

Herbert W. Woesner Jr.

Funeral service for Herbert W. Woesner Jr., 83, Cache, will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Star House Eagle Park, in Cache, with the Rev. Patrick McClung officiating.



Burial will be in Highland Cemetery under direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Mr. Woesner died Friday, April 11, 2008, in Lawton.

He was born Feb. 4, 1925, at the old Fort Sill hospital to Herbert and Cora (McMillian) Woesner Sr. He grew up in what is now called "the old North Addition" of Lawton. He attended McKinley Elementary School for three grades, completing grade school at Washington Elementary in 1936. He attended Lawton Central Junior High School and Lawton High School, where he graduated in 1942. He enrolled in 1942 at Cameron College where he studied engineering. He later returned to Cameron College in 1946 and majored in agriculture. At the age of 12, he went to work for John Helvy at Lawton Drug Co., next to the Dome Theater. He worked as a door boy and assistant cashier at the theater, and worked for Willie Weinburg as a clerk at Willie's Men's Store from 1941 to 1944.

In 1944, he moved to the country, near Cache, where he worked with his father on their 250-acre farm and 160-acre Indian lease. He served as a Sunday School teacher at Lawton First Baptist Church, and taught a 12-year-old boys' Sunday School class for three years. He later taught Joe Troop's men's class. In 1956, he bought the ferris wheel, bumper cars and dark ride from Frank Rush Jr., who was forced to close Craterville Park.

He opened an amusement park, "Frontier Park," later to be renamed "Eagle Park" in 1957 in honor of Quannah

Parker. The first building brought to the amusement park was the Elk Mountain Ranger Station. Quannah Parker's "Star House" was later added. Star House was later moved to Eagle Park.

He operated Eagle Park as an amusement park and village of historic buildings for 31 years. Eagle Park was officially closed in 1984. He recently found the abandoned building of the historic Peace Congregational Church. He performed a variety of tasks, including store attendant, fix-it-man, farm worker, errand runner, buyer of goods, caretaker and historian of Star House, and tour guide.

Historic buildings preserved by him included: Picket House, Star House, Elk Mountain Ranger Station, Orient Drug Store, Blair, Real Estate Office, Chattanooga; Frisco Railroad Depot Cache, Journal Office, Sunnyside School, Saddle Mountain Indian Mission, Kiowa County; Saddle Mountain School, Kiowa County; Frank James House Fletcher, Codopony Bungalow, Cache; Hopps House, Lawton, Buffalo Hall, West Texas, Violet Livery Stables, Cache, and the Fort Worth and Denver Caboose, Childress, Texas.

Survivors include a sister, Kathy Gipson Treadwell, Cache; a niece, Ginger Gipson Seibold, Sterling; a nephew, Wayne Gipson, Cache; great niece and nephews: Reece, Kyanne, and Rance Seibold, all of Sterling; cousins: Dan and Pat Woesner, Lawton; Frances Pierce and Enid Wynn, both of Oklahoma City; Richard and Jeanne Seaman, Bastrop, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herbert and Cora Woesner; maternal grandparents, James Carroll and Emma Epting McMillian; aunts and uncles: Emil Woesner, Walter Woesner, Sanford and Kate Brandon, Quana Mitchell, Emma and Jack Seaman, James McMillian.

Visitation will be today and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Comanche Nation Funeral Home.