



Charles P. Hays

June 28, 1924 - January 5, 2017

Charles P. Hays, 92, of Central City, died at his home on Thursday, January 5, 2017. Visitation will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 from 5-7 p.m. at Solt-Wagner Funeral Home in Central City. There will be a memorial service for extended family at a later date. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.soltwagnerfuneral.com.

Charles was born to William Russell (Pat) Hays and Della Mae (Fletcher) on June 28, 1924 near Cozad NE. He graduated from Cozad High School in 1941. He worked on the family farm until he turned 18 and enlisted in the Army Air Core in 1942. Charles served in the AAF 396 Bomb Group and was stationed in Italy, Egypt, Africa and Casablanca. He married Lea Raye Kufeldt on February 1, 1946 in Norton Kansas. They lived at Chanute Field in Illinois while Charles was in the service. After his military discharge as a Staff Sergeant Charles and Lea moved to Cozad where he worked for the city. Charles and Lea started farming in the late 1940's at various locations in Nebraska. In 1960 they moved to the Clarks area where Charles worked for the Merrick County Highway Department while continuing to farm. Charles did wood working for people and enjoyed animals and children. He especially enjoyed visiting with the High Plains Community School 3rd graders over the years. Charles enjoyed vegetable and flower gardening once he stopped farming. He was also a lifelong horse trader, searching for his perfect horse.

He was preceded in death by his parents; nephew (Ronald Henderson); niece (Carolyn Smith); sisters (Vivian Irene Henderson and Cornelia Fern Hays). He is survived by his wife Lea; 3 daughters, Sandra (Bill) Petersen of Council Bluffs, IA; Kathleen (Jerry) Dittmer of Clarks, NE; and Cynthia Hays of Lincoln NE; 5 Grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren and nephew Larry (Tib) Henderson of Springfield NE.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Solt-Wagner Funeral Home
Central City, NE

Tribute Wall

RB

“ *Uncle Charlie Pat was always my mom's favorite Uncle. As uncle Charlie walked through the golden gates of Heaven he was met by his niece Carolyn.*

My thoughts and prayers go out to Lea and the entire family during this difficult time.

Rhonda Bayne - Carolyn's daughter

Rhonda Bayne - January 10, 2017 at 12:28 PM

LH

“ *I have so many happy memories of Uncle Charlie from my youth!!*

Love to the family

Larry Henderson

Larry Henderson - January 10, 2017 at 10:51 AM

JB

“ *My 3rd graders loved you Mr Hayes* 

Hugs to Leah and the family.

Mrs Blase

Jan Blase - January 07, 2017 at 08:43 PM