



## Asael "Leon" Whitaker

August 1, 1940 - February 4, 2011

Asael "Leon" Whitaker passed away quietly at home February 4, 2011. Leon relocated from the Bay Area to Yreka over 30 years ago. He is survived by Janet, his wife of 40 years, son Daren and daughter Audra. Leon was Papa to nine grandchildren and an uncle to several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. He was a brother to Charleen & Jack Hale of Rocklin, CA; Beverly Moldenhauer of Sacramento, CA; Melvin Whitaker of Texas and was preceded in passing by his brother Orla Whitaker, brother-in-law Donald Moldenhauer and sister-in-law Madeline Whitaker.

Born in Pocatello, Idaho to Cecil and Ada Whitaker in 1940 Leon first came to California in 1949, where his father worked in the logging industry outside of Ft. Bragg. He later moved to the Sacramento area attending local schools and American River Junior College.

Leon was a journeyman carpenter by trade and from 1966 through 2002 worked on several types of buildings and infrastructures in San Francisco including the St. Francis Hospital, Kaiser Hospital on Geary, various hotels, and many other projects in the Bay Area. Upon "retiring" he continued to utilize his skills for many residents and businesses of Yreka and the surrounding area. His numerous years of experience and creativity were apparent in every project he worked on. Leon was a true craftsman, from intricate hand carvings to highly detailed metal work and stained glass pieces;

each was uniquely crafted with precision.

Leon was a member of the Yreka Elks Lodge where he received the Volunteer of the Year Award for 1998/1999. He was also a member of the Siskiyou County Relic and Recovery Club. Leon spent a great deal of his free time with friends and acquaintances enjoying what nature had to offer in this beautiful area.

He was truly loved by many and will be greatly missed by all.

Private graveside services will be held in Ft. Jones. Please come join us in a Celebration of Life at the Yreka Elks Lodge this Friday, February 11, 2011 starting at 4 p.m.