



George Leland "Lee" Straley Jr.

February 26, 1935 - March 14, 2021

George Leland "Lee" Straley, Jr. passed into eternal life on March 14, 2021. Please take a moment to share a kind thought or memory with Lee's family at www.andersonbethany.com.

Lee was born on February 26, 1935, to Katie Mae Patrick and George Leland Straley, Sr. Lee grew up on the family ranch in Ancho, New Mexico where he went to school thru 8th grade. Lee went to high school in Carrizozo, New Mexico where he met the love of his life, Dorothy Moore. They dated through high school and married on September 19, 1954.

Lee served in the army and was fortunate to be stationed close to home at the Stallion Sight New Mexico military base. After his service in the army, Lee returned to help run the family ranch with his father George and Uncle, Charles Sprugeon "Todgie" Straley. Lee was always searching for the newest methods and practices for running the ranch and was involved with the Soil Conservation Service, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, American Simmental Association, and the Quarter Horse Association. Even serving on several boards for these organizations.

Lee and Dorothy raised three children; LeAnne, G.L., and Phil on the ranch. Being so far from the nearest school meant that the family did many things together. As a result, Lee was an active supporter for the Future Farmers of

America (FFA), Rainbow for Girls, and attended all the sporting events and activities for all of his children. Lee was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rites.

Lee was elected as a Lincoln County Commissioner in 1974 and served through 1977. He was a director for the Carrizozo branch of Citizens State Bank, a BSI bank. And later, became a loan officer and bank manager for the Estancia branch. He also worked as a loan officer for The Production Credit Association of New Mexico in their Albuquerque office.

Lee and Dorothy were founding members of the Ancho Community United Presbyterian church. They were both very active in the church having served at the local, Presbytery, Synod and National level. They were very devout in their faith and shared that with those they were around. Lee was an active member of the Roswell Westminster Presbyterian church at his death. Lee and Dorothy liked to dance. Particularly square dance. They would travel all around the state and even went to Aruba with a group to dance. They were active members of the Enchanted Square dance club in Roswell and served as officers of the New Mexico State Square Dance Association for many years.

Lee was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy, his parents George and Katie Mae, his brother Harry, and his granddaughter Katharine.

He is survived by his children; LeAnne Byrd and her husband David; G.L. Straley and his wife Brenda; and son Phil Straley. His grandchildren; Misty Straley, George Straley, Kristin House, Kent Straley, Dwight Byrd, Kylan Straley, McKenzie Straley, and Matthew Straley. His great grandchildren: Dylan Straley, Caden Straley, Brooklynn Straley, Karson Straley, Eleanor House, Mason Straley, Annabelle House, John Byrd, and Brie Byrd.

The family would like to thank the staff at Avamere of Roswell for the love and care they provided Lee during the past three years. A private family memorial service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations can be made to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2801 West 4th, Street Roswell, New Mexico 88201.

George's tribute was written in his honor by his family.

Tribute Wall



“ George Leland "Lee" Straley Jr.

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ I was part of a Presbyterian youth group from Akron, Ohio, that visited Ancho and Nogal, NM in about 1967. I was lucky to be assigned to Lee and Dorothy's home, where they made me feel welcome. As we worked on the church over the next few days, Lee was there patiently supervising and helping us. It was a great experience and I still remember them warmly after all these years.

Cecily Hessin Beard - November 15, 2022 at 10:36 AM



“ Lee was so good to me, he was my boss in Estancia in the early 80's. I have dreamed of Lee several times and in every dream I am back at work with him.

Such a beautiful man inside and out, always caring. God bless this family.

Marilyn Moore



Ruth Acosta - September 29, 2021 at 08:16 PM

LC

“ Lee and Dorothy were among our most treasured memories in Ancho, NM. Lee was always a welcome sight on many a Saturday morning as he shared stories and offered advice and wisdom. Our friendship endured after we moved several times, but we always felt a special connection to the Straleys. Our hearts ache in sadness, but we know Lee and Dorothy are happy to be together again!



Linda and Gary Caldwell - March 26, 2021 at 04:03 AM

BT

“ I always remember he and Dorothy were always so giving and caring. I agree he had a great smile and always so welcoming. Best to all family !



Becky (Barham) Torres - March 18, 2021 at 11:27 PM

NM

“ When I started back square dancing a few years ago. Lee and Dorothy were there. When I told Lee it had been a long time since I had square danced he told me I would remember. He asked me to dance one of the more advanced ones after just a few lessons and I was very hesitant. He wouldn't take no for an answer. He told me I would do fine theyd pull me around and they did! I loved to watch him and Dorothy dance. My prayers and thoughts are with his family.

Nancy Murray - March 18, 2021 at 11:25 PM

SB

“ *LeAnne, David, G.L., Brenda, Phil and family,*

No words can express our feelings for Lee.

Always a smile on his face and a hug for everyone. He will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

God Bless each of you and your memories will ease your pain.

In much prayer and friendship

Love, Sharon & Billy Bird

Jeanette Smoot and

Minette and Preston Harper

Sharon & Bill Bird - March 18, 2021 at 09:29 PM