

8-15-2002  
Bonners Ferry Herald, Thursday

## Leroy Ralph Oakes, 67



LeRoy Ralph Oakes, 67, went to be with the Lord on Aug. 2, 2002 after an extended illness in his Bonners Ferry Home. Graveside Services were held on August 6, 2002 in the Paradise Valley Cemetery near Bonners Ferry, internment followed.

LeRoy was born on March 16, 1935 in Eugene, Ore. to Steven and Eleanor (Uchytel) Oakes. He attended schools in Springfield, Ore.

After his education he moved to California where he logged Redwoods and worked in sawmills for several years.

In 1954 he married his first wife Donna Quinny in Grass Valley, Calif. They moved to Oregon and later back to California following mill jobs. They were later divorced in the late 1950's.

LeRoy moved to Swisshome, Ore. to work at Eriskine Lumber Mill. He met

and married Frances (Fran) Leslie Beebe on April 30, 1962 in Reno, Nev. LeRoy was a bit of a wanderer and they moved from Swisshome to Princeton, Idaho where he worked in a Cedar Post and Rail Mill.

They then moved to Calder, Idaho in 1967 to work for Idaho Cedar Sales and then made several stops in his journey before moving to Paradise Valley in April of 1980 where he owned and operated Paradise Valley Wood Products and later formed AT&L Enterprises with good friends, Terry and Allan Jeppesen until retiring in 2002.

LeRoy had a strong faith in God and attended the Community Fellowship and later the Free Methodist Churches. Over the years he enjoyed woodworking, his garden, flowers and loved his chickens and dogs.

LeRoy was and always will be known as Honey to his daughters Leslie and Kris.

LeRoy is survived by his wife, Fran; daughters, Mrs. Joe (Leslie) Barker of Bonners Ferry, Mrs. Bob (Kristie) Surprenant also of Bonners Ferry, Mrs. Ron (Teresa) Haniuk of Springfield, Ore. & Kim Rabe of California; sister Joanne Dean of Post Falls, Idaho. He had numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren locally including Erin Barker, Nichelle & Ethan Martin, Tara, Kristin, and Mat Surprenant and special son Allan Jeppesen.