



James Curtis "Curt" Bradley, 80, a native Bozeman resident, passed away peacefully November 8, 2009, at the Gallatin Rest Home. He was born December 12, 1928, in Bozeman to James and Florence Nixon Bradley. He grew up on the family farm on South Gooch Hill Road and attended Rea School and Gallatin High School. Curt served as an aircraft mechanic in the Air Force and was honorably discharged in October of 1953.

On June 13, 1954, he married Betty Arlene Lang. They took over the family ranch and raised cattle for a few years. In 1957, Curt started driving truck for H.F. Johnson, hauling gas and diesel products. In the 1970's, Curt and his brother Robert formed Bradley Brothers Trucking and Bradley Repair in Belgrade. He leased his truck to H.F. Johnson and later to Hornoi Trucking Company. Curt continued to drive truck and deliver gas and diesel to locations in and around southwestern Montana and Idaho. He truly enjoyed his customers and made friends with just about anybody. He was a hard-working man who was honest, reliable, and loved by all. Curt never really had any hobbies because driving truck was his passion. He was a member of the local Shriners. In 2000, he retired from driving. One of the highlights during his retirement years was his daily visits to Kountry Korner Cafe, where he conversed with many of his friends. Curt was very proud of his three children and his four grandchildren.

Curt was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Betty; his three children—daughters, Joy (Eric) Zahl and Janice Bradley, and son, Mitch (Sherri) Bradley; his brothers, Robert, Raymond (Betty), and Paul; and four grandchildren, Cory (Bridget), Melissa (Jeremy) Sukut, Brandon Zahl, and Julianne Zahl. His family was a great source of pride and joy. One of Curt's pleasures in the last two years was his daughter's St. Bernard, Koda. He brought him much happiness. Curt will be truly missed by all of us.

The family would like to thank Gallatin Rest Home for their kindness and compassion during the short time Curt was there. They also wish to thank Dr. Borgenicht for her kind and loving care.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, November 14, at Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service, at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Shriners Hospital for Children, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210-2477; or Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter, 1549 E. Cameron Bridge Rd., Bozeman, MT 59718.