



Thomas Connally Smith

October 25, 1916 - March 4, 2012

Thomas Connally Smith, 95 year old Hornbrook resident, passed away on Sunday, March 4, 2012 at his home.

Tom was born October 25, 1916 in Stamford, Texas to Edward and Rachel Smith. His mother died when he was young and he was raised by several different family members. At the age of 16, Tom joined the U.S. Marines and served four years with the Marines. He then served a year with the National Guard and then joined the U.S. Navy, serving with them for 4 years. He left Pearl Harbor on Dec. 6, 1942, the day before the Japanese attack.

Tom was a very hard worker and a Jack-of-all-Trades. He worked as a bus driver before beginning a career in carpentry. He also had a Good Humor ice cream truck and owned a Foster's Freeze. He built his first house in Walnut Creek for his previous wife and daughter. They moved to Fairbanks, Alaska where he worked for the electric company for 13 years. He homesteaded twice, building a small cabin on the first and a larger home on the second. After a divorce, he returned to Concord. He was working at Rossmoor Village in Walnut Creek as a carpenter when he met his wife, Shirley, who was also working at Rossmoor; they were married shortly after that in 1973. Tom also worked at the San Ramon School District for 12 years, 4 of which the couple lived on the school grounds as caretakers. When they retired in 1985, they sold their home and became full time RVers, which they did for 13 years. They belonged to 4 different RV clubs while wintering in the South and spending summers in the North. They moved to Siskiyou County 18 years ago, after

being prior members of the R-Ranch.

Tom is survived by his wife, Shirley, of Hornbrook; a daughter, Nancy Chaney of Arkansas; 3 step children, Carol Williams of Colorado Springs, Colo., Darlene Runge of Vallejo and Gary Bissitt of Vacaville; a niece, Beverly Erwin of Concord; 7 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Oma Erwin.

At his request, no services are scheduled. Memorial contributions may be made to Madrone Hospice, 255 Collier Circle, Yreka, CA 96097.