

Bonnors Ferry Herald, Thursday, May 10, 2007

William Fred (Bill) Maas, 89

William Fred (Bill) Maas, 89, passed away on May 1, 2007 at the Boundary County Nursing Home in Bonnors Ferry, Idaho. Graveside Services were held on Saturday, May 5, 2007, at Grandview Cemetery, Bonnors Ferry, Idaho.

Bill was born in Belleville, Ill., on Oct. 15, 1917 to Fred G. and Mollie (Hafley) Maas. He started school in Freeburg, Illinois, but in 1926 he moved to Bonnors Ferry with his parents. He attended Sheridan School and Bonnors Ferry High School, often riding horseback to school so he could turn out for football. He graduated in 1935.



After graduation, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and was stationed at Heyburn State Park, Chatcolet, Idaho. After the CCC's were closed in 1940, he was appointed as foreman for the National Park Service at Chatcolet.

On September 8, 1940 he married Evelyn Kanikeberg in Bonnors Ferry, Idaho. In the fall of 1941, they moved to Bremerton, Wash., where Bill worked in the Navy Ship Yard as a sheet metal worker. In September 1943 they returned to Bonnors Ferry, Idaho and the ranch in District 2. Here they built a new house from lumber cut from their own logs with a portable mill. They raised beef cattle, dairy cattle, hay and grain.

Bill served on the School Board from 1948 until 1960. In 1957 he was appointed deputy fire warden for the State of Idaho and in 1960 was state fire warden until his retirement in 1980. He served on the board of the Soil Conservation District and was a 50 year member the Kiwanis Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Evelyn, grandson Mark Widman, a brother, Carl, and nephew William.

Survivors include: one daughter, Billie Jean (Duane) Widman of Rosalia, Wash.; one granddaughter, Amy (Clay) Gehring of Great Falls, Mont.; two great-grandsons, Anthony and Riley Gehring of Great Falls, Mont.; two sisters, Dorothy Friedly of Olympia, Wash., and Sharon Wiseman of Sandpoint, Idaho; two brothers, Gerhart and Alvin Maas of Bonnors Ferry, Idaho, and numerous Nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Fry Foundation.