

# Wyo. Pioneer, Duncan Grant Dies Saturday



Duncan Grant

Saturday, July 19, 1975, saw the passing of one of Platte County's oldest pioneers, Duncan Grant. Mr. Grant died at his home south of Wheatland at the age of 93 following an extended illness.

His parents, the Robert Grants, came to Wyoming from Motherwell, Scotland in May, 1878 and settled on a homestead south of the L. D. ranch. Duncan was born August 21, 1881, at Slater, known then as the Chimney Rock Post Office.

In 1884 his father sold the homestead to John Hunton and then took up a pre-emption claim on North Reishaw, 20 miles south of Wheatland. In 1890, his father built the rock house in which Duncan Grant and his wife have made their home all these years.

Besides ranching all his life, he and his brother, Rob, hunted wolves for the Swan Land and Cattle Co., predecessor of today's Two Bar Ranch Co., for five years during the 1890's.

On September 2, 1918, Mr. Grant married Cora Greenlee. To this union were born two daughters, Verda and Helen; and one son, Robert, who lives at the ranch and has been in partnership with his father. They operated a cow-calf herd of herefords with some crossbreeding of simmental and red angus.

During his lifetime Mr. Grant served his community in many ways. For 30 years he was member of the School Board for District #1 and served as treasurer. He was a Platte County Commissioner for 6 years, on the State Grasshopper Control Board for 3 years, and was a charter member of the Laramie Peak Stock Growers Assn. and the Farm Bureau.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 22, 1975 at the United Methodist Church in Wheatland. Rev. Delbert Dick and Rev. Elliott Graves officiated at the services. Interment was at the Wheatland Cemetery.

Following the services a luncheon for the family and friends was served at the Slater Community Hall.

Included in the pallbearers were Walter Swan, Richard Chase, James Irvine, Jr., Morris Hitt, Sr., Arnold Baumgardner, and Howard E. Miller. The honorary pallbearers were Herb Graves, John Mylet, Alfred Juschka, Jim Moran, Earl VonForell, Earl Blevins, Earl Marsh, Andy Dey, Lawrence Rosentrater, Ed Smith, George Wain, Jim Laycock, and John J. Kennedy.

In death Mr. Grant is survived by his wife, Cora; one son, Robert; two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Helen) Wilson of Cody, and Mrs. Robert (Verda) Dey of Medicine Bow; eight grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Four brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

Zeke Scher wrote of Duncan Grant in his book, "Mountain People". "Living by the sun, not by clocks, looking back on a long and satisfying life, enjoying the hours with his wife and children, Duncan Grant reminded me of many I have known in the high valleys of the Rockies. Far from being overpowered by that vast mountain range, they have carved out a special, private world of security and beauty. They appreciate the land and the seasons. They adapt. They don't complain. They laugh freely and often. They know that they are privileged."

Friends who wish may contribute to the Platte County Library Memorial Fund.