



Robert A. Ellerd was born January 26, 1918 in Sioux City, Iowa, the son of Arthur A. and Dorothy Ellerd and passed away November 6, 2008. Bob graduated from Sioux City Central High School in 1936 and went to work as a cattle buyer for Armour and Co. in Sioux City until 1942. On February 2, 1942 Bob, who was working in an essential industry, declined asking for a deferment and enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps and saw combat duty in the Pacific Theater of the war. Bob was proud to be a Marine, and often stated, "Once a Marine, always a Marine."

Bob and Julia Claire Hilgers were married in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 11, 1946. She was deceased on August 12, 1969. Together they had three sons; Robert, Jr. of Bozeman, Richard of Antelope, OR, and Michael of Bozeman.

After spending four years as a livestock order buyer in Sioux Falls, So. Dak., the Ellerds moved to Bozeman in 1951 where Bob's family roots were.

Bob leased, and later purchased, The Bozeman Livestock Auction Company. After retiring in 1969 from the Livestock Auction, Bob became Associate Manager of the National Livestock Marketing Association, Western Region. Traveling the 14 western states and 4 western provinces of Canada, Bob was happy to meet and greet many friends over his years with the association, retiring in 1988.

In 1971 Robert Ellerd was elected on the Republican ticket for the Montana House of Representatives. Bob served 9 terms (18 years) in the state house. He was most proud of his "non-smoking" bill that was for the cessation of smoking in all public places in Montana and his Resort Tax Bill for the city of West Yellowstone.

On September 6, 1997 Bob married Linda Perlinski. They were fortunate to be able to spend 12 years together playing cards, traveling, and visiting people and places that were fond to both of them.

Bob was over a fifty year lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge, York and Scottish Rite Bodies, Al Beddo Shrine, life member of the Elks, honorary lifetime member of the Livestock Marketing Association of America, and honorary member of the Livestock Market Association of Canada, of which he was very proud.

Bob is survived by his wife, Linda; sons, Robert Ellerd, Jr., Richard and wife, Chris Ellerd, and Michael and wife, Mary Ellerd; five grandchildren, Cyndi (Jay) Tucker of Walla Walla, WA; Angle Ellerd of Boise, ID; Cody Ellerd of Seattle, WA; Julie (Chad) Reeves of Portland, OR; and Mitch (Heidi) Ellerd of Pasco, WA; nine great-grandchildren; and his constant canine companion, Daisy. Bob also leaves behind a large extended family: Red and Marcia Hughes of Parker, AZ; Jamey, Kylie, Austin, and Riley Perlinski of Bozeman; Jeremy, Heather, Carter and Brady Perlinski of Helena; and Jessica Perlinski of Stamford, CT.



At Bob's request, memorials may be sent to: Bozeman Deaconess Hospice,
931 Highland Blvd. Suite 3200 or to Gallatin County Historical Society
317 West Main Street, Bozeman, MT 59715.