



## Bob Marney

March 1, 1914 - April 5, 2010

Bob Marney, 96 finished his earthly journey on Monday, April 5, 2010 at his Rock Island home of 57 years, with his daughters at his side.

The son of a sharecropper and the youngest of 7 children, born to James W. and Paralee (Higginbottom) Marney, March 1, 1914 in Myron, Arkansas. He attended school and grew up in Wiseman, Arkansas, where he began his life-long love of farming. In 1937 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps constructing some of the first telephone lines in Arkansas. His supervisor said that he was "a good, steady dependable worker". In March, 1939 he came to the Wenatchee Valley and began working in orchards around Monitor and dreaming of owning his own place.

In 1941, as the nation prepared for war, Bob married Johnnie Lee Majors on Christmas Eve in Franklin Arkansas. They were living in the Wenatchee Valley when he entered the Army in August 1942. During his military service, he completed two tours of duty as a military policeman in the American Theater of Operations, Sitka and Anchorage, Alaska, considered overseas duty at that time. In 1945, he was transferred to Fort Douglas, Utah where he was joined by his wife and honorably discharged in November 1945. From there they returned to Arkansas for the birth of their first daughter, Brenda, in February 1946.

He never lost sight of the opportunities in the beautiful orchards of the Wenatchee Valley so in November of 1946 they came to Washington once more to make their home, settling in the Orondo area where he worked in orchards and warehouses. Their second daughter, Barbara Danene was born in January 1949.

Bob and Johnnie worked and saved to be able to purchase their own place. And, in March 1953 they moved to Rock Island, their home until their deaths. They made their living, raised their daughters, and grew an orchard and a big garden every year. It was family farming on an orchard that produced peaches, apricots, cherries and plums until years later he converted it to just cherries and apples.

Dad lived life on his own terms. In his youth he worked wherever he could. He drove a buggy for a country doctor, worked in a barrel stave mill, peddled apples, and hired out to farmers for a small wage plus room and board. He enjoyed telling stories of gambling in the woods with his friends and being 'arrested' and fined by the local constable. He was good at playing cards, enjoying weekly games until age and health prevented it.

His tomatoes were legendary and, he never let you leave without something in your hand from the orchard or the garden. Dad lived close to the earth watching seasons and weather cycles and in his very private way he was acquainted with the Source. His last crop of tomatoes will be harvested from 2 little plants he started from seed a month before his passing.

He was preceded in death by his beloved grandson, Brian, and his wife of 61 years, Johnnie Lee. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Brenda (Elery) Barnes, his granddaughter Barbra (Donovan) Holmes of East Wenatchee, his daughter, Barbara Danene Marney, and his grandson Peter (Janice) Marney of Spokane, as well as, many nieces and nephews, friends,

long-time poker playing buddies and Spot the cat. 'It's quittin' time, Dad, be at rest. You are loved'

Memorial services will be held on April 17, 2010, 2 - 4 pm at the Rock Island Community Center, 5 Garden Ave. All are welcome. Remembrances in his name may be made to Hospice of Wenatchee, c/o CWH Hospice, 1200 Fuller St Wenatchee WA 98801. Arrangements by Telford's Chapel of the Valley, East Wenatchee, internment at Wenatchee Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ Thank you Uncle Bob for macaroni and cheese and tuna fish~you were good to me before you even knew me~ I hope they play cards in Heaven

lindsey ann braun - April 21, 2010 at 11:43 AM

JS

“ Hello all, I will always remeber Uncle Bob out in the orchard. Most of my child hood memrories are of the times we were at Rock Island.

Jackson Shelton - April 18, 2010 at 07:02 PM

JB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. Uncle Bob was such a big part of my life, being on that 5 acres was like coming home for me. Uncle Bob didn't say alot, but the way he treated the Shelton family spoke volumes about his capacity to love. He will be greatly missed. My love to you always.

Joan Braun - April 17, 2010 at 11:18 AM

BD

“ Brenda, Elery, Barbra And Don lit a candle in memory of Bob Marney



Brenda, Elery, Barbra and Don - April 17, 2010 at 10:05 AM

BC

“ *Brenda and Danene, I will miss hearing my Mom tell of the talks she had with Uncle Bobby. She enjoyed their phone visits, I hope he did also. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. Love you, Barbara*

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**Barbara Ramsey Crosby** - April 15, 2010 at 12:48 AM

SK

“ *To Barbara and Family. My heartfelt sorrow in your time of loss. Bob's views were shared through Barb with her friends. We took them to heart and often viewed life with a different perspective. We will miss the tomatoes peaches and fruit. Bob, I believe that you are already planting a garden in heaven for us when we get there. Many prayers.*

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**Sharon Kophs** - April 13, 2010 at 09:09 PM

BD

“ *Thank you Dad for everything you did for me. It will not be the same without you, but every planting time or harvest you will be there. From dust we come and from dust we return and in between we garden.*



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**Barbara Danene** - April 13, 2010 at 12:47 PM

JM

“ *To the Marney family - Thank you for sharing your dad with me. I so enjoyed the stories about Bob on his tractor and walking barefoot in his garden. Thank you for sharing the treasured tomatoes which so many of us looked forward to every year. He was truly loved by his family and thought fondly of by family friends.*

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**Jean Montano** - April 13, 2010 at 12:00 PM

CM

“ *Thinking of you all, remembering the tomato season, the fresh apples, peaches, cherries and green beans. I am so thankful for being a small part of the Marney Family and appreciating the blessings that has brought. A life well lived and no regrets....*

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**Carol McVicker** - April 13, 2010 at 12:32 AM