

IN MEMORIUM



WILLIAM J. SCOGGIN

William (Bill) J. Scoggin, 95, died Dec. 13, 2011.

He was born May 17, 1916, in Hugo, Colo., the son of Dr. William J. and Essie M. Scoggin. He spent his early years in Saratoga, Ovid, Colo., and Julesburg, Colo., which is where he attended school.

He married Floy Mae Pash in 1939 in Bayard, Neb. They moved to Julesburg, Colo., and then Sinclair (then Parco) in 1941. He worked for the refinery for 17 years. In 1958 they moved to Richland, Wash., where he had a studio and art gallery. He became well known throughout the Pacific Northwest for his velvet paintings, Western art and woodcarvings.

They returned to Wyoming in 1978, moving to Rawlins. He continued his art work and enjoyed spending time with his son and friends. He also enjoyed the outdoors. He was an avid fisherman, archer, rock collector and - later in life - he was proficient with a metal detector.

As a child, Bill was afflicted with Polio in his left leg. His parents were told he would never walk, but his mother exercised his leg every day as he grew. Though he had to walk on his toes and the ball of his foot, Bill will be remembered for never letting his leg interfere with walking or the activities he loved.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Jim, Charles and Bob; sisters Helen and Byrdene; wife, Floy; and daughter, Julia. He is survived by

his son, William; grandsons Sean (Jenifer) and Bill (Stacey); granddaughters Shannon (Fabrice), Julia Dawn and Cary; and several great-grandchildren.

Bill Scoggin was a long-time member and contributor to the Wyoming Archaeological Society. He was instrumental in helping the Rawlins Chapter get started and in hosting the annual WAS meetings when they were held there. For decades he was an active volunteer on field projects in and around Rawlins. In the early 1970s he and his son, William, discovered the Scoggin bison kill in Carbon County during one of their frequent treks. The Scoggin's reported this discovery to the State Archaeologist and University, and subsequent research led to investigations in the 1970s and in 1985. This Middle Archaic McKean site was discussed in at least two Master's Theses in Anthropology at the University of Wyoming, and in subsequent publications. His metal detecting skills also were used effectively in another Master's Thesis that reported on target ranges at Fort Fred Steele. Bill's quick wit and sense of humor were always welcome on the projects he attended, and his home was open to many a wandering archaeologist. Wyoming archaeology has lost a strong champion, and Bill will be missed by many.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Dec. 21, 2011 at Rostad Mortuary in Rawlins.