



Fred Lee Cook

June 9, 1923 - January 9, 2018

Fred L. Cook, 6/9/23-1/9/18

Fred passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on the afternoon of January 9, 2018 at his home on the farm fulfilling his final wishes to remain at home until he passed. Fred will be missed by many, but was lucky to have lived a full and productive life-too many accomplishments to list them all. Fred was born to and preceded in death by John Sherman Cook and Naomi Cook Smith. He was raised in the Tonasket and Loomis area often sharing stories of his youth: hunting, riding horses, and working. Fred had many accomplishments during his lifetime, but one of the most important highlights included marrying the love of his life, Bettie Todd. He and Bettie were married in May, 1948, by the Justice of the Peace in Ephrata, Washington. Fred and Bettie raised four children and celebrated nearly 57 years of marriage before Bettie passed away in 2005.

Fred served in the Navy during WWII as a naval Under Water Demolition Team 6-UDT6 member (known as a Frogman). He helped to repair the drone boats that picked up water samples during the Bikini Atoll Island Atomic Bomb testing in the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific. To occupy his time while overseas, he carved small horses, smoking pipes, and nude women (he always had a great sense of humor!) that he sold for extra money. Fred turned those carving skills into a lifelong hobby as an artist, using a variety of mediums including carving, painting, and sculpting. His love of Arabian horses showed in much of his artwork, and his talents are still enjoyed by many, as he

has a few pieces in the Charles Russell Museum, and had items displayed at Wanapum Dam for many years.

Fred was a talented carpenter by trade, and received a 50 year pin for his work in the local Carpenter's Union. He worked on a number of projects over the years, including work on the Hanford Nuclear Project, and most dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers. Fred used his carpentry skills to build the farmhouse that he and Bettie eventually resided in for over 60 years.

He was active in helping out local kids, and served as a Boy Scout leader, a 4-H leader, and helped with local gymkhana events. He was known to donate a horse or miniature to a local 4-H member or a kid that was in need of a horse project. He always had a project going, usually in the middle of his living room. He loved tinkering with horse carts and wagons, horse tack, or anything related to horses.

Fred was preceded in death by his lovely bride, Bettie; Siblings, Roy, Clarence, Glenn, and Nellie; Son in-law Scott Tripp (Sherri), and Donnie Wheeler (Susan). He is survived by one brother, Robert (Lorraine); Four children, Jim Cook-his only son (Claudia), Peggy Murray (Ted), Susan Cook (Doug McGrew-~~Cook~~), and Sherri Tripp; Grandchildren, Kim Lamb (Jamie), Robert Murray (Jocelyn), Brian Murray (Elisa), Christopher Cook (Ashley), Quincy Cook (Alexia), Brady Cook (Jessi). Fred is also survived by 20 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild that is due at any time.

The family of Fred Cook are very grateful for the kind, patient, and caring heart of Lori Sorensen. Lori served as Fred's professional guardian and advocate from 2016 until his passing, and went over and above in her care and protection of Fred. The family also is thankful for his special caregivers, Makenzie, Brandi, and Cheryl, who also treated Fred with dignity and care. A memorial in his honor will be held at Nicole's Funeral Home, 156 C Street NW, Ephrata, WA on Friday, January 19th at 3:00 pm with Military Honors, followed by a reception at the American Legion Hall in Ephrata. A second service will be held at Gracepoint Church on Saturday, January 20 at 11 am. Interment will be held in the springtime at Eagle Cliff Cemetery. Please

express your thoughts and memories for the family at www.nicolesfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, Wa.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 19. 3:00 PM (PT)

Nicoles Funeral Home
157 C St. N.W.
Ephrata, WA 98823
(509) 754-3420
bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com

Service

JAN 20. 11:00 AM (PT)

Grace Point Church
327 C Street SW
Ephrata, WA 98823
bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park created a Tribute Video in memory of Fred Lee Cook*



Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park - January 19, 2018 at 07:10 PM

NT


“ *Fred, first of all, thank you for your brave service to our country. Thanks alone are not enough to honor our Greatest Generation but all I have to offer today. Second, I never knew my grandparents so didn't know what to expect from you and Bette. But my sons, and your other grandchildren, were certainly the light of your lives! I am not sure how many hundreds of hours Jim and the boys had changing water, but it was usually followed up by a big family meal. Fun riding the ponies, and much more. You certainly helped shape my sons into the honest and hard working men they are today. And granted, a little hard headed also. I am sure Bette enjoyed a day or two on her own in heaven, but don't be mad if she accuses you of dawdling. You can finish the book you started so many years ago. Happy Trails to you, and condolences to Jim, Peg, Sherri and Suse and their families. Nancy*

Nancy Tracy - January 17, 2018 at 03:27 PM

WH

“ *My name is Wanda Holloway. My husband (deceased) and I were Don-Wan Arabians for many years. There was a spirit connection through the love of the Arabian, even though we never knew Fred personally. I visited with Fred those times he was brought to church. His mind and spirit were always bright and cheery. His family has every right to be proud. All glory to God.*

Wanda Holloway - January 16, 2018 at 01:50 PM

 Robb
Murray

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Robb Murray - January 14, 2018 at 11:09 PM