



Elmer Humphrey

June 18, 1925 - September 9, 2015

Elmer Wesley Humphrey, Sheepherder, passed away at his home on September 9, 2015, just a half mile from his birthplace. He was surrounded by his wife and family.

Elmer was born on June 18, 1925 in the small community of Bellfountain to Fred and Capitola [Hurlburt] Humphrey. He was the third child of six. He attended Bellfountain Grade School and Corvallis High School. He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Korea during World War II. He married Donna Harvey in 1949. They had two children, Donna Marie and Ronald. His wife, Donna passed away in 2000; Ronald in 2007. He married Philomena Smith in 2002.

Throughout his childhood and adult life Elmer was a Sheepherder. He bought his first ewes by selling wool that he had picked from fences. He was known throughout the US and Canada for his purebred Horned Dorset Sheep. He was an active 4-H member during his childhood, and continued as a 4-H leader as an adult. He also judged at County & State fairs throughout the Pacific Northwest. Elmer also showed his Horned Dorsets throughout the West and won many championship awards.

He worked as a Shepherd for Sunny Mt. Ranch in Monroe for 15 plus years. His knowledge of sheep knew no bounds.

Elmer lived a great life. Up to the final weeks of his life, he could be found in his garden hoeing, out at the barn looking at the sheep, or thinking of projects that needed to be done.

“Gramps” will always be remembered by his family as their Shepherd.

Elmer is survived by his wife of thirteen years, Philomena of Monroe; daughter Donna Dillard [John] of Monroe; brothers Ken and Jack both of Albany; granddaughter Kelly Elliott [Scott] of Alpharetta, Ga.; grandsons David Mills [Debi] of Monroe, Cody & Wyatt Humphrey both of Eugene, Derek [Natalie] of Springfield; great-grandchildren Alyssa, Ryan, and Katelyn Elliot, Emily and Tyler Mills and Ali, Ani and Coda Humphrey; numerous nieces & nephews.

He is preceded in death by his wife Donna and son Ronald; brother, Norman; sisters Elma Wooley and Lois Winniford.

Elmer’s recent 90th birthday celebration was his “Celebration of Life.” No service will be held.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Benton Hospice Service or the Benton County 4-H Extension in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 NW 5th St., Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Tribute Wall

ME

“ *I never had a bad day around Elmer. He always saw the best in everyone. Whether cutting wood, gardening or on a drive he saw the best possibilities. He and Philomena opened their hearts and home to Katy and I and we are thankful for having the opportunity to know them. Please rest in peace Elmer.*
Mike Earnest

mike earnest - September 17, 2015 at 06:29 AM

KS

Elmer gave me a chance at life. He took me in and saw something in me when I couldn't see in front of me. He and Phil belived in me when I didn't. I now have a life with my daughter and a wonderful man. I wouldn't have these if it wasn't for Elmer and Philomena. Elmer came into my life when my dad passed. I believe my dad guided me to Elmer. I love and miss both my dads!

Katy Stark - September 18, 2015 at 09:30 PM