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Obituary: Elmer Edward Young



Elmer Edward Young

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Elmer Young passed away early Saturday morning, Aug. 8, 2015 at 90 years old. He was resting comfortably in his home in Paulina, Oregon surrounded by family, his cattle and green pastures.

Elmer was born Jan. 14, 1925 in Phoenix, Arizona to Ed and Rachel (Gillett) Young. Growing up on a dairy and cotton farm outside of Peoria, Elmer knew from a very young age he wanted to be a cattle rancher. He married Lavera Waas on Oct. 20, 1946 and together they began farming 80 acres in Dewey, Arizona. His intention was to improve the land, dig a few wells and sell it in two years to buy his cattle ranch. Sixty years later, Elmer and Lavera moved to Paulina, Oregon to raise cattle and hay, and retire on The Blue Mountain Ranch.

Elmer graduated from Peoria High School in 1942 and served in the Navy as a Radarman on the U.S.S. Rockingham. He was actively involved as a 4-H leader for Yavapai County and a supporter of the F.F.A. program for many years. He served on several boards and committees including County and State Soil Conservation Districts, Farm Bureau, Yavapai Cattlemen's Association, School Board, and Kiwanis. Elmer was awarded Extensionist of the Year from the University of Arizona College of Agriculture, Farmer/Rancher of the Year from the Kiwanis Organization and Conservation Farmer of the Month from the Yavapai Messenger. He was most recognizable as the "hardest working man from Young's Farm" where he spent 60 years teaching his children, grandchildren and the children of others about the importance of agriculture and the necessity of good stewardship. He raised alfalfa and grass hay, grain, hogs, poultry, sweet corn, pumpkins and a variety of other vegetables, but he was always most fond of his cattle.

Elmer is survived by his wife Lavera; his children, Stan (Jennie) Young, Susan (Willfred) Lackey, Gary (Jeannine) Young, Denis (Stacy) Young; his 12 grandchildren; and

23 great grandchildren, with two more on the way. He was preceded in death by his daughter Mary Lynn (Bill) Wallace and his long time comrade in adventure Bob Statler.

Elmer was always a supporter of small communities and bringing people together for work or fun. In his honor, he would appreciate any support you can lend to the Paulina School, Pau Mau Club, Rager Emergency Service or the Paulina Church to enhance his community.

Elmer often said, "There are only three good words in the English language.

The first two are "Do It," but the last and best one is "Done." Thank you "Elmer," "Dad," "Grandpa," "Papa" for the legacy you created through hard work, passion, orneriness, love and faith. You truly did get it done.

The family is planning a private memorial service in Oregon for Elmer in the Fall.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.
1 Peter 5:10

Information provided by survivors.

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