

**D**onald Wahl, 74, native and long-time business owner of Wahl's Custom Excavating passed away at his home on Bostwick Road on November 20, 2008. He was born October 17, 1934 in Bozeman, Montana to Oscar and Lydia (Zahn) Wahl.

He attended schools in Bozeman and did ranch work around the valley. He also worked for Gardner Sand & Gravel, and for Martel Construction.

He married Dorothy Baker on April 10, 1955 in Bozeman.

In 1976, he started Wahl's Custom Excavating which he operated with his sons for thirty-two years, and was active in the business until the time of his death.

Don was well-known for his honesty, integrity and work ethic, often donating his time and services. He loved to work in his shop, building cedar jewelry boxes and giving them to people all over the world. At last count, he had made over four-hundred boxes. He always had a positive outlook on life, a good sense of humor, and a good joke to tell.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Harold Wahl, and sister, Virginia Fadness.

Don is survived by his wife, Dorothy, of Bozeman; son, Donald J. (Martha) Wahl of Bozeman; daughter, Dorothy Irene (Rodney) Wagner of Billings; and son, Thomas A. (Beverly) Wahl of Bozeman. Also surviving are two granddaughters, Holly and Heather Wahl of Winchester, Kentucky; brothers, Robert (Dorothy) Wahl of Belgrade, and Arnold (Sandy) Jacobs of Bozeman; and by numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, November 24 at Sunset Memorial Park, Belgrade. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Bozeman Deaconess Hospice; 931 Highland Blvd. Ste. 3200, Bozeman, MT 59715