

Myrtle A. Flaharty

6-25-1993

Services for Myrtle A. Flaharty, 94, were Tuesday, June 29 at the Wheatland United Methodist Church in Wheatland Wyoming, with Reverend Linda Barnes officiating. Interment was in the Wheatland Cemetery with the Wheatland Chapter No. 11, Order of the Eastern Star conducting graveside rites.

Myrtle A. Flaharty, a long-time ranch woman of Albany and Platte Counties, passed away at the Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland on June 25, 1993. She had been a resident of the Platte County Memorial Nursing Home since November, 1989.



Myrtle Augusta Rosentreter Flaharty was born October 23, 1898, at Cheyenne, Wyoming, the only daughter of Gustav W. Rosentreter and Julia Louise (White) Rosentreter. Her mother died when Myrtle was four years old, and her father later married Iva Ankeny. Myrtle was raised on the ORO Ranch on South Sybille Creek, where her father had homesteaded in 1895. She received her early schooling at the ranch; first at a community school, then in a one-room school. She later took high school courses by correspondence. Myrtle attended the University of Wyoming Summer School for three years, receiving her Teacher's Certificate; and taught at the local Sybille School from 1918 to 1922. She filed and proved up on a homestead, part of the ORO Ranch, later selling it to her father.

On November 4, 1924, Myrtle was married at Cheyenne, to Earl Flaharty of the John L. Jordan Ranch, Iron Mountain, Wyoming, formerly from York County, Pennsylvania.

They leased the PR5 Ranch on North Sybille Creek, homesteaded by Louis Roved in 1890, on May 1, 1926. They moved there, later buying the cattle, brand and the ranch in 1931. Land was added with the Les and Dave Sommers Ranches and with Swan Company or Two Bar Land on the Laramie Plains. They ranched there some 34 years, until retiring in 1960 and moving to their home at 303 13th Street in Wheatland.

Active in community affairs, Myrtle was a member of the Wheatland Chapter No. 11, Order of the Eastern Star for over 68 years, honored as a 50-year member in December, 1974. She was a Life Member of Tamah Temple No. 73, Daughters of the Nile, Rawlins; and past-president of Wheatland Club, Daughters of the Nile. She was also an active member of the Wheatland Garden Club, Wheatland Art Guild, Laramie Peak Rock Hounds, Golden Age Club, Platte County Farm Bureau, Platte County Historical Society, and the Wheatland United Methodist Church.

Myrtle joined the Laramie Peak Cow-Belles in 1956, one of the first members, and was honored as the first "Pioneer Ranch Woman of the Year" in 1986. She was also a long-time member of the Wyoming Cow-Belles, now Wyoming CattleWomen. She enjoyed gardening and her flowers and doing watercolor and oil paintings. A dedicated ranchwife, she was a devoted and loving daughter, mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Myrtle is survived by her children, Clifford L. Flaharty of Wheatland, and Myra J. Hanna and husband, Elwood of PR5 Ranch, Wheatland; a brother, Laurence Rosentreter, and wife Marie of JY Ranch, Wheatland; a granddaughter, Susan L. Hanna Weaklim and her husband, Martin of Laramie, Wyoming; two great grandchildren, Julia Renee and Ian Arthur Weaklim of Laramie; a niece, two nephews; and several great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; step-mother; husband, Earl on August 30, 1974; and two brothers, Ernest Eugene and Floyd A. Rosentreter.

Serving as pallbearers were Tony Testolin, Howard Lee Miller, Greg Garton, Gordon Hay, John Wickam, and Tom Christinck. Honorary pallbearers were Don Sommers, Milton Small, Tom King, Don Gudahl, Chuck McFarland, and Orval Earle.

Memorials may be made to the Laramie Peak Museum in Wheatland or Wheatland Chapter No 11, Order of Eastern Star Memorial Fund.

Lynn (Montana) Freeman