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Arthur F. Hagen Obituary

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Arthur F. Hagen 1928–2012

Arthur F. Hagen, 84, died Thursday, 26 July 2012 at the Community Hospital in Torrington, Wyoming.

Art was born 4 February 1928 in Huron, South Dakota, the son of Merle and Leona (Geuther) Hagen. He grew up and received his early education in Huron and Armour, SD. Art entered the U.S. Navy, where he spent four years as an aviation electrician and was discharged in 1949. He married Marlene Halstead on 23 March 1954 in Wagner, SD. Art attended college at Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Colorado State University) where he received his B.S. in 1954 and his master's degree in Entomology in 1956. His thesis was titled

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“Species and Incidence of Parasites in the Blood of the American Magpie in Northern Colorado.”

Art worked as a Research and Extension Entomologist for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for thirty-three years; at the Panhandle Research & Extension Center, Scottsbluff (1957-1987), and the West Central Research & Extension Center, North Platte (1987-1990). He published research on the biology and control of many of the important insect pests of western Nebraska, including grasshoppers, Mexican bean beetle, western corn rootworm, alfalfa weevil, sugar beet webworms, black grass bugs, and cattle grubs. Art’s several publications on the seasonal occurrence and economic importance of western bean cutworm as a pest of corn and dry beans are still being cited today.

Art retired in 1990 and moved to Torrington, WY in 1995. He was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and a past member of the Rock Club, the American Legion in Mitchell, and the Goshen County Sportsman’s Club. Art liked to collect and polish rocks, hunt, birdwatch, and make knives of deer antlers and stone blades.

Survivors include his wife Marlene of Torrington, WY; daughters, Sandy Hagen and her husband Don Saretski of Scottsbluff; Dani Donker and her husband Steve of Chadron; and Gigi Asselin and her husband Kelly of Kearney; son, Merle Hagen and his wife Connie of Scottsbluff; 12 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Preceding Art in death were his parents.

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