

Downing, George L. d. 9-14-1999

GEORGE LAWRENCE DOWNING

State Center

George Lawrence Downing, 98, of State Center died of a heart ailment on Tuesday at State Center Manor. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. today at Fredregill Funeral Home in Collins. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery there.

Mr. Downing was born in Collins and had lived in several Western and Southern states before returning to Collins a few years ago. He moved to State Center in June. He was a retired cowboy, an Army veteran of World War II and a member of Collins American Legion.

Nieces and nephews survive.

Des Moines

Register

9-17-1999

Jan. 8, 1901, to Sept. 14, 1999

George L. Downing, 98, of Collins, died of congestive heart failure on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at the State Center Manor.

He was born Jan. 8, 1901, on a farm southeast of Collins to Ellsworth and Laura (Brown) Downing. He attended Willow Creek Country School and at the age of 18 he left Collins and worked on farms and ranches in many western states. When he was alone herding cattle or sheep, he enjoyed writing poetry. He enjoyed training horses and rode with Miller Rodeo in the 1930s, including performing at Carr's Farm east of Collins. During World War II he was in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Collins

American Legion and liked to attend their Sunday morning breakfasts. After he retired, he wintered in Yuma, Ariz., but returned to Battle Mountain, Nev., during the summers. He returned to Collins and wintered in Texas for a few years. In June of 1999, he moved to the State Center Manor.

Survivors include many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Kenneth Downing; and four sisters, Crescy Ball, Ethel Davis, Ica Luing and Esther Jacobson.

Funeral services were held Friday, Sept. 17, at Fredregill Funeral Home in Collins. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery, Collins.

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