



Roy E. Cockrum

March 22, 1923 - September 14, 2011

Roy E. Cockrum

Wenatchee, WA

Roy E. Cockrum, 88, a lifelong resident of Wenatchee, WA, died on Tuesday, September 14, 2011. Roy was unafraid of death and was anxious to be reunited with his beloved wife of 52 years. Roy was born on March 22, 1923, to Lon V. and Charlotte (Zimmerman) Cockrum. When Roy was seven, the family moved to the ranch on Wheeler Hill, where Roy resided for the remainder of his life. He was schooled in the one-room schoolhouse located on Squilchuck. His family and friends often heard of the adventures he and his siblings had in getting to school on a bobsled, by horse and buggy and often their own two feet. Roy married Bernice Irvin and they continued to live on the ranch. Roy and Bernice had two boys, Jeff L. Cockrum and Gene R. Cockrum. The marriage dissolved and a few years later, Roy met the love of his life, Patricia "Pat" Beran. On May 28, 1958, Roy and Pat were married and Pat and her two children, Robert M. Beran and Barbara A. Beran, joined Roy and his boys on the ranch. Together, they had a daughter, Jenny. In addition to growing cherries, alfalfa and raising a few cattle, Roy worked as a mechanic for Schons Fruit Company and Columbia Fruit Company for more than 30 years. After an early retirement in 1976 due to heart problems, at which time the doctors estimated Roy had only about a year to live, Roy sold all but about

30 acres of the ranch. Roy and Pat loved living and working their land on Wheeler Hill. Roy always had a project and was available to help out the neighbors. It was common to see Roy out on his tractor, plowing snow or cutting hay, working in his shop, spending time with his grandchildren or riding his ATV around the neighborhood "supervising" everyone. Roy was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend and will be missed by all who knew him.

Roy is survived by his children, Jeff (Donna) Cockrum of Wenatchee, Gene (Sharen) Cockrum of Republic, Barbara (Rone) Zimmerman of Wenatchee and Jenny (Rick) Couch of Wenatchee; sister, Delores McMonagle of Wenatchee; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 52 years, Pat; a son, Robert Beran; his parents; and brothers, Allen, Art and Ray.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. at Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home in Wenatchee, with Graveside Services to follow at Evergreen Memorial Park in East Wenatchee. The family asks that family and friends join them for a potluck lunch at the ranch at 779-4 Wheeler Hill Road after the services to celebrate Roy's life. Roy and Pat loved seeing the lighted cross on the mountain top in Wenatchee. Memorial contributions may be made in Roy's name to 'Light the Cross Fund' at any Cashmere Valley Bank. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guestbook at jonejonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Park

1301 10th St NE
East Wentatchee, WA 98802
(509) 884-4651

Tribute Wall

JR

“ *My Dear Cockrum Friends,
Comforting thoughts and prayers to all of you. How could it be that our parents are moving on and we have become the "older generation"? Weren't we riding the school bus, coasting on the hill, and taking our 4-H projects to the fair just yesterday?*

I loved the picture of Roy on his tractor. How appropriate---he was always plowing something! I remember him as always having a smile on his face, a chuckle from deep inside and a quick wave as we passed by. What special people we had the good fortune of growing up with on the "Hill".

Tom and I share the love of the cross on the hill and will help to keep the light burning.

Roy, Pat and Bob together again--just can't think of them any other way.

Love to all and thanks for the memories.

Joy(Gudmundson) and Tom Reese

Joy Gudmundson Reese - September 18, 2011 at 01:49 PM

ET

“ Dear Cockrum Family,

I first encountered Roy and his brother Ray about 1950 when they were on the Beehive Grange softball team and I played for the Cashmere Grange. They did a great job of distracting our players with their incessant chatter.

Next I saw Roy often when he worked for Coolumbia Fruit and it adjoined our business property.

Our family will always be thankful for Roy's part in the rescue of E. Bart Tilly when he got lost up Jack Creek, a tributary of the Icicle River, in the mid 70's.

We have always enjoyed attending the Cockrum family reunions at Thanksgiving with our daughter-in-law, Coreen. You are all very special people who could be called "the salt of the earth"

Sincerely,

Earl and Barbara Tilly

Earl and Barbara Tilly - September 17, 2011 at 01:10 AM