

Pierre Daries

A graveside service was held for Pierre Daries at 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 7, in Bishop. He died June 3 after a brief illness.

Mr. Daries was 92, and had been active up until a few weeks before his death.

Pierre Daries leaves his wife Margaret, son, Duncan, of Riverside, and son, Stanton of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The Daries family homesteaded 2200 acres of land in Castaic Canyon in 1886. The old Pine Tree Ranch, as it was known, is now under the waters of Castaic Lake.

Old-timers will remember Pierre (Pete) Daries as the fire chief of Newhall in the early days. Mr. Daries started work with the Department of Forestry as the Fire Warden in 1923. He and one man, with an old Model T Ford, were stationed in a small building below the William S. Hart mansion.

In the summer of 1924, Daries was put in charge of six men who worked only during the fire season. That September, he experienced his first major fire — one which started in the San Gabriel Canyon and went over the mountains to Little Rock.

Come March 1928 and the San Francisquito Dam disaster; Daries and his crew were the first to arrive. They put in many days of gruesome work — many of the victims were people he knew on a first name basis.

The chief and his men responded to a derailment and hold-up of the Southern Pacific Owl passenger train by western desperado, Roy Gardner. They brought the injured engineer to the hospital. Early the next morning, Daries and one of his men picked

up the trail of the train robber and tracked him to Saugus.

Daries also attended the airplane wreck of Martin Johnson, renowned world traveler. Johnson and some of his entourage perished in a plane crash in the mountains between Placerita Canyon and Sylmar.

In 1952, Daries and his wife, Margaret — she was a fire dispatcher — retired from the fire department and moved to Bishop.

Arthur Tollan

Services were held for Arthur Tollan Friday at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church, Newhall.

Mr. Tollan, a Valencia resident, died Tuesday after a long illness. He was 62.

Born in Scotland May 23, 1926, he worked as a bookbinder at UCLA and was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Tollan is survived by his wife, Eleanor, of Valencia, three daughters, Angela Navarro, of Reseda; Sandra Audette of Mojave; and Jennifer Tollan of Valencia; and four grandchildren.

Father Ken McCabe officiated at the service.

Interment will be at San Fernando Mission cemetery.

John Paul Sheeler

John Paul Sheeler of Castaic died Wednesday after a brief illness. He was 85 years old.

Mr. Sheeler was born April 24, 1903 in Oklahoma. He retired from Arco as an oil field worker.

Services will be held at 10 a.m., tomorrow (Monday) at Chapel of the Oaks, with Pastor Charles Edwards and Pastor Thomas Price officiating.

Interment will be at Eternal Valley Memorial Park.

Mr. Sheeler is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two daughters, Colleen Dean of Castaic and Belva Dickeson of Tujunga; two sons,

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