

2001

## Thomas D. Atkinson

*January 29, 1918-May 14, 2001*

Services for Thomas D. Atkinson, 83, were held Thursday, May 17, at 2 p.m. at Platte Funeral Chapel in Wheatland, with Rev. Andy Gudahl of First Christian Church officiating. Interment was in the Wheatland Cemetery at Wheatland.

Mr. Atkinson died Monday, May 14, at the Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland. Tom was born Jan. 29, 1918, at the family ranch near Garrett, Wyo., the son of James and Jennie Belle (McFarland) Atkinson. He received his education at country schools near the ranch.

Tom joined the United States Army in 1945 and was discharged in 1946. He served in the Philippines and Japan, returning to the family ranch upon his discharge.

He remained at the ranch until it was sold in 1958, then worked on various ranches in Wyoming and Colorado.

Tom married Patricia J. "Pat" Pitney on June 19, 1968, in Laramie, Wyo. He operated a ranch near Wheatland until retiring in 1996. He enjoyed

ranching, animals and kids.

Tom is survived by a son, Leslie Atkinson of Wheatland; a sister, Katie B. Coral of Wheatland; five nieces, Janet Lupcho of Sheridan, Wyo., Beverly Tobias of Rifle, Colo., Janice Hyche of Wheatland, Trese Tribelhorn of Clayton, Ohio and Sandie Pattee of Casper; and a nephew, Harry Corl of Wheatland.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Pat on Oct. 10, 1997; and four brothers, Bill, Les, Jim and Robert Atkinson.

Serving as pallbearers were Norm Hyche, Ryker Hyche, Juan Reyes, Kelly Artery, Steve Stumbough and Einer Mickelsen.

Honorary pallbearers were Luke Corl, Harry Corl, Lloyd Johanns, Mel Clark and Wallace Baker.

Memorials to the Platte County Search and Rescue, P.O. Box 566, Wheatland, WY 82201.

Platte Funeral Chapel of Wheatland was in charge of the arrangements.