

Joe H. Whitmore

2-5-1994

Memorial services for Joe H. Whitmore will be held Friday, March 4, 1994 at 12 noon at the United Church of Christ in Wheatland with the Rev. Dr. James Vuocolo presiding. Cremation has taken place.

Mr. Whitmore died February 5th at St. Anthony's Hospital in Denver. He was born November 9, 1899 near Lincoln, NE., the son of Charles and Gertrude Whitmore. He grew up in the Lincoln area and attended High School there. He enlisted in the Army, and served during World War I.

Following military service, he entered the University of Nebraska, and was graduated in 1924. Following graduation, he went to work for Blue Valley Creamery and served at several locations in Nebraska.

He married Amelia Girks in 1925. One son, Dean, was born of this union.

In 1939 he purchased the creamery of Russell Fish and moved to Wheatland. He operated the Whitmore Dairy in Wheatland until 1955 when he sold the operation to Plains Dairy of Cheyenne.

He was appointed Temporary Postmaster for Wheatland on July 27, 1955 and was made Permanent Postmaster on May 16, 1957. He served in that position until his retirement on April 30, 1969.

After retirement, the Whitmore's moved to Denver where his wife, Amelia, preceded him in death on July 1, 1980.

Joe Whitmore was a very active and popular citizen of Wheatland for 30 years. he had many interests that included history (in particular, the history of the American West). In the early 1970's, he donated his fine collection of Western Americana books to the Platte County Public Library.

He was also a very active member of the United Church of Christ, serving at various times as a Deacon and Trustee. He was the driving force in the Church's involvement in the construction of the Platte Manor Senior Housing Project, devoting countless hours to the successful completion of this project.

Joe had a countless number of hobbies. He loved to travel. He was an accomplished artist in many different forms that included wood carving, lapidary, silver smith work and painting in oils. He was also a collector of different types of artwork.

Several years ago, he personally fashioned the silver cross and chain that will be featured at his memorial service as a gift to the Wheatland congregation for use at all such occasions.

He was a member of the I.O.O.F. in Wheatland, the American Legion, The Lions Club and the A.A.R.P.

He is survived by his son, Dean, of Arvada, Colo., and his grandson, Dean, Jr., of Washington, D.C. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and one sister.

His family has established a memorial in his name at The United Church of Christ, 1054 Walnut Street, Wheatland, WY 82201.