Walter 'Lynn' Barnes

Aug. 7, 1918 - July 13, 2017



Walter "Lynn" Barnes of Halsey passed away on July 13, 2017, just a couple weeks shy of 99 years old.

He was born August 7, 1918 in Carrier, Oklahoma to Walter and Opal Barnes.

His mother passed away when he was ten years old and his father a week later. All four children were raised by their grandparents, Chancy and Minnie Sickels of Halsey.

At the age of 13, he was given two bummer lambs,

bought one old Romney ewe and his journey began of becoming a world-class shepherd and farmer. He graduated from Halsey High School and married the love of his life, Ethelma Titus on February 11, 1939. They were married 74 years before she died in 2013.

Lynn served his community well by taking part in the American Romney Breeders Association, Oregon Pure Bred Sheep Breeders Association, Charity Grange in Harrisburg, Linn/Lane Soil & Water Conservation District and Muddy Creek Water Control District.

He was a member of the OSU Withycombe Club in recognition of significant contribution to animal agriculture. The country of New Zealand gave him one of three awards in the world called the New Zealand Romney Ambassador Award for his outstanding work in the breeding of Romney sheep in America.

Survivors include his sons, Jerry Barnes of Cheshire, Oregon and Dennis Barnes of Halsey, Oregon. Grandchildren include Bryon Barnes and wife Janet, Bradley Barnes and wife Elaine, and Belinda Lewallen; and step-grandchildren, Lori Burrows, Ranee Werder and husband Tim. He had seven great-grandchildren, two step great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife; sister Louise, brothers Chancy and Louis "Dee"; and his parents.

The funeral service for Lynn will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 22 at the Harrisburg Christian Church, located at 601 6th Street in Harrisburg. There will be a reception following the service in the fellowship hall. Interment will follow at Alford Cemetery on Hwy 99 N in Harrisburg. Everyone is welcome to join us for one or all elements of our day together. We will enjoy some great laughs and memories as we remember Lynn's life together.

In honor and memory of Lynn, the Lynn Barnes Memorial Fund has been established. The memorial fund will sponsor a future award for both FFA and 4-H youth who are the premier sheep exhibitor at the Oregon State Fair. Lynn was a proud supporter of the FFA and 4-H programs and this memorial will be a lasting tribute to this great man. In lieu of flowers, you are welcome to contribute toward this fund.

Arrangements by Murphy-Musgrove Funeral Home in Junction City. Please access the obituary, and you are invited to sign the guestbook at www.musgroves.com.