

DEATH: M. TRUMAN BOWLER

By Deseret News Jun 17, 1995, 12:00am MDT

Our beloved husband and father passed away June 15, 1995 at his home, as a result of cancer. With his wife and children at his side, he left this life with the same calmness, dignity and determination with which he lived.

Melvin Truman Bowler was born March 13, 1922 in St. George, Utah to Francis J. and Annie P. Holt Bowler, the 11th of 12 children. Reared in Gunlock, he gained a love for the land and for animals while helping his father and brothers with cattle and farm work. He attended elementary schools in Gunlock, and then Dixie High School, Dixie College and Brigham Young University before serving three years in the Armed Services during World War II. He married Laura Lylie on June 18, 1945 in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Their marriage was later solemnized in the St. George LDS Temple. They are the parents of Melvin T (Kip), Jr., Lucinda, Edward, Laurie, and Phoebe Lee.

He has served in many leadership positions in the LDS Church including ward bishoprics, president of the St. George East Stake, Regional Representative and presently serving as Sunday School teacher. He was involved in the livestock business in the Gunlock area and on the Arizona Strip.

Truman served on the Washington County Board of Commissioners, the Washington County Planning Board, the Five-County Organizations (now the Five County Assoc. of Governments). He served as president of the Utah Assoc. of Counties. He was a member of the Dixie College Institutional Council, and served for many years as a member of the St. George Rotary Club. For 40 years he enjoyed announcing the Gunlock, Enterprise and other Washington County rodeos. During his life, Truman was a recipient of many community and state special recognition awards. Truman helped organize Dixie State Bank in 1970, and served as chairman of the Board of Directors from 1977 until the merger with First Security Bank in 1993, and remained affiliated with First Security until the time of his death.

Truman and Laura have resided the last two years in his beloved Gunlock.

He will be greatly missed by family and friends whom he loved and treated with kindness and respect. He was preceded in death by their son, Kip; his parents; sister, Estelle Hafen; and brothers, Leo (Dick) Bowler and Roland Bowler.

Survivors include his wife, Laura; children, Mrs. Phillip (Lucianda) Truman of Las Vegas, Nev.; Edward (Toni) Bowler; Mrs. Jeff (Laurie) Lundin, Mrs. Eric (Phoebe) Ludlow, all of St. George; 17 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter; brothers, J.L. (Anna) Bowler of Mesquite, Nev.; Antone (Cola) Bowler, Marion (Etheleen) Bowler, both of St. George; sisters, Erma Bracken of Enterprise; Mrs. Clark (Wanda) McAllister of Las Vegas, Nev.; Fern Lytle of St. George, and Mrs. John (Maxine Lindsay) of Gunlock; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be Monday, June 19, 1995, 11 a.m., at the Morningside State Center, 900 South River Road, where friends may call Sunday evening from 7 until 9 p.m. and also on Monday from 8:30 until time of services, interment will be held at the St. George City Cemetery under the direction of Spilsbury-Deseret Rose Mortuary, 673-2454

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dixie Regional Cancer Center, or Dixie Home Health and Hospice program, 544 So. 400 East, St. George.

With special thanks to Dr. Philip C. McMahill and the staff at the St. George Cancer center and the Home Health Care nurses.