



George "Ben" Benton Brazie

March 22, 1918 - April 13, 2013

George Benton "Ben" Brazie, 95 year old Siskiyou County native, passed away on Saturday, April 13, 2013 at the Madrone Hospice House in Yreka following a long illness.

Ben was born March 22, 1918 at Hovey Gulch east of Montague to John and Vesta Brazie. He attended local schools, and after graduating from Yreka High School joined the Army and was stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA. His attempt to serve his country ended with a medical discharge prior to the end of boot camp. While at the Army hospital, he met Louise Marie Sigmund, a nurse also stationed at Ft. Lewis; they married February 5, 1942 at the Court House in Olympia, WA. After settling in the Yreka area they began ranching, purchasing a ranch in 1945.

For many years, Ben specialized in baling hay and was selected to use one of the two hand-tie balers in Siskiyou County during World War II by the rationing board. Ben continued custom-haying and expanded into Butte Valley in the 1960's with help from his son, John. During the 1970's more emphasis was placed on raising cattle and in August of 2000, he was selected as the 46th Cattleman of the Year by the Siskiyou County Cattleman Assoc.

Ben was an avid Yreka High School sports fan, and also loved buck hunting. He served as a member of the Greenhorn School Board, the local draft board during the Korean War, and the Siskiyou County Planning Commission.

Ben and Louise were married 65 years before Louise passed away in August of 2007. He is survived by their two children and spouses, Carol Lynn and

Larry Holm of Gold Hill, OR, and John and Kathy Brazie of Yreka; four grandchildren, Keri Vilks and husband Aleks, Cody Holm, Jake Brazie and wife, Cecilia, Kimberly Solano and husband, Matt; and two great grandchildren, Owen and Kayleigh Solano.

At his request no services will be held. Memorial contributions may be made to Madrone Hospice, 255 Collier Circle, Yreka, CA 96097 or to Yreka Miner Power, PO Box 775, Yreka, CA 96097.