

## William M. Nicholson

October 18, 1919-April 8, 2010

PENDLETON — William M. “Billy Nichols” Nicholson, 90, died Thursday, April 8, 2010 in Pendleton.

A Funeral Service will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13 in the Burns Mortuary Chapel in Pendleton, followed by interment at Olney Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to St. Anthony Hospice, and may be sent care of Burns Mortuary of Pendleton, PO Box 489, Pendleton, OR 97801. Read the full obituary and send condolences to the family at [www.burnsmortuary.com](http://www.burnsmortuary.com). Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements.

Bill was born on October 18, 1919 in New Albany, Ind., to George “Odie” and Clara Nicholson. He was the fifth of six children. He was preceded in death his parents, sisters Aileen and Helen, and brothers James, Robert and Edward.

He graduated from New Albany High School in 1937, and was wed to Mildred I. Cox on November 10, 1939. In 2009 they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.



Nicholson

Bill’s career as a country music entertainer began in Louisville, Ky. and Billings, Mont., where he played live music for local radio stations as well as playing dances and lounges, before moving to Pendleton in 1959. He was known to most friends and fans as “Billy Nichols” when

he played music all around the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and Nevada for more than fifty years with various bands and duet-partners.

He had been a member of the Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28 and the Pendleton Elks Lodge #288, as well as being an honorary member of the Pendleton Side Saddlers.

He is survived by his wife Mildred, three children; Nancy Bromenshenk, Tom Nicholson and wife Avril, and Linda Axtell and husband David Chittick; 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to express their thanks to Dr. Dan Marier, St. Anthony’s Hospital Staff, and the entire St. Anthony Hospice team for their compassionate care and assistance.