CLIFFORD L. "BO" FERRIS

Bo was born June 10, 1931 in Miles City, Montana. He died June 18, 2009 from complications due to an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He was surrounded by people who loved him dearly. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pauline, and his oldest son, Mark, as well as his older brother, Earl M. Ferris, his parents Earl Mortimer Ferris and Helen Skauge and his stepdad Clifford Skauge.

Bo and his brothers grew up in towns in Montana including Great Falls, Butte and Valier. All three spent time in the U.S. Air Force. Bo enlisted in the Army Air Corp when he was only 15, eventually joining the Air Force. It became a career lasting 28 years. He later became part of an elite unit in the U.S. Air Force called AFTAC in which he served proudly. He earned the respect and friendship of everyone who met him. Bo treated everyone with courtesy and respect. He loved to tell stories of the fascinating life he led – traveling to exotic and exciting places throughout the world. Bo had a knack for turning a phrase. One of his favorite expressions was "Indecision is the key to flexibility." Bo and Pauline had 7 children while stationed in such places as Japan, Guam and Washington D.C.

After retirement from the Air Force Bo worked for Automatic Vending Company and he and Pauline moved to Redding with their family. Pauline succumbed to lung cancer after 39 years of marriage. After living single for 5 years he met Deannie Meyer who was also widowed. The two fell in love and were married joining his family with her family of 3 sons, 6 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. He used to laugh and say they had a merger not a wedding.

Bo is survived by his loving wife Deannie, his children, Susan Pereira, Sandy Ferris, Patricia Wilson, Terri Ann Dugdale and twin sons Tom and Paul Ferris, his grandchildren Kyle and Kady Ferris, Elizabeth and Daniel Dugdale, Adam Ryan Ferris, Clifford and Maggie Folkman and Josiah Ferris, his brother, Raymond Ferris, his stepsons Daniel, Kirk and Robert Meyer, his step-grandchildren Sibylla, Audra, Ashley, Sarah, Carlie and James Meyer, his step-great grandchildren Kalvin Meyer and Kristen Meyer. We all will sorely miss his sense of humor, his stories and his gentle love.

Bo will be buried in the Veterans Cementary in Igo and a military service honoring him will be held on Monday, June 29, 2009 at 12:45 p.m.