

Clifford Elmer Riter

7-17-1994

Funeral services for Clifford Elmer Riter, 72, were held Wednesday, July 20, 1994 at 10 a.m. at the Covenant Lutheran Church in Wheatland, with Rev. Michael Schaefer of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cheyenne officiating. Interment followed in the Wheatland Cemetery with military graveside rites.

Mr. Riter died Sunday, July 17, 1994 at the Veteran's Hospital in Cheyenne.

He was born Oct. 16, 1921 in Lewellen, Neb., the son of Elmer and Minnie (Hollister) Riter. He was reared and educated in the Sandhills north of Lewellen where he attended a country school.

He worked in ranching until he joined the service. He married Marjorie Wickham on Dec. 22, 1941 in North Platte, Neb. He served in the U.S. Army from Sept. 1, 1942 to Nov. 8, 1945. He served under General Patton at Normandy, was a prisoner of war, and received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star/Rhineland, American Theatre Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Ribbon, Victory Medal, Bronze Star/Normandy and Bronze Star/Northern France.

Upon his discharge, he moved to Wheatland for a time and then to Denver, Colo., in 1948, where he attended refrigeration school under the G.I. Bill. In 1957, he opened his own business, Riter's Refrigeration and Electric in Wheatland. He was in business for 40 years. At the age of 57, Cliff bought an airplane, learned to fly and received a pilot's license. He enjoyed his work, flying, and his family.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Disabled American Veterans.

Clifford is survived by his wife, Marjorie, of Cheyenne, and two daughters, Sandy Tinsley of Worland and Debbie Miller of Wichita, Kans. Also left are three sisters, Hazel Valentine of Sedgwick, Colo., Dorothy Campbell of Oshkosh, Neb., and Rose Mary White of Oshkosh, Neb., and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Serving as pallbearers were Vance Douglas, Bill White, Ron Wickham, Mike Wickham, Debert Riter and Elmer Riter. Honorary pallbearers were all of his many friends.

A memorial to the Disabled American Veterans would be appreciated by the family.

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