



# Victor George Schaff

## February 20, 1916 - July 11, 2011

Victor George Schaff, 95, died Monday, July 11, 2011, at Thermopolis Rehabilitation and Care Center.

He was born Feb. 20, 1916, in Mineral Springs, N.D., to Frank and Magdalena (Schaaf) Schaff, the seventh of 11 children. He attended school in Mineral Springs through the ninth grade but due to the Depression he began working full-time. He joined the CCC (Civil Conservation Corps) and was sent to Utah and surrounding states.

Victor married Matilda Daum on Nov. 23, 1937, in Bowman, N.D. They worked the family farm and the coal mines in South Dakota during the winter. A few years later, the family traveled by train to Laurel, Mont., where Victor worked as a rancher and truck driver. In 1946, they moved to Thermopolis. He worked for Empire Oil as a truck driver, was a ranch manager for several local ranches and as a policeman for the Thermopolis Police Department. In later years, Victor did maintenance for the Hot Springs State Park, Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital and Big Horn Basin Children's Center. He retired in 2005 from the lawn care business.

Victor spent his life breaking horses. He was a member of St. Francis Catholic Church, Thermopolis Saddle Club and the Elks Club.

He is survived by his wife of 73 years of Thermopolis; three daughters, Bernadine (Bob) Blacketer and Peggy (Ed) Shaffer, both of Thermopolis, and Carole (Lee) Martinez of Kaycee; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and two great, great-grandchildren.

Victor was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Matilda Herman, Barbara Sagmiller and Lizzie Mauer; and seven brothers, Mike, Ronny, Joe, Frank, Leo, August and Tony.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 15 at St. Francis Church in Thermopolis with Father Hugo Blotsky officiating. Burial will follow. A Parish Vigil will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Mortimore Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the Priest's Retirement Fund, St. Francis Parish or a charity of choice.