

# Elmer Ray 'Eddie' Tharp

April 27, 1928 - November 19, 2011

Elmer Ray "Eddie" Tharp, 83, died Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011, at his home east of Manderson.

Eddie was born in Wakita, Okla., to Edwin and Alice Stackhouse Tharp on April 27, 1928. He lived in Oklahoma during the "Dust Bowl" days and came to Wyoming as a teenager. In 1945, he graduated as class valedictorian from Manderson High School.

After high school, Eddie worked for Harry Faure at Junction Service in Worland. On May 15, 1949 he married Phyllis Marjorie Ilg at the United Methodist Church in Basin. Thereafter, he and Phyllis lived in Worland until moving to his brother's farm near Manderson. Eddie was a "man of the soil" – a very hard worker and he continued farming until he sold his farm in 2005.

He served on the South Big Horn County Hospital Board and on the board of trustees of Manderson-Hyattville High School. During his retirement, he became an avid Internet bridge player and played bridge with people from different states and foreign countries.

Eddie is survived by his loving wife of 62 years; sons, Terry (Janet) of Gillette, Guy (Jill) of Manderson, Steve (Bobbie) of Worland and Jeff (Theresa) of Holyoke, Colo.; daughter, Pamela (Keith) Kerr of Thermopolis; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents; six brothers; and three sisters.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Nov. 26 at the Basin United Methodist Church. A luncheon for family and friends followed in the basement of the church.

A memorial fund has been established in Eddie's name. Memorials will be received at the Security State Bank, P.O. Box 531, Basin, WY 82410. Proceeds will go to the Hyattville United Methodist Church and to the Hyattville Community Center.

Atwood Family Funeral Directors, Inc. is in charge of arrangements.

