

RYFF, DEAN WALDO  
February 17, 1923-October 3, 2009

Dean Waldo Ryff, 86, wonderful husband, father, grandfather, friend, passed away at Life Care Center of Cheyenne on October 3 after battling many health challenges. He was born in Wheatland, Wyoming, February 17, 1923 and spent his childhood on the Wheatland Flats, graduating from Wheatland High School in 1940.

Dean married Edna Mae Nagel in Fort Collins, Colorado, December 4, 1943. They had three children together, Sandra Gayle, Warren Dean and Carol Diane. He farmed until 1956 and then worked for the Bryce Orr Oil Company. In 1961, he joined the Wyoming State Highway Department, where he worked for 25 years.

After retiring, Dean worked at the Cheyenne Pet Clinic and pursued many hobbies including woodcarving, photography, reading history and gardening. All who knew him admired his beautiful roses, as well as his beautifully carved elk, rabbits and Santas. He had a magnificent hat collection, an outstanding arrowhead collection, and was a man of rich musical talent, playing the guitar, organ, accordion, and mouth harp. He and Edna enjoyed many years square dancing together.

In his later years, he suffered many health challenges, but inspired all who knew him with his strength, positive life outlook, interest in the world around him and a deep abiding faith. Dean W. Ryff was an exceptional model for how to grow old.