

Eagle County, Colorado – O - Obituaries

To request copies of obituaries or photos, ask questions concerning the history of Eagle County, Colorado, or contact the EVLD Local History Librarian, please email: evldlochis@marmot.org. This email address is also appropriate should you have additional information to share about our photo collection or should you wish to donate materials relevant to Eagle County history.

OA

- **OATMAN, Edward & STOGNER, Elba - Two Young Men Killed In Grade Crossing Accident East of Eagle Tuesday Noon. Try To Beat Freight Train To Crossing With Horrible Result--Pass Another Car Which Is Waiting For The Train To Pass--One Body Horribly Mangled Under Wheels Of One Million Pound Locomotive.**

A most horrible railroad crossing accident occurred on the state highway crossing of the Rio Grande just east of Eagle, Tuesday just at the noon hour, when two men were killed when they attempted to beat a heavy freight train to the right of way in their automobile.

The dead were Edward OATMAN, age 22, and Elba STOGNER, 24, both from the vicinity of Salem, Mo.

OATMAN was killed outright, his body being ground to mincemeat under the wheels of the massive Mallet locomotive, while STOGNER lived for an hour after being hit, and regained consciousness long enough to tell his name and to give the name and address of his parents.

Engineer John LAND, driver of the locomotive which hit the car, an on model Chevrolet touring car, was absolved of all blame in the tragedy by a coroner's jury which investigated the accident a few hours after it occurred.

OATMAN and STOGNER were traveling west, enroute to Carbondale, to visit an aunt, Mrs. Margaret SMITH, and a brother, Earl STOGNER, of STOGNER'S and friends of OATMAN. They had recently left Nebraska where they had been working in the corn fields husking corn for the past fall and winter.

Just what possessed the men in the car to attempt the stunt which resulted in their death, will never be known. The only plausible idea is that they did not know that there was a train approaching the crossing. While coming down the east-west stretch of the Nogal

lane, their car was passed by another driven by L. F. FOX of Grand Junction, accompanied by J. R. ENNIS also of that city. As the latter car made the turn in the road which approaches the railroad crossing ENNIS saw the freight train coming and cautioned the driver of the car who had not noticed the approaching train. Fox stopped within twenty feet of the tracks, and ENNIS says he heard the locomotive whistle as their car stopped. Just as the locomotive of the train reached the crossing, the car occupied by STOGNER and OATMAN flashed by the stationary automobile, on the right hand side, and dashed into the front of the locomotive. The front end of the car was hit squarely by the engine and as carried about 100 feet down the track, taking with it the fence which protects the cattle guard at the crossing, and the car was completely demolished. The two men were caught on the pilot of the locomotive, STOGNER being thrown up onto it, while OATMAN dropped underneath the tracks of the engine, and rolled under the massive drive wheels. Engineer LANG brought his engine to a stop just east of the depot in Eagle. STOGNER was lying unconscious on the pilot, while what remained intact of OATMAN'S body was found entangled in the first drive wheel and the brake rigging on the right hand side of the locomotive. Bits of his body were picked up along the track for two hundred yards. STOGNER was taken to the Montgomery hotel, where he regained consciousness for a few minutes before he died, when he told District Attorney LUBY who he was and that his father, Ernest STOGNER, lived at Salem, Mo.

Engineer LANG'S story was that he saw both automobiles traveling parallel to his train, apparently racing down the lane. He saw one pass the other and as the crossing was neared he set the air, checking the speed of his train, and blew the whistle three or four times. When he saw the lead car come to a stop at the crossing, he released the air brakes and let his train drift, supposing of course that the other car would not attempt to pass by the first one with the train approaching. He stated that he did not see the second car again until it dashed from behind the other car directly in front of his engine. Other members of the train crew were, C. E. BAILEY, fireman; M. REEVES, conductor; Willard HOWARD, head brakeman, and James HALL, rear brakeman.

Coroner O. W. MEYER was busy investigating another fatal automobile accident which occurred Monday, and was unable to come here when notified by the district attorney's office, so that the coroner's inquest over the bodies was presided over by Justice of the Peace L. R. THOMAS, as acting coroner. The verdict of the jury was that both men met their death unavoidably, and contained a special clause absolving the crew of the freight train from any blame for this tragedy. Mr. MEYER arrived later in the day and took the remains to his mortuary in Red Cliff where he could care for them. Late Tuesday evening District Attorney LUBY received a telephone call from the father of STOGNER in Missouri. And Wednesday morning Mrs. SMITH called from Carbondale and stated that she and STOGNER'S brother would go to Red Cliff at once to make arrangements for disposition of her nephew's body.

OATMAN'S parents are both dead, but he has two brothers living, one in Nebraska, and one in Missouri. Owing to the terribly mutilated condition of the body no attempt will be made to return OATMAN'S body to Missouri, but it will be buried at Carbondale. OATMAN worked on the ranch for Mrs. SMITH all summer in 1929. STOGNER'S body

was shipped back to Salem, Mo., Thursday evening for burial.[9 Jan. 1931, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p1]

OC

- **O'CONNELL, Jean** - Mrs. Jean O'CONNELL died of pneumonia, at her home in Cripple Creek, Sunday April 9, at 6 p.m.

Deceased was 38 years of age and leaves a husband and seven children to mourn her death.

Mrs. O'CONNELL was well known to many of Basalt people, having lived here for a number of years, before going to Cripple Creek.

She was a member of Rathbone Sisters Lodge at Basalt.(15 April 1899, The Basalt Journal, p.1)

- **O'CONNELL, Tom** - Death of Tom O'CONNELL. News has just been received of the death of Tom O'CONNELL which took place at the Glenwood Sanitarium Wednesday afternoon. Mr. O'CONNELL was one of the old timers of the County and has many friends who will be sorry to hear of his demise.

He has no relatives in the County and interment will no doubt be made in Basalt. His possessions, consisting of a large ranch and some live stock are all near that place.

Death was caused from pneumonia, deceased having been ill from its ravages for only a day or so.[10 Nov. 1910, Eagle County Blade, p1]

OF

- **OFFERSON, Gulling** - Gulling OFFERSON was born in Vrigsted, Denmark, April 15, 1872, coming to United States in 1873. He came to Geary county, Kansas, where he was educated in the public schools. He came to black Hawk, Colo., from Kansas, and from there to Leadville, where he was engaged in mining and the dairy business from 1895 to 1905. He owned the Carbonate Dairy in Leadville, and in 1903 purchased the ranch the Avondale ranch at Avon, moving to Avon March 6 1906. In 1939 he purchased the ranch known as the College Farm and was living on this place at the time of his death.

Active in Republican party politics in Eagle county, he was county commissioner from 1912 to 1916 and again from 1928 to 1932. He was a director of the school board in district No. 9 for fifteen years, and became a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Eagle County in 1915, and served in that capacity until his death.

Mr. OFFERSON was a member of Eagle Lodge No. 43, A.F. & A.M., at Minturn, also of Consistory No. 1, and El Jebel Shrine of Denver. He was a member of the Eagle County Chamber of Commerce and of the Eagle County Cattle Growers Association.

He was married to Olive PORTER, in Leadville, April 1899, to which union there is born one son, Austin.

Enjoying the best of health, and while attending to his farm duties on June 25, 1941, he was struck and critically injured by an automobile on the state highway, and passed away from the injuries received at that time, in the Gilman hospital on July 5, 1941.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his widow, Olive; one son, Austin; a daughter-in-law, and two grandsons, Bobby and Billy; a sister, Mary CHRISTENSEN, living in Kansas and a brother, Soven, in Virginia, besides several nieces and nephews.

OL

- **OLESON, Edwin** - Rev. Thos W. STAMP, of Glenwood Springs, conducted the funeral services of Eddie OLESON Thursday afternoon, February 12.

Edwin, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. OLESON, was born in Gypsum, Colo., August 27, 1905, and died February 11, 1920, aged 14 years, 5 months and 15 days. Death was due to bronchial pneumonia.

April 16, 1911, Eddie was baptized in the Lutheran faith. Of a sunny and affectionate nature he was beloved by friends and playmates.

Deceased is survived by his parents, three brothers, Julius, Albert and Freddie, besides a large circle of uncles, aunts and cousins.[20 Feb. 1920, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p1]

- **OLESON, John** - Death of John OLESON. Word was received from Mitchell on Tuesday of the death of John OLESON, one of the pioneers of that section of the county. Mr. OLESON had resided in the vicinity of Mitchell for the past twenty-five years. He was a miner and prospector, but on account of failing health he had been unable to do anything for about two years.

Last Saturday one of Mr. OLESON'S neighbors was going to Leadville and the former requested him to bring him some medicine. When the neighbor returned from Leadville Monday he went to OLESON'S cabin and found him dead, death having occurred sometime between Saturday morning and Monday evening.

The remains were brought to Red Cliff Wednesday by Coroner GILPIN and were buried this afternoon from the undertaking parlors of Mortician GRAHAM.[15 Sept. 1910, Eagle County Blade, p1]

- **OLESEN, Hans P.** - PIONEER RANCHER OF Eagle COUNTY DIES MONDAY AT PALO ALTO WHILE ON VISIT - BURIAL WILL BE MADE IN CALIFORNIA

W. B. WOLVERTON received a telegram Monday evening from his sister, Mrs. Hans P. OLESEN that her husband had died shortly after noon that day at Palo Alto, Calif.

Mrs. OLESEN had been spending some months with relatives in California, and several weeks ago Mr. OLESEN joined her out there for a few weeks' rest and vacation, intending to return home early in June and announce his candidacy for the Republican nomination for county commissioner. Three or four weeks ago he was stricken with illness, and an operation revealed that he was afflicted with a cancer in the stomach in an advanced stage, and the physician in charge then stated that he would never recover. But it was thought he would probably live for some time, and his death came much sooner than was anticipated.

Hans P. OLESEN was one of the pioneer citizens of the Eagle river valley. With his brothers, he settled in the county in the eighties, as a young man. For many years he had been one of the foremost cattle raisers and ranchers in the county. He owns one of the largest irrigated areas of farm land under one head in the valley, located on the Eagle river, between Gypsum and Eagle. Not being in the best of health, and feeling it was time to retire from the very strenuous life he had always lived, last fall he marketed his herd of cattle and leased the ranch for a term of years to HERRIN Brothers, who now occupy it. To engage his energies he had decided to run for county commissioner and, if elected, devote his time to the county's affairs. But that was not to be, as the Death Angel stepped in and disrupted his plans.

With the death of Hans P. OLESEN so passes another of the hardy pioneers, with whose activities the history and up building of the county is closely associated.

When his serious condition was discovered he was joined by the daughter, Mrs. Howard NUNN, Living in Gypsum valley, and his wife and other children were already in California, and all with him during his last days. Bert WOLVERTON left Tuesday evening for California to join his sister, and help her during her hour of sadness. Burial will be made in California.

Mr. OLESEN was in his seventieth year of age. (Eagle Valley Enterprise, June 1938)

- **OLESON**, Ole - Ole OLESON was born in Brosorps. Sweden, December 1, 1883, and died in Glenwood Springs, Colo., June 2, 1936. At the age of 25 years the deceased migrated to the United States and April 1, 1908, came to Gypsum valley, where he located and for 28 years has been a leading citizen and became one of the prosperous ranchmen of the county.

In March, 1912, he was united in marriage to Miss Lilly ERICKSON, and to this union was born one son, James, who survives.

Ole OLESON, in common with most immigrants from his native land to this country, was industrious and thrifty, and after working first as a farm hand, then as a tenant farmer, purchased the ranch on which he lived at the time of his death---O. W. DAGGETT'S "Red Rock" ranch. For many years he had been a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Gypsum. He was a faithful member of the Lutheran church, having been baptized in that faith in his native Sweden, and joined with the First Lutheran Church of

"Gypsum in 1912. He held his membership here until his death, having served for many years on the church council, and as vice-president of that body.

Ole OLESON was a good citizen, a generous neighbor, and the Gypsum community loses heavily in his death.[12 June 1936, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p1]

- **OLESON, Sam Peter** - Sam Peter OLESON was born July 12, 1863 in Hygum Sonderjyulland, Denmark, and passed to his eternal reward, June 29, 1936, having reached the age of 72 years, 11 months, and 17 days.

On June 4, 1883, Mr. OLESON, in company with his brother, Andrew left the shores of their homeland and sailed for America, arriving in a New York City June 28. July 4, ('83) the brothers arrived in Leadville, Colo., and June 7 found them in Red Cliff where they found work on the railroad.

In the fall of '83 Mr. OLESON came to Gypsum valley where his father had taken up a homestead several years previous.

In 1894 he was united in marriage to Miss Betty Olson. To this union four sons were born.

He leaves to mourn as he passes on, his widow; three sons, Victor, Julius, Albert and Carl Frederick, all of Gypsum; five brothers, Andrew, Hans, and Julius of Gypsum, Mads of Palo Alto, Calif.; and John Frederick, of Rodding Sondejylland, Denmark; five grand children and a host of relatives and friends who cherished most highly his acquaintance. (10 July 1936, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p. 1)

- **OLESON, Shirley Bonita Jensen** - Shirley Bonita (Jensen) OLESON, a long-time Eagle resident, died Thursday, Dec 22 at her home following a lengthy illness.

Shirley was born Aug 10, 1926 in Witten, SD, the daughter of James and Ora Jans JENSEN. She and her family moved to Mesa, Colo, in 1936, where she attended and graduated from Mesa High School.

She married Robert OLESON of Gypsum in June, 1950. The couple moved to Dove Creek, Colo. before coming to Eagle, where they made their permanent home. Shirley and her husband operated Oleson Motors.

She enjoyed reading, fishing, traveling and needle work. She greatly loved her family and especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. She will be dearly missed and long remembered by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include two sons, Gerry OLESON and wife, Sandra, of Gypsum; Jack OLESON and wife, Penny, of Eagle; two daughters: Sharyl KOONCE and Husband, Steve, of Louisville; Diane RIVERA and husband, Philip, of Gypsum; nine grandchildren; Amy, Emily, Joe, and Michael KOONCE, and Jason, Robbie and Rachael

OLESON; and Philip and Kyle RIVERA; brother Lowell JENSEN of Delta; two sisters; Betty HOOVER of Battlement Mesa; and Jeanne NICHOLS of Delta.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her father and mother, two sisters and one brother.

Funeral services were held on Dec 26, at the Eagle Baptist Church, with Pastor Bruce DUNSDON officiating. Interment followed at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Gypsum.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Vail Home Health Care Hospice, e/o Vail Valley Medical Center, 181 West Meadow Dr., Vail, Co 81657. Farnum-Holt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

- **OLSON, Hilma C.** - The little 3-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. OLSON was drowned in Sopris creek near Emma last Wednesday.

A bridge spans the creek between the house and barn. Mr. OLSON was building a platform near the barn on which to create a derrick. The little girl was playing about him with the hammer, which he had been using. Wanting to use the hammer he went in search of the child and not _____ her at the house a search was instituted. Mr. W. S. SWEARENGER and a brother of Mr. OLSON went down the creek, and about 100 yards from the bridge, in a little eddy, they saw the dress of the little one protruding from the water. The body was hastily taken out and carried by the distracted father, who was near to the house.

All efforts to restore consciousness were unavailing.

Funeral services were held at the church in Basalt on Thursday, by Rev. HOLLENBACK, interment at Basalt cemetery.(1 July 1899, The Basalt Journal, p.1)

- **OLMSTEAD, Marcella A.** - DEATH OF MRS. G. E. OLMSTEAD

This community is greatly saddened by the untimely death at an early hour on Tuesday morning, April 19th, 1904, of Mrs. G. E. OLMSTEAD of this place. Mrs. OLMSTEAD had been ill but about ten days. As announced briefly in these columns last week, on the 13th she underwent an operation as a last resort in the hope of saving her life, which was imperiled by a rupture of a very serious nature. For a time her condition improved, but later peritonitis developed and the best medical skill together with the care of kind friends were without avail. After intense suffering the estimable lady passed peacefully away surrounded by her relatives, friends and spiritual advisor at 1:30 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Mrs. OLMSTEAD was a beneficiary member of Kinnikinick Circle No. 453, women of Woodcraft, of which she held the position of guardian neighbor at the time of her death. She was also a member of the Emerson Circle, of Red Cliff, and in both of these organizations she was a devoted worker. Mrs. OLMSTEAD was of an uncommonly

loving and lovable disposition and her friends, especially in the two societies to which she belonged, are well nigh prostrated with grief. Besides the bereaved husband the deceased leaves a bright baby daughter Louise, aged three years.

Marcella A. LEONARD was born July 13th, 1869, on Prince Edward's Island, Canada. In the fall of 1898 she came to Red Cliff, and on September 24th, 1899, was married to G. E. OLMSTEAD. Mrs. M. A. WALSH of Red Cliff is a sister, two other sisters reside on Prince Edward's Island, one in Massachusetts, and one at Winnipeg, British Columbia. A brother, Frank Leonard, died a few years ago and is buried at Greenwood cemetery, this place.

The funeral occurred this morning at 10 o'clock at the Catholic church, Father FRAGEL of Breckenridge conducting the services. Kinnikinick Circle, with seven members of Minturn Circle, Women of Woodcraft, attended in a body, and the burial services of the order were rendered at the grave. Despite the inclement weather a large crowd attended the funeral and there was a profusion of flowers in many handsome designs, from both the societies to which deceased belonged and from friends. In his address Father FRAGEL paid a very worthy and touching tribute to the high character and many virtues of the departed one. Interment was a Greenwood cemetery. (21 Apr 1904, Eagle County Blade, p. 8)

ON

- **O'NEILL**, John J. - John O'NEILL passed Away Suddenly At Home Near Avon. John J. O'NEILL died unexpectedly at his ranch home near Avon last Monday night, October 31. Mr. O'NEILL was about his ranch work as usual all day Monday, riding and working with his cattle until late in the evening, not getting through his day's labor until after dark. He made no complaint of not feeling well that evening, and shortly before retiring for the night promised one of his neighbors to on hand early next morning to help him with his threshing. When Mrs. O'NEILL called her husband for breakfast Tuesday morning she received no response, and, going to his room found him lying in bed dead, having passed away evidently without a struggle some hours before.

John O'NEILL was a pioneer of Leadville and Eagle county, having come to this country from the mining town and engaged in the cattle business and ranching many years ago. Eagle county had no better citizen than John O'NEILL, beloved and highly respected by his neighbors and all with whom he came in intimate contact. His demise is greatly regretted.

The body has been taken to Leadville for burial, the funeral services to be held there Saturday. [4 Nov. 1921, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p1]

OR

- **ORGISH**, Freda Elisa 1905-1997 - Freda Elisa ORGISH, longtime resident of Gypsum, died on Monday, April 14 at Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs of natural causes. She was 92.

Born on March 16, 1905 in Grand River, Iowa, she was the daughter of John J. and Nora RAUCH HEMBRY. She was raised and educated in Iowa where she married Paul H. ORGISH on Jan 7, 1929. They lived in Oak Creek, Colo. for a number of years before moving to McCoy where they ranched for 35 years. After retiring they moved to Gypsum.

Freda enjoyed cooking, crocheting, and having company in her home. She loved taking walks, and continued to walk a mile a day while she was still able. She will be dearly missed and long remembered by all who knew and loved her.

Her husband preceded her in death in 1990 and a son Jerry ORGISH, 1951. She is survived by her son, Billy ORGISH and a wife Catharine of Mancos, Colorado; three brothers, Homer HEMBRY, James HEMBRY and Clifford HEMBRY, all of Iowa; and two sisters, Verda BUCY of Iowa and Lois HARMAN of Missouri.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, April 21 at 1 p.m. at the FARNUM-HOLT Funeral Home in Glenwood Springs. Interment will follow in the Rosebud Cemetery in Glenwood Springs with Bob KOHRMANN officiating.

Because of her love for children, memorial contributions may be made in her name to Echo Ranch, Inc., Attn.: Joanne, P.O. Box 499, Gypsum, Co 81637. FARNUM-HOLT Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.[17 April 1997, Eagle Valley Enterprise]

OS

- **OSWALD, Frank - Frank OSWALD, Employed at The Mahoney Ranch near Aspen Dies When Team Becomes Scared and Runs.**

Frank OSWALD, age 53 years, was killed last Sunday at the J. K. MAHONEY ranch above Avon when the team he was driving ran away and threw him beneath the wheels of the wagon.

OSWALD was driving a hay rack which was loaded with empty lettuce crates being taken to the field. As they were crossing an irrigation ditch, the jolt jarred one of the crates off the rack onto the back of one of the horses. The team became frightened and started to run across the field, throwing OSWALD under the wagon wheels and crushing him so as to cause his death.

Mrs. Lawrence KISTLER, a relative telegraphed Monday for the remains to be shipped to Ohio for burial.[18 Aug. 1922, Eagle Valley Enterprise, p1]

OW

- **OWEN, Beatrice C.** Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 16, 1970, for Mrs. Beatrice C. OWEN, 75, a resident of Delta for the past five months who died Friday morning at her Delta home.

Rev. Billy Bowden officiated at the services at Gypsum Methodist Church. Burial was in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Gypsum.

Born Beatrice C. COCK on December 24, 1894, at Burns, she spent her entire life on the family ranch at Burns until her move to Delta.

She married John Henry OWEN at Burns on July 10, 1921. He died Oct. 10, 1966, At Burns.

Survivors include two sons, Joseph a. SKILES of Burns and James B. SKILES of Delta; five brothers, Bryan COCK and Joseph COCK of Mesa, Ernest COCK of Burns, Henry COCK of Denver and Charles COCK of Newport, Ore.; three sisters, Mrs. Harriet BURROWS and Mrs. Bertha STULL of Burns, and Mrs. Dorothy WELLS of Grand Junction; five grandchildren and four /great grandchildren. One sister preceded her in death.

- **OWEN, Kathryn Corine** of New Castle, formerly of Red Cliff, died Dec. 17 in Grand Junction of natural causes. She was 80.

Mrs. OWEN was born July 24, 1915 in Trinidad, Colo., to Patrick J. And Jenny (Rhodes) KEATING. She spent her childhood in Red Cliff and graduated from Red Cliff High School. She married Walter F. OWEN Aug. 30, 1930 in Glenwood Springs and worked over the years in Eagle County as a special education teacher and postal clerk and Town Clerk of Red Cliff.

She was also a member of the Eagle County Senior Citizen Board and served on the Red Cliff Library Board. She was involved as a local Republican Committee member. She enjoyed singing and appreciated music and found helping others in her community to be fulfilling.

Survivors include her husband, Walter OWEN of Grand Junction; son Jack (Maryann) OWEN of Leadville; daughters Joyce and Jesse MYERS of New Castle; brothers Tom KEATING of Phoenix, Ariz., and Bill KEATING of Simi Valley, Calif.; numerous loving nieces and nephews; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one son Walter J. OWEN; two sisters, Janice BELLOWS and Patsy CROWLEY; and a grandson Jack OWEN.

A traditional funeral and grave side service will be held Thursday, Dec 21 at the Baptist Church of Garfield County, with Pastor James LEGG officiating. Burial

will be at Divide Creek Cemetery in Divide Creek, Colo. Visitation will be 1-7 p.m., at Sowder Funeral Home, 425 W. 3rd St., Rifle. (Eagle Valley Enterprise 12/21/95)

- **OWEN, John Henry - J. Henry (Big Henry) OWEN** was born on February 25, 1881, in Wales County, North Carolina, and died of an apparent stroke at his ranch home near Burns, Colorado, in Routt County, October 10, 1966, at 85 years of age.

His parents were J. Tilmon OWEN and Sarah Elizabeth PARKER.

He is survived by his widow, Beatrice C., two step-sons, James B. SKILES of Delta, Colorado, and Joseph A. (Albert) SKILES of Burns; five grand children - Rolland W. SKILES of Albuquerque, N.M., Marvin A. SKILES of Delta, Earl O. SKILES of Burns, JOHNNIE Joy SKILES of Burns and Christy SKILES of Burns; one brother - Dock OWEN of Brevard, N. Carolina, and two half-brothers, Wiley and Looney OWEN, also of Brevard; a host of nieces and nephews.

Henry came to Burns for his health, about 1911 and hauled freight with horses and wagons from McCoy and Wolcott, Colo., for the Frank BENTON Land and Livestock Company, before homesteading about 1920 at the foot of Dome Peak, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was active until his death, but had been in failing health for about three years.

He was married to Beatrice C. COCK SKILES on July 10, 1921, at a community picnic at the mouth of Derby Creek, by Charles F. ALBERTSON, rancher and Justice of the Peace.

Orris and Joe ALBERTSON of Burns, sons of Charlie, were two of the pallbearers. The other four were; Don WURTSMITH, Ormand HURT, Wilbur LUARK, and Raymond BEARDEN, all of Burns.

Miller Mortuary of Eagle, Colorado, was in charge of arrangements and burial was in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Gypsum, Colo., on October 14, 1966.

The service was held by Rev. Francis Richker of Burs. Mrs. RICKER sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Lord, I'm Coming Home". Mrs. Lola CHAMBERS of Eagle, was the organist.

A niece, Mrs. Vinessa WEILL, her daughter and son-in-law, Richard and Jency LAMBERT, all of Brevard, attended the services.

- **OWEN, Walter F. 1906 - 1997**

Walter F. OWEN, former Gilman and Avon resident, died March 21 of natural causes in Grand Junction. He was 90.

Mr. OWEN was born July 24, 1906 in Gilman and worked on his mother's farm in Avon. He also hauled mine timbers from Red Cliff to Gilman during the depression era, went into business for himself and then purchased the Holy Cross Garage in Red Cliff. He also was employed as a heavy equipment operator for over 30 years for Eagle County. He lived in the Larchwood Nursing Home in Grand Junction for the past 1 1/2 years.

He married Kathryn C. (KEATING) OWEN on Aug. 27, 1931 in Glenwood Springs; she passed away on Dec. 17, 1995 at the Larchwood Inn, Grand Junction. He loved hunting, fishing and the mountains and he was a self-taught skier. He never belonged to any organizations he was just a workaholic.

Survivors include his son Jack (Maryann) OWEN of Leadville; daughter Joyce (Jesse) MYERS of New Castle; 10 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren; and five great, great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn, son Walter J. OWEN and grandson Jack MYERS.

A traditional funeral will be held Friday, March 21 at the First Baptist Church of Garfield County, With Pastor James LEGG officiating, Interment will be at Divide Creek Cemetery in Silt.

Sowder Funeral Home in Rifle is in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Larchwood Inn Activity Fund, 2845 N. 15th St., Grand Junction, CO 81506. (Eagle Valley Enterprise 20 March 1997)

- **OWEN, William - Bill Owen died in his sleep of heart failure on Nov. 25. He was 31.**

OWEN, who was born in Asheville, N.C. on July 29, 1964, graduated from Asheville Country Day School in 1983 and Duke University in 1988. A Vail resident for seven years, OWEN worked for Vail Ski Patrol for the last four. He also was the goal keeper for Pepi's Soccer Team this past summer. Family members say OWEN was great athlete and friend to all who knew him

He is survived by his wife, Deborah S. OWEN; his parents, Cary and Charles D OWEN Jr.; his brother, Charles D OWEN III; and his sisters Anne O. Armfield and Diana O Harris

On Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m., the Vail Ski Patrol will do a torchlight parade down International, one of OWEN s favorite ski runs. At 6:30 p.m., there will be a memorial service at Vail Interfaith Chapel. In lieu of food or flowers, the family requests contributions be sent to The William C OWEN Memorial Fund, Carolina Day School, 1345 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, N.C. 28803. (Vail Daily 12/1/95)

- **OWENS, John - OWENS A SUICIDE. - TOOK THE CARBOLIC ACID ROUT IN DENVER LAST WEEK**

John OWENS was well known about Red Cliff as a teamster formerly employed by Owings & Co., the sawmill men. He was also well known about Eagle and Gypsum as a teamster and ranch hand. He was a man of rugged physique, but for the past few months it was known that he had suffered considerably from ill health. In this vicinity the man went by the of OWENS although, on account of his mother having been twice married he was known also as John H. BROUGHT.

The man's suicide in Denver last week and the Denver Republican of March 16 contained the following particulars:

John H. BROUGHT, of Leadville, was found dead in Robinson's stone yard at Twenty-first and Wewatta streets yesterday morning. He had swallowed carbolic acid from a tin cup which was found near him. The remains were taken in charge by the coroner.

BROUGHT came to Denver recently from Leadville, where he was engaged in mining and teaming, and rented room at the Glenwood hotel, at 1114 Sixteenth street. On Monday night he had been to visit Frank YATES, a fireman in the electric plant close to the tone yards. **BROUGHT** showed no signs of despondency at that time.

From indications after his death it appears that **BROUGHT** had taken the poison in a bottle with him to the stone yard, poured the contents of the bottle in a tin cup and drained it off. The cup is thought to have been stolen from the rooming house and conveyed to the stone yard from the purpose of mixing the deadly drought.

Patrolman Nathan **HUNTER** discovered the body lying between two piles of stone. In the pockets were \$6.15 in money. The man left no farewell letter nor tried to explain his action. W. S. **BROUGHT**, a brother, lives in Lewiston, Pennsylvania, and was notified of the death by the coroner. 24 Mar 1904, Eagle County Blade, p. 1)

OX

- **OXFORD**, Allura Benedict - Mrs. Samuel **OXFORD** died at the Crabill ranch on Turkey creek last Thursday night, February 7, of consumption and heart trouble. The lady had been in ill health for some time and death was not entirely unlooked for. Deceased was 42 years of age.

Mrs. Oxford's maiden name was Allura **BENEDICT**, and Mr. **OXFORD** was her second husband. A son by her first husband is somewhere in Wyoming, but could not be located at the time of his mother's death.

A sister of the deceased, Mrs. B. F. **JONES**, of Longmont, Colorado, was notified, and accompanied by her friend, Mrs. **ECKHART**, arrived on Thursday. On Saturday the remains were shipped to Longmont for burial, accompanied by Mr. **OXFORD** and the other relatives. (14 Feb 1901, Eagle County Blade, p.3)

