

GRAVES, RILEY BEN
August 30, 1940-September 1, 1983

The Grant Ranch, south of Wheatland, was the scene of a farming accident on Thursday, Sept. 1, claiming the life of Ben Graves, 43.

Services were held on Tuesday at First Christian Church of Wheatland, with the Rev. Delbert Dick officiating, assisted by Rev. Dan Barcus. Burial was in the Wheatland Cemetery.

Riley Ben Graves was born on Aug. 30, 1940, in Robertson County, Tennessee to Arthel and Myrtle Graves. His early childhood was spent in Tennessee and he moved to Wheatland at the age of 12 with his family.

He was a member of the 1959 graduating class of Wheatland High School. In August, 1959, he and four of his classmates entered the United States Navy where he served four years aboard the U.S.S. O'Brien. After his release from the service he returned to Wheatland where he held various jobs before being employed by the Grant Ranch.

On March 4, 1967, he was united in marriage to Linda Perdue at the First Christian Church in Wheatland. To this union two sons were born, Todd Blain in 1970 and Brandon Ray in 1974. He was preceded in death by his father Arthel Graves in 1976.

Survivors include his wife and two sons, his mother Myrtle Graves of Nashville, Tenn.; two brothers, Tate Graves and Ray Graves of Nashville, Tenn.; three sisters, Margie Tidwell of Nashville, Tenn.; Dot Graves, Cheyenne, and Betty Baker of Slater.

Also surviving are 11 nephews, five nieces, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Nephews serving as pallbearers were Ken Tidwell, Robin Graves, Kent Graves, Jeb Baker, Brad Baker and Steve Graves. Assisting as honorary pallbearers were Tim Graves, Tony Graves, Craig Graves, Darin Baker and Phillip Graves.

The Ben Graves Memorial Scholarship has been established to the Wheatland High School Rodeo Club in care of Louise Finnerty of Wheatland.

Schrader-Prell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.