



Winston Grant

August 10, 1917 - February 19, 2014

WINSTON EMMET GRANT was born in Harlan, Oregon on August 10, 1917 and he went to be with his Lord from Harlan on February 19, 2014. Winston was the oldest son of Leonard T. and Ruth E. Grant. He lived the majority of his 96 ½ years right there on the family homestead, and he lived that life to the fullest. He was a true rancher, which meant that he was a “jack of all trades”. He grew up tending the livestock, and working the land alongside his father, missing his 7th grade year of school to run the ranch while Leonard had to work off the ranch. He grew up hunting deer and elk to help feed the family, and cougar, bear, and coyotes to protect them and their livestock. His horses were his companions, and his transportation. As a young man, “Winnie” was imaginative, and innovative, always tinkerin’ around in a shop. He fabricated a water-wheel to use in “Grant Creek” to charge batteries before electricity arrived. He bought a log truck, using it on the ranch, and to supplement his income. In 1952 he married Ruth M. Davis, of Alsea. In addition to the ranch, they owned and ran the Harlan Store, and Post Office. He was the Postmaster from 1961 through 1968. In 1968, due to health reasons, for their oldest daughter, the family which had grown to 2 daughters; Pamela Kay, & Starla Rae, and 2 sons; Sterling and Timothy, moved to Redmond, Oregon. They bought a small ranch which served as a “satellite” ranch to the homestead, still hauling feed and cattle back & forth “over the mountain”. Winston also had numerous “real” jobs while in Redmond, among them, driving school bus, and working for the State Highway Department.

Obtaining his pilot's license he literally "flew" to work up on the Santiam Pass. He survived a plane crash in 1973, and was always quick to tell you that he was NOT the pilot! In 1979 Winston moved back to the ranch in Harlan. He married Lola Flolo in 1987, and they enjoyed his "retirement" years. He helped out on the ranch baling hay, "wrenching" in the new shop he built, and even herded sheep up in the hills one summer. He loved playing his fiddle. He had been in several Western Bands in his younger years, and now he joined the "Old Time Fiddler's Association," traveling the state for competitions and get-togethers. Winston was a devout Christian, and was involved in starting a "Fellowship of Christian Cowboy" chapter. He loved to play his fiddle for The Lord, and he did so at his home church, "The Chapel of the Valley" in Harlan every Sunday he was there, almost to the end. His love of flying took him to the height of owning several planes in his lifetime, and owning and running the Lebanon Airport for two years. Winston also had a life-time love affair with Tractors, owning one of Harlan's first, which he made himself, before he bought one, and restoring an early model crank start "Allis-Chalmers" at 93. He also had a "show tractor", which he restored, and a friend drove for him in several "tractor pulls". He also enjoyed cars. Old cars, new cars, fast Willie Jeeps, etc... He belonged to the "Corvallis Historic Auto Club", having bought a 1957 Ford Edsel. Winston loved to travel, and to visit people. He was quick-witted and feisty. He will be so missed.

Winston was preceded in death by his father and mother, his brother Jack, and his 2nd wife Lola. He is survived by his 1st wife Ruth, Children; Pam McCoy-Grant of Kauai, HI, Starla Sheppherd of Prineville, OR, Sterling Grant of Harlan, OR, and Timothy Grant of Nashville, TN. Step-Children; Mark Flolo and Cindy Gadd both of Camas, WA. He leaves a legacy of, nine grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren.

There will be a Celebration of Winston's Life at 1:00 pm, on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at the Chapel of the Valley in Harlan, Oregon. Donations

may be made in his memory to, Harlan Chapel of The Valley or Samaritan Pacific Home Health and Hospice.

Tribute Wall

D'

“ *My deepest sympathy to all in your family for the loss you have suffered. May you find comfort in your family, friends and the future promises in God's word. He has promised to end death forever and reunite us with our dear loved ones (Rev 21:4 & John 5:28, 29) May you continue to remember the fond memories of your loved one*

D'Anita - March 27, 2014 at 08:14 AM

CG

“ *Our condolences Sterling, Pam, Starla, Tim and your families. I have great memories of Winston from years ago. His life was inspirational as well as his love for God. We will meet again!*
Chris Gilmore
British Columbia, Canada

Chris Gilmore - March 07, 2014 at 04:10 PM

BR

“ *Sterling, Pam, Starla, Tim and all the family, Uncle Winston was such a wonderful man. The memories of him go back to my earliest years when we shared cider pressing days. His life was an inspiration to so many. He was so adventurous--what a guy. He had a long life and knew he was loved by so many. Although we weren't able to be with you on Saturday our thoughts and prayers are with you.*
Bev (Grant) Ragsdale and family

A very special bunch of love to you from mom.

Beverly Ragsdale - February 26, 2014 at 03:57 PM

EP

“ Sterling, Starla, Tim and family....As you know, my mother Lois was married to Grant Davis so that is how we came to know the Grant family at Harlan where we spent many great summers at the little cabin on the creek and came to know Leonard, Ruth, Winston and the family. We have such fond memories of Winston, his life and stories. Our condolences to all the family from our family. You have a rich heritage. We send our love.

Evelyn Prest and family

Evelyn Prest - February 25, 2014 at 11:46 AM

RP

“ I remember meeting Winston while spending a week or 2 each summer on Grant Creek with my grandmother and step grandfather Grant Davis. Winston inspired me to learn to fly, from his stories (ya...all of them!) and love of flying and also gave me a glimpse into the "glamor" of living life connected to farming and a ranch. Although I've been out of touch for years now I'm very glad to learn that he lived a very long and full life, all the proof that living in the country is rich! My thoughts are with you all, I'm glad to hear you got to spend so many years with him.

Rick Prest

South Beach OR

Rick Prest - February 25, 2014 at 01:12 AM

JM

“ I met Winston Grant back in the 60's when I was married to Clay Tabor and we spent time in Harlan with Clay's dad Harold Bohannon and Laura. I recall Winston as a very nice and kind man and I was sorry to read of his passing.

My condolences to your family.

Judy Tabor McCann

Corvallis and Sisters, OR

Judy Tabor McCann - February 22, 2014 at 01:56 PM

JB

“ Thinking of you and remembering Winston. We've enjoyed his visits to the Country Music Jamboree. Rest in peace, my friend.
Janet Braymen

Janet Braymen - February 21, 2014 at 09:22 PM

MM

“ Hi Sterling, Terri and Family,

I am very sorry about the loss of your wonderful father, grandfather, and great-grandfather too. I only met Winston 2 or 3 times. We had a chat each time. It was obvious that he was a great and fun person. You were all blessed to have had him so long. As they say, "They don't make 'em like that anymore." For a man born in Harlan and died in Harlan he sure got around and did a lot in between. I hope the many deeds and stories he must have lived and told will stay in the family for a few generations. May the Lord bless you all and help you to get through this loss. At the same time may you be sustained by the many fond memories you must have of him. I hope there will be a fiddler at the celebration - maybe an all around flying cowboy fiddler!

Mal and Sabine Miner

Mal & Sabine Miner - February 21, 2014 at 04:16 PM