



George E. Dusenberry, lifelong Gallatin County resident, passed away Thursday September 25, 2008 at his home south of Bozeman. George was born in Rudyard, MT, April 28, 1916, to Edith and Bert Dusenberry Sr. He was the fourth of eight children. Early settlers in the Gallatin Valley, they left to homestead in Rudyard, MT and returned to Gallatin Valley when George was 3 years old. Following graduation from Gallatin County High School, George worked at the Montana Flour Mills before he left Bozeman to serve in the Navy during World War II in the Pacific theater. After the war he returned to Bozeman and went to work on the family ranch.

George met his future wife Frances Johnson at a New Year's party in 1946. They were married in Butte, MT on September 27, 1947. The couple moved to the Dusenberry family ranch south of Bozeman where they raised their family. He was a devoted husband and proud father of three daughters Sally, Carol and Sharon. A lifelong agriculture producer, George and his brother Bert farmed and operated a dairy, then later replaced their dairy cows with beef cattle.

George served as an officer and board member for several organizations including Darigold Farms of Montana (1960-1971), Middle Creek Water Users Association and Hoy Ditch Company. He was a committee member of the FHA, ASCS and a longtime member of the Bozeman Masonic Lodge. For many years George enjoyed league bowling with brothers Bert and Maurice.

In 1973 George and Frances retired and became snowbirds. Traveling each fall to Coquille, Oregon with friends Leonard and Vi Johnson to fish for steelhead and then on to Mesa, Arizona for the winter. In Mesa, George became an avid and accomplished golfer, excelled in horseshoes and was involved in a variety of craft and woodworking projects.

Each spring, he returned to Bozeman to help his brother, Bert and nephew, Gerry with their farming. He was in his greatest glory during harvest time, especially when he was at the wheel of the combine. During his later years, George tended his garden, raising delicious vegetables, superb tomatoes and beautiful flowers. George also enjoyed painting ceramics and giving them as gifts to his family and special friends.

He is survived by daughters : Sally (Mike) Hasse of Ritzville, WA; Carol (Marty) Mikes and Sharon (Pete) Melniker of Bozeman; six grandchildren: Carrie Nyssen of Vancouver, WA; Donald Haase of Federal Way, WA; Kristy Fode of Spokane, WA; Becky Haase of Seattle, WA; Dan Kulm of Wenatchee, WA; and Heather Johnson of Delta Junction, AK; five great grandchildren: Michael and Matthew Fode of Spokane, WA; Ryan, Nicole and Nathan Haase of Federal Way, WA and numerous nephews and nieces.

George was preceded in death by his wife Frances Dusenberry, brothers Harold, Arthur, Ralph, Maurice and Bert, Jr. Dusenberry; sisters Helen Carpenter and Florence Kelly; and parents Bert, Sr. and Edith Dusenberry.