

## Dennis John King

**Posted: Monday, May 13, 2013 2:42 pm**

Dennis John King died May 8, 2013, at Park Manor in Walla Walla, Washington, surrounded by family following a long bout with Alzheimer's disease. A public graveside will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. at the Olney Cemetery in Pendleton, Oregon, followed by a memorial service at the Adams Community Church in Adams, Oregon, at 12:00 noon with Pastor Duane Geyer officiating. A fellowship meal will follow. Visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday, May 17, 2013, from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main, Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Those who wish may make memorial contributions in memory of Dennis King to the Adams Community Church in care of the funeral home.

On June 10, 1921, Dennis was born near Long Creek, Oregon, to Dennis P. and Annie Weissenfluh King. He was the youngest of nine children. His mother died when he was five years old. Dennis grew up in the Long Creek area where his parents made a living running sheep and cattle ranches. He attended the Long Creek, Round Basin and Monument schools. Dennis graduated from Monument High School in 1940 after which he worked at a Texaco service station in Prairie City, Oregon. On September 10, 1944, he married Rosemary Schrier at her father's home in Mt. Vernon, Oregon. They made their home on a ranch west of Long Creek, raising registered horned Hereford cattle for over 40 years. He was a member of the American Hereford Association.

Dennis served on the Long Creek School Board for a number of years, as well as served as a 4-H forestry club leader. He enjoyed gardening, playing cards and spending time with his grandchildren. With a twinkle in his eye, he would josh that he didn't mind being a grandpa but he didn't know about living with an old grandma! He was known for his ready smile and friendliness. Dennis enjoyed telling stories and inviting folks to stay and eat. Dennis worked at the Long Creek Meat Company for a number of years and then became a livestock brand inspector for the Oregon Department of Agriculture in 1973. He retired from that in 1986 and moved to Milton-Freewater, Oregon, where they had a small acreage and kept a few of his Hereford cows. After his heart attack in 2003, the Kings moved to Athena, Oregon, near a daughter.

Survivors include his wife Rosemary of 68+ years of Walla Walla, two daughters, Edith Elligsen Smith of Athena and Terry Thunell and her husband John (Bud) Thunell of Walla Walla, as well as numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other relatives and friends. His parents, five brothers and three sisters all preceded him in death.

