

Bud Uray Dower

April 19, 1925 – October 15, 2005

A Celebration of Life for Bud Uray Dower will be held at the United Church of Christ in Wheatland, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

He passed away on October 15, 2005, at the Red Rock's Health Care Center in Denver, Colo.

Bud was born in Sunrise on April 19, 1925, the son of James Dower and Garnet Waitman Dower. He attended Sunrise School and moved to Wheatland when he was 11 years old. He graduated from Wheatland High School in 1943, after which he enlisted in the Army Air Force. He was a Bombardier on the B17 bomber in Italy during World War II.

Upon Bud's discharge he returned to Wheatland and married Betty Jean Judson on June 2, 1946. Bud and his wife attended Colorado A&M in Fort Collins, Colo. in 1946 and 1947. Then they returned to Wheatland and started a floral and greenhouse business.

Bud and Betty bought Bullock's floral shop in Downtown Wheatland and expanded to include many gifts and other types of merchandise. They eventually moved their store next door and had a much larger store that local residents referred to as their "mini mall." They also had many other enterprises throughout their time in Wheatland.

Bud was active in his community, state and country. He was a Boy Scout Master, Cub Scout Master, and on the Scout committee. Bud helped for the Wheatland Jaycees, served as the first secretary and was selected the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. He was president of the Wheatland Chamber of Commerce. Bud served on the Wheatland City Council from 1960 to 1970 and was Mayor from 1970 and 1972. he

was a charter member of the Wyoming Municipal Power Association and the first president of that organization. He was on the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Association of Municipalities and on the Midwest Board. He was an active member of the Lions Club -- serving on the Board of Directors, he was the first and second vice-president and president. Bud served the Resource Conservation and Development Board for over 25 years. He was Chairman of the five-county area and the chairman of the State of Wyoming R. C. & D and chairman of the 15-state regional area for R.C. & D. He served as secretary on the Platte County Soil Conservation Board and as a member for over 25 years.

Bud was a member of the Community of Christ Church where he was the construction chairman for Camp Paradise, located 30 miles west of Wheatland and owned by the church. He was an active member and elder of his church in which he served as pastor for several years.

He was also a loving father and grandfather.

Bud and Betty moved to Denver in September 2003 to Epoch Assisted Living.

Bud is survived by his wife and three children: Jeanne Cockcroft of Thousand Oaks, Calif., Steven Dower of Highlands Ranch, Colo. and Kim Dower of Aurora, Colo.; and eight grandchildren, six step-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Bud is preceded in death by one brother, James L. Dower in 2003; his father in 1952; his mother in 1969; and one grandchild in 1980.

Memorial donations may be made to Camp Paradise and Hospice of Metro Denver.