



Ken Gibson

April 7, 1923 - July 20, 2014

Ken Gibson

Kenneth James Gibson was born to Bert F. Gibson & Teelia Dodd Gibson in Freewater, Oregon on April 7, 1923. He died on July 20, 2014 at the age of 91. He was the youngest of three children and the only son of Bert & Teelia Gibson. Raised on a farm, he learned at an early age value of working hard long hours, caring for animals and repairing machinery.

The only way to get to school was on horseback---4 miles one way on his faithful horse, Old Lady. Grade school was completed in Lowden, WA and high school completed in Walla Walla. Old Lady went with him into the sixth grade and then Smoky provided transportation until his sister was old enough to drive the family car. Ken graduated in 1941 from Walla Walla Hi and after a short summer stint on a wheat farm joined the Army Air Corp in December of 1941. He spent 4 years in the service & was trained as an airplane mechanic & later as an electrician on the B52. Ken worked on this plane, the KC135 and was crew chief on the A20 airplane. He was stationed in Mississippi and New Guinea. While in Mississippi he met & married Warrene Jeffers and from this union Ken's only child was born, Judy Gibson Spalding.

After the war, Ken returned to WA State and worked for Boeing Aircraft Co. for 7 years; first in Seattle and then moving with Boeing to Moses Lake in 1955. He was lead man and then supervisor at the Boeing plant on B 52's & KC 135's. From 1959 to 1979 Ken farmed in the Moses Lake area; farming was

always his first love. His first farm, bought in 1959 was in Block 40. He did custom work on the side & soon was able to farm full time. He had the first harrowbed in the basin & picked up many a bale of hay for other farmers. From 1970-1974 he farmed 1200 acres for an absentee partner. His last farm was in the Royal City area with 620 acres planted in alfalfa in 1974. This acreage was then rented to other farmers & eventually sold as Ken prepared for retirement.

When Ken sold his farm he bought & sold farm machinery until 1981 at which time he became semi retired. During his younger days he built 2 houses for himself & built numerous shops & farm buildings while farming. He farmed for 25 years.

In 1979 Ken met Artagae (Artie) Williams while motorcycling with mutual friends. She became the love of his life. They wed in 1980 & spent many years together motorcycling, square dancing & farming.

Ken leaves behind his wife, Artie, daughter Judy Spalding, step daughter Celia Williams & 4 grandchildren.

Ken's viewing will be held at Kayser's Chapel on Wednesday, July 23rd between 12 noon & 5 p.m. Please sign the online guestbook or leave a note for the family at www.kayserschapel.com

Cemetery Details

Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E.
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 765-7848

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **23**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Kayser's Chapel of Memories
831 S. Pioneer Way
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall

VC

“ my parents worked for Ken many years ago. I remember Ken when My son was little and my mom and dad had some sheep in royal city and one of the rams pushed my son down. Ken would visit my mother aqfter my dad died in moses lake, My parents were forrset and mary wilson. I really enjoy Ken very much and I'm sad to see that he passed on. But he is in a good place. I would go to his place in royal city on the Frenchen Hills area. I would wait on Ken in Royal City at the cafes their. My name is Virginia Wilson-Carver as I was then. I'm remarried so my name is Virginia Chewning. I will miss Ken very much. My prayers are with you and the family. And I'm very sorry for your loss

Virginia Wilson Carver Chewning in Libby, Montana now. I used to live in Royal City.

virginia Wilson Carver Chewning - July 26, 2014 at 05:56 PM

KG

“ Ken's family, I am so sorry for your loss. He is a special person and will be missed by all who knew him. May our memories of Ken comfort us now.

With sympathy, Kathy (Anderson) & Ron Graff

Kathy & Ron Graff - July 23, 2014 at 11:47 PM

TK

“ Ken was a really nice guy and great neighbor. Ken always had a friendly smile and helped out when I didn't have a clue. I will miss him. My sympathy to Artie.

Terry

Terry King - July 23, 2014 at 10:19 PM

EK

“ We are very sorry to hear that Ken passed away, We always enjoyed talking to him. We will always think of him when we walk around our farm that we bought from Ken Gibson.
Evert and Betty Kooy

Evert Kooy - July 23, 2014 at 09:18 AM

KA

“ Judy and family, Your dad was a great man and a respected leader in the farming industry with his custom farming, work with Boeing, and the military. I know he thought the world of you. He will be truly missed! You are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.
With sympathy, Kathy & Dick Aldrich

Kathy Aldrich - July 22, 2014 at 01:58 PM

CK

“ To Ken's family; What a privilege it was to know Ken during his earthly life. What a wonderful man he was...honest, strong work ethics, humble spirit, compassionate, and caring. He lived each day with integrity and was highly respected in our community. We had the honor of working side by side with Ken at the Moses Lake Senior Center. He donated thousands of hours to the center, and never expected a Thanks!!! We will miss his gently spirit, determination, and strength; an all to rare combination. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sincerely, Cathy & Paul Kersey

Cathy Kersey - July 22, 2014 at 01:23 PM

AP

“ *Judy and family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.
Please call me if I can do something for you or if you just want to
talk. I'm here.
With Love,
Alice Parker*

Alice Parker - July 21, 2014 at 08:26 PM

BP

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time of loss.*

Gene & Bonnie Polhamus

Bonnie Polhamus - July 21, 2014 at 06:07 PM

IS

“ *My prayers go out to you Artie and your family on the passing of
Ken. Gods blessing on
all.
Ila Simpson*

Ila Simpson - July 21, 2014 at 11:55 AM

RS

*You have our deepest sympathy Artie and family.
Richard and Jettie Stapelman*

richard j stapelman - July 23, 2014 at 08:32 PM