

# Jose E. 'Joe' Gallegos

November 5, 1926 – August 18, 2010

Aug 25, 2010  
Record-Times

A funeral service for Jose E. "Joe" Gallegos, 83, will be conducted at 3:00 P.M., Wednesday, August 25, 2010, at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, Wyoming, with Pastor David Weber officiating. Interment with military rites accorded by the Laramie Peak Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3558 and Ora Call American Legion Post #10 will be in the Wheatland Cemetery.

He died Wednesday, August 18, 2010, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Joe was born November 5, 1926, in Rodarte, New Mexico, the son of Federico and Abolita (Mascarenaz) Gallegos. He was reared and educated in New Mexico. Joe lied about his age in order to join the United States Navy during World War II and served in the Pacific. He was drafted into the United States Army during the Korean War; and following his discharge he was a Reservist in the United States Air Force; and was called to serve during the Vietnam Conflict. After his time in Korea, he moved to Wyoming and herded sheep. He returned to New Mexico after his Vietnam service and worked as a Jack-of-all-trades before becoming a substance abuse counselor. He met his future wife, Lois L. Morton during this time; she was a nurse working in a hospital in New Mexico. They were married February 14, 1977, in Santa Fe. After retirement, they lived in various towns in New Mexico and in Texas prior to moving to Wheatland in 1993.

While living in Wheatland, Joe was an interpreter in the court system, at the hospital, sheriff's department, and the mental health center. He was

a member of both the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars and was a past post commander of Laramie Peak Post #3558. Joe was also a member of the Community by Grace Church. He enjoyed landscaping at his home, lay preaching at his church, and his dog, Spike. Mostly Joe loved people. He had a wonderful sense of humor and shared that quality with all who came into his presence.

Survivors include three step-children, Deborah J. Stafford of Wiesbaden, Germany, Dorothy S. (Stephen) Ownbey of Laramie, Wyoming, and Charles B. Stafford of Cheyenne; two siblings, Margaret Gallegos Rodarte and Juan J. Gallegos both of New Mexico; and two grandchildren, Nathan and Adriel Ownbey both of Laramie.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Lois on September 2, 2004; daughter, Gloria; step-son, Stanley B. Stafford; and two brothers, Flavio and Magarito Gallegos.

Serving as pallbearers will be John Exon and members of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Posts. Honorary pallbearers will be Stephen Ownbey, Nathan Ownbey, and Chuck Stafford.

Memorials to the Laramie Peak Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3558, 1401 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201 would be appreciated by the family.

Family and friends may call at the funeral chapel on Tuesday, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gorman Funeral Homes – Platte Chapel of Wheatland.

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