Deaths

Celestia O. (Davison) Rush *31 died Sept. 9, 2007. She was 97. Born in Joplin, Mo., Celestia moved with her family to Caldwell in a covered wagon when she was six years old. A farm wife, she also worked as a teacher in rural schools before marrying, and for SRS in the Cowley County Courthouse. She is survived by numerous descendants including daughters Charlotte Wise, Ida Finney ’71, Neta Stanley, and Esther Sanborn ’59, and sons, Alan ’70 and Ralph.

Olive Corrine Musser ’33 died Aug. 5, 2007. She was 96. Olive’s work career included being a Home Management Supervisor for Farmers Home Administration, USDA, and bookkeeper for the Beechcraft Credit Union. Survivors include her son, Ron.

Jennie L. (Krause) Hoopes ’39 died Aug. 3, 2007. She was a retired teacher. Survivors include two sons and two daughters.

Dorothy E. Spitze ’40 died Sept. 23, 2007. She was employed by Peabody Coal Company for 38 years before she retired in Denver. She is survived by a brother, Don, Fort Collins, Colo., and a retired in Denver. She is survived by a son, Don, Fort Collins, Colo., and a daughter, Lynette.

Marinny Simon ’58, Wichita, died Oct. 11, 2007. She was a retired registered nurse and student health nurse for Wesley School of Nursing. Survivors include her husband, Edward; a son, Craig, and a daughter, Elaine.

Norma Rose (Robinson) Walker ’64 died Aug. 14, 2007. Norma was a career educator for 34 years in Cowley and Sumner counties as well as a member of the Kansas National Education Association. Survivors include her daughter, Rita Hostetter and Patti Hoover.

Barbara Anne (Ehrman) Sloan ’66 died Aug. 9, 2007. Barbara would have been 57 years old on Sept. 10, 2007.

Charles E. Christie ’72 died Oct. 8, 2007. He was 57. Charlie owned and operated Quality Auto of Arkansas City and was an avid golfer, softball player, and bowler. Survivors include his wife, Kinny; a daughter, Danielle Curtis; and a son, Landon.

Jennie A. (Osborn) Snyder ’73 died July 19, 2007, in the care of Hospice, Port Orange, Fla. She had lived in New Smyrna Beach for the past 24 years. In her early married life, Jennie was a resident of Cedar Vale. After her family moved to Florida in 1974, she became a certified interior designer. Later, in New Smyrna, she became a positive influence for area artists, and did commissioned artwork. She is survived by a son, Errol, and a sister, Nancy Meyer.

Brandon J. Wenta ’98 died July 17, 2007. He was 28. He had been a cowboy with Hays Feeders and had lived most of his life in Fowler. Survivors include his wife, Melissa, and a son, Kade.

Dorothea May Beers died Aug. 14, 2007. She was a homemaker. Survivors include a daughter, Diana F. Chedester.

E. Pauline Howe died Aug. 22, 2007. She was 98 years old. Survivors include daughters, Esta Lee Brunton ’69, Virginia Trogdon, and Judy Rakestraw.

Dr. Consuelo H. Shaw, Seattle, Wash., died on June 4, 2007. She served 35 years with the Seattle school district as a science teacher, counselor, and administrator. In 1972 she became the first woman to serve on the superintendent’s executive committee. Survivors include her friend of more than 50 years, Dr. Kathleen Lucero ’44.

Helen Irene (Manka) Storbeck died Oct. 1, 2007. Helen and her late husband, Robert, were influential community leaders in Winfield and in the many organizations in which they became involved. They established a scholarship at Southwestern College in honor of their late son, Todd. Survivors include two sons, Chris and Scott.


MYRNE ROE ’58 focuses attention on the homeless in her new book Under Hope’s Roof. Featuring the stories of 14 of Wichita’s hundreds of homeless persons, the book is sponsored by Inter-Faith Ministries. Compiling, writing, editing, illustrating and printing costs were donated so that every dollar of the $15 purchase price could go to Inter-Faith Ministries for its homeless and housing programs.

In a November op-ed published in the Wichita Eagle, Roe pointed out that her grandmother had listened to the stories of displaced war veterans and other homeless as she fed them during the Depression.

“It’s easy to dismiss the chronic homeless,” Roe wrote. “They don’t stage protests. They aren’t a large voting bloc or big-time consumers of luxury goods. They don’t hang out in better neighborhoods or show up at events where they might join the discussion.

“If we, as a community, really listened to the stories of the homeless citizens among us, it is possible we might find a solution and act on it, because it is far more difficult to dismiss another human being’s misfortune when we hear about it firsthand.”

More information on Under Hope’s Roof is available by contacting Carl Martin at martinhaus@cox.net.