



Sterling E. Brechtel

May 1, 1919 - May 12, 2011

Sterling E. Brechtel, age 92, of Cedaredge, Colorado formerly of Fort Collins died May 12, 2011 at home under Hospice care after battling congestive heart failure. A Rosary and Liturgical service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Fort Collins, Colorado by Deacon Don Lamb. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday at St. Joseph Catholic Church. The Rev. Steven Voss will officiate. Interment will follow at Grandview Cemetery Fort Collins, Colorado. Sterling was born May 1, 1919 in Syracuse, Nebraska to William and Susie "Mitchel" Brechtel. After his father's untimely death in 1922, he was raised by his step dad, Fred Frye. He married Norma Arnold on May 29, 1942 in Syracuse, Nebraska. They moved to Bellevue, Nebraska where Sterling worked at the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft plant during World War II. They had five children. In 1956 the family moved to Fort Collins, Colorado where Mr. Brechtel was a self employed home builder and contractor for thirty years, building 60 homes. Sterling also built several pieces of furniture and completed 98 bas relief carvings on pine. Sterling's wife, Norma, died of cancer in 1988. He married Peggy Lamb Massey of Fort Collins on April 8, 1989. Sterling helped Peggy raise her son and daughter. Sterling and Peggy moved to Cedaredge, Colorado in July of 2000. Survivors include three sons, Daniel S. Brechtel of Powell River, B.C., Canada, James M. Brechtel of Fort Collins, Thomas C. Brechtel of Loveland, Colorado and daughter, Julie Anne Breen of Cheyenne, Wyoming; step children, Sarah Self of Douglas, Wyoming and Ross Massey of Cody,

Wyoming; 10 grandchildren and four great grand children. Surviving siblings are Mary Gartner and Susie Wyatt both of Syracuse, Nebraska and Fred Frye of Hickman, Nebraska. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Norma and daughter, Jane Alice who died in 1951, his sisters, Dorothy Sammons and Irene Zimmerman both of Syracuse, Nebraska. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Paulinus Church in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524.

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Sterling was such a gift to all who knew him. I thank the Brechtel family for sharing this wonderful man with the Lamb family. He was a very special part of my family and loved dearly. We will never forget his warm smile, strong faith, goofy jokes and all the memories he shared. We will miss him so very much! Rest in peace favorite Uncle Sterling!

Kelli Sawaya - May 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Carol and I send our condolences. Haveing lost both my parents in recent years and Carol her mother, we know the pain you feel. Please know that you are all in our prayers.

Pat & Carol Dougal - May 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Sterling, You were such a very special man. It was our great honor to have known you. The world was definitely a better place with you in it. Your smile and your stories could lighten up any room. We will miss you. God Speed! Love Brad & Debbie

Brad & Debbie Wyant - May 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM