

COX, Morrow H. "Skeet" and Margaret (King) Cox

Submitted by Janice Cox Sothman

COX - Morrow H. "Skeet" was the third child born to Oliver and Florence (Ogburn) Cox of Toulon on November 12, 1907. I am sure there are other residents of Stark County that would be able to write a memorable tribute to Skeet and Margaret for this historical book, but the task now falls to a niece and great-niece to make sure he and Margaret are recognized as citizens of Stark County.

When Skeet was born, his older brothers were sent out to spread the news of his arrival and at the home of their Uncle Morrow Whittaker, they were given money (I wish I knew how much!) to convince their mother to name the new baby after him. The brothers were successful and the new baby boy was named Morrow after his uncle. Sometime during his youth, and I am not sure if it was given by family or friends, he was nicknamed of "Skeeter" because he wasn't much bigger than a mosquito. The name "Skeeter" or "Skeet", as I remember most people calling him, stuck throughout his lifetime. Even his siblings called him Skeet! He was a graduate of Toulon High School and during World War II he closed his Wyoming business temporarily to serve in the Army.

Margaret (King) Cox was born April 26, 1908. Since we are not decedents of the King family, I am sorry not to include more details; however, I do know that she was an only child and I believe her father was a medical doctor. She was intelligent, independent and a college graduate, which was an accomplishment not many women of her era had. She graduated of Wyoming High School and Bradley College. While at Bradley she was a member and President of Delta Kappa Sorority. An old newspaper clipping shows Margaret in the drivers seat of a terrific looking convertible, they called the Sorority Bus, with 10 of her sorority sisters are sitting in and on the car. She was the benefactor of a scholarship fund to local Wyoming students attending Bradley University. Margaret was very loyal to her alma mater and I am sure they were very grateful for her support over the years. Margaret died December 13, 1991.

Skeet and Margaret had no children. Margaret had grown up in Wyoming and they made their home there until they fully retired to Florida in the early 1970's. Skeet was the founder and funeral directory of Cox Memorial Home in Wyoming. He was very proud of his service to Stark County community families in their times of great need for over 35 years. Cox Memorial Home was a beautiful older home on N. Galena Ave which in the beginning served as both a residence on the second floor and the funeral home on the main floor. Later the Cox's lived in the Margaret's childhood family home on the NW corner of W. Butler and 7th Street, until they built a brick ranch home on a portion of the King property in the early early 60's. Skeet and Margaret were well respected, active members of the community and both were avid golfers.

I rarely remember Skeet without a dog at his side while he lived in Wyoming. He enjoyed hunting and his dogs were breeds that made good hunting dogs. Skeet enjoyed time spend with

friends and acquaintances and always had wonderful stories and jokes to tell. The Morning Coffee Club, hunting, golf and a martini or beer with friends at the Lacon or Midland Country Club were high on his list of life's greatest pleasures. Skeet kept in close contact with many of his local friends throughout his life time. He was a jolly, fun loving guy and even on the day he died at age 95, July 18, 2003, in Dunedin, Florida, he was joking with the nurses. That's the Skeet we will always remember!

