 1937, went to work for what was then known as the Grazing Service, now known as the Bureau of Land Management. Part of his job was to keep peace between the cattlemen and sheep men, and he also was a frequent spotter for planes during wild horse roundups.



On June 4, 1939, he married the former Margaret Elizabeth Sweet of Paonia. His work with the Grazing Service took them to various posts throughout western Colorado and Western Wyoming. Along the way they were blessed with two daughters, Elizabeth Ann (Betsy) Peterson and Virginia Louise (Ginni) Selby. Seab and Margaret were happily married for 61 years before her death in 2000.

In 1950, he received his license as a certified land surveyor, and went to work for the Soil Conservation Service in 1951 in Paonia. In 1958, he formed his own company and he was well known throughout western Colorado. He was a Charter Member of the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado. He had served as their Vice President and also designed their logo.

He was an avid horseman and one of the founders of the North Fork Horse Patrol, which grew out of a horseback rescue he and the late Sy Gillenwater made of a U.S. Geological Survey crew. He and the late Phil Beaver built a small arena just south of where Paonia Care and Rehabilitation Center now stands so local kids could learn about horses and rodeos, and he was instrumental in building the present rodeo grounds west of Paonia. He was also partner with Sid Simpson in a packing and guide service for a number of years. One of his favorite quotes was "God forbid that I should go to any heaven in which there are no horses". He also loved the mountains and any time he could, he would slip away for a day's ride in the high country. He loved animals period, but had a special affinity for cats.

Mr. King was a member of the First Christian Church of Paonia and had been active until health prevented him from being active, but still served as an Honorary Trustee. He also served as Deacon, Trustee and was chairman of the church board for several years. He and his wife were active with the youth group while their daughters were growing up and later was the adult Sunday School teacher.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Phillip and Lee, and one sister, Virginia. Besides his daughters, he is survived by a son-in-law, Roy Selby of Delta, two grandchildren, Thomas Wayne Kulm of Princeton, Indiana, and Melissa Ann Kulm of Evansville, Indiana, two great-granddaughters, Jazzlyn and Josephine Kulm of Winslow, Indiana, two sisters, Allene Gorby of Paonia and Dell Shelton of Uvalda, Texas, one brother Glen King of Hotchkiss, several nieces, nephews and cousins.