



Marion L. Chamberlain

January 17, 1918 - April 23, 2011

Marion Larkin Chamberlain passed away at home on Saturday, April 23, 2011, surrounded by his loving family. A Celebration of Life service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 29, 2011 at the First Presbyterian Church, 1142 W. Ivy, Moses Lake. Interment will follow at Pioneer Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held from noon to 7 p.m., Thursday, April 28th at Kayser's Chapel with family greeting friends from 5 to 7 p.m. He was born on January 17, 1918, in Farmington Community, Kansas, the son of Elmer Larkin Chamberlain and Mary Myrtie Powell Chamberlain. He was the youngest of nine children. Soon after his birth the family moved to Hatler Community, near Altoona, Kansas. Marion attended elementary school in a one-room schoolhouse in Hatler School District and high school in Altoona. On November 7, 1936, he married Alberta Faith Elliott, who lived on a neighboring farm. Soon after their union the young couple took over the Chamberlain family farm. Over the next several years, three daughters were born to the couple. In the spring of 1944 the family moved to the Aberdeen, Idaho area where they farmed for the next ten years and where three sons were born, one of whom died at birth. During their residency in Idaho, one daughter, who had contracted encephalitis in conjunction with a bout of German measles, was institutionalized and later died.

In February of 1955 the Chamberlains moved to Moses Lake, Washington, where they purchased a little jersey dairy farm on Stratford Road, in Block 40. Fifty-six years later that "little jersey dairy farm," which became Chamberlain

Dairy Incorporated during Marion and Alberta's stewardship, has expanded to a 700-head dairy now owned and operated by his son Rex, daughter-in-law Kathy, and grandson Kyle with his son Marvin as the herd's veterinarian. Over the years Marion formed many strong bonds and mutually supportive relationships with other farmers. His intense interest in the preservation of the family farm and agricultural economics led to his joining the National Farmers Organization (NFO) as a lifetime member in 1968. He later became the first National Director of that organization from Washington.

Marion's family and friends knew him as a "man of his word." If he said he would do it, he did—no matter the personal effort or cost. His children are grateful for the life-lessons they learned from their father. "He taught us to set challenging goals and work to achieve them. And we loved watching his serious, sometimes gruff, demeanor turn to mush when an infant was placed in his arms." He truly loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; they returned the favor. The Chamberlain farmhouse was expanded as the generations expanded so that everyone could gather for holidays and birthdays—with Marion presiding.

In the last several years of his life, Marion's health deteriorated from Alzheimer's disease; but he was blessed with exceptional, loving care from Amanda Naab-Valencia. Marion was preceded in death by a son, Darrell Lee, and a daughter, Nancy Sara; son-in-law, Lee Anderson, and daughter-in-law, Linda Chamberlain. He is survived by his beloved wife of over 74 years, Alberta Faith Elliott; four children--Charlotte Anderson, Ph.D. of Evanston, Illinois; Gayle Loescher, R.N. (husband Ray) of Olympia, Washington; Marvin Chamberlain, DVM, and Rex Chamberlain (wife Kathy) of Moses Lake; 13 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Marion's name to either the Alzheimer's Association, Inland Northwest Chapter, 910 West 5th Avenue, Ste. 256, Spokane, WA 99204 (800/272-3900) or the Columbia Basin Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 1337, Moses Lake, WA 98837 (509) 764-4644

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **28**. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

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

Service

APR **29**. 10:00 AM (PT)

Moses Lake Presbyterian Church
1142 W. Ivy
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall



“ Our sincere sympathy with the passing of Mr. Chamberlain. We have fond memories of him following Sarah's softball and as our patient.
We do not receive newspaper and just happened on his passing this morning. Mr. Chamberlain and his ohana are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Richard & Stacey Ribellia##imported-end##

May 11, 2011 at 01:02 PM



“ Marv and family,we were so sorry to hear of your loss.May all the wonderful memories help you through this difficult time. Our prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Alex &Teresa Gonzalez##imported-end##

May 02, 2011 at 12:37 AM



“ The Chamberlains are amazing people and friends. We're so sorry about the passing of Marion but know you will all carry on so well to continue his legacy of a well respected man of our community. Rex, Kathy, and kids. We love you all.##imported-begin##Patti & Dale paris##imported-end##

April 28, 2011 at 08:02 PM



“ Rex and Kathy,
We are so sorry to hear of your father's passing. He was a kind and gentle man that has left a lasting legacy of love. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
In Christ's Love,
Luis and Diane###imported-begin##Luis & Diane Cerna###imported-end##

April 28, 2011 at 05:01 PM



“ On behalf of all my brothers and sister. My parents and I want to say that we are sorry for your loss. Rex and Kathy you have stood by all of us. And know we are here for you! God bless Marion and you guys too. We love you very much our prayers go out to the family.

Martha, Elijah, Daniel, Rick, Olga, George, Maria and Ricardo!###imported-begin##Martha Padilla###imported-end##

April 28, 2011 at 03:38 PM



“ Thank-you Marion for being my best friend for the last 6 years. I am so blessed to have you and Berta in my life. I miss you so much. I love you.###imported-begin##Amanda Naab-Valencia###imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 11:07 PM



“ Marv and Rex and families - our thoughts and prayers go out to you and the rest of the Chamberlain family.###imported-begin##Dan & Maureen Baginski###imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 06:12 PM



“ Our hearts go out to you at this time of loss. Marion was a great friend to us through the many years that we knew him.##imported-begin##Linda Merrill & Don Merrill##imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 03:05 PM



“ In the 1960's I was the supervisor of the Farmer's Home Administration, USDA in Moses Lake. Marion served a 3 year term on our loan advisory committee. This 3 person committee determined the eligibility of applicants for loans. I very much appreciated Marion's input. When I retired in 1989, my wife and I returned to Grant County and lived in Ephrata. One of the first persons I visited was Marion.##imported-begin##Jim Pritchard##imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 02:12 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time.##imported-begin##Delores & Luis Carvalho##imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 02:50 AM



“ Hi Grandpa. What a great picture of you! I can't believe your time has finally come but I know you are in a much better place. You are truly going to be missed. I'm so sorry I can't make it to your funeral but I want you to know that I love you so much. I have one promise to make before I sign off and that is I won't "wait myself into an old maid" before I get married. I still laugh about that conversation we had at the dinner table one Christmas. You will always have a special place in my heart! I love you.##imported-begin##Sarah Chamberlain##imported-end##

April 27, 2011 at 01:03 AM



“ My mother, Edith Chamberlain Greathouse, was the daughter of Marion's brother, Bill. She was only two years younger than her Uncle Marion. When they were growing up, they were like cousins. Edith always was excited when Marion and Alberta came back to Kansas from Idaho or Washington State. It was a special time for Edith. You will have many special memories of Marion that will sustain you for years to come. With my sympathy and love.##imported-begin##JoEllen (Greathouse) Hoelting##imported-end##

April 26, 2011 at 09:49 PM



“ Marv and family, we are sorry to hear of your loss. It is never easy to lose a parent, no matter what their age. Our prayers are with you and your family as you take this journey. May you find comfort in one another.##imported-begin##Terry Trask Skeesick##imported-end##

April 25, 2011 at 11:51 PM



“ Grandpa,
We already miss you so much. We will take care of grandma for you! Love you.##imported-begin##Amanda (Chamberlain) Wiser##imported-end##

April 25, 2011 at 11:39 PM



“ A great friend of our extended (Kinfolk) family. First memory of Marion was watching him and his brother John riding in the Aberdeen Sheriff's Posse in a rodeo in Idaho. He let me ride the horse a few times that summer.##imported-begin##Don Haring##imported-end##

April 25, 2011 at 10:31 PM



“ Our hearts and prayers go out to the Chamberlin family. Marion was a stand alone leader in our farming community. He will be missed by all that knew him.
Todd and Patty Voth##imported-begin##todd voth##imported-end##

April 25, 2011 at 09:13 PM