

ORRIN DAVID OLDS
(1896-1969)

Orrin David Olds was born in Bishop, CA in 1896. He grew up and worked around the Owens Valley area for his first 26 years. Orrin and his cousin Cecil Thornten decided they wanted to go to South America. Orrin and Cecil got as far as New Orleans, but Orrin had to have appendix surgery which took all his money so they had to return home. He then went to work for Frank Cornett to move his cattle from Long Valley over the mountains to Merced Falls. It was quite a drive for a man who still had drains in his side, but he was tough and could stand a lot of pain. Frank Cornett also had cattle on the Nash Ranch at Woody, CA. Orrin was sent from Merced Falls to Woody to watch over the stock. It was during the hoof and mouth disease scare.

Orrin met Pearl Seeley at the home of Bob and Nora Newman, who ran the Woody Store at that time. That was the winter of 1924 and they were married six months later on July 16, 1924 and went to Merced Falls to live at the cow camp. Frank Cornett decided to sell his cattle after two months so they came back to Woody. Orrin wanted to go home for Christmas so they went to Bishop on the train. They stayed there for four months, then came back to Kern County. Orrin went to work for the Jeff Carver Ranch in Glennville in 1925 and stayed there two years. Then they went to Los Angeles and worked for Merchant Packing Co. for about a year, then back to Kern County. He went to work for the County Roads Dept. in 1930 and stayed there for thirteen years. (They used their own personal vehicle to haul the road crew around as that was the way things were back then) It was when Orrin was working for the County that he lost his finger.

In 1943, Orrin left the County and they moved to Porterville, CA. for a year or more where they did custom hay baling, odd jobs, and owned some dairy cows. Orrin then went to work for Associated Oil Co. for about a year, during which time they moved back to Glennville. He quit Associated and went to work for the Carver-Bowen Ranch (used to be Jeff Carver Ranch) where he stayed for 24 years. (He loved the Bowen Ranch as if it was his own) He retired at age 68 but continued working part-time for the Carver-Bowen Ranch and also Blue Mountain Dozers until his death in 1969 at age 75 years.

During the years Orrin and Pearl had five children.

Jack Dale Olds	- Born	June 14, 1925
	- Died	October 29, 1948
Virginia Ann Olds (Hill)	- Born	May 21, 1930
Wanda Dee Olds (Malone)	- Born	March 29, 1933
David Charles Olds	- Born	September 14, 1940
Kathleen Rene' Olds (Mettler)	- Born	October 6, 1948

Orrin was a quiet, intelligent man who spoke few words but when he spoke you listened. He had no real hobbies except work. He was the first to volunteer to help any neighbor or to do any job, be it clean or dirty.

Orrin wasn't afraid of anything and had a high tolerance to pain. Whenever he got hurt or was in pain he would work the "kinks" out at the woodpile.

Orrin had a wonderful way with animals -- THEY LOVED HIM.

Biting dogs wouldn't bite him.

Scratching cats wouldn't scratch him.

Bucking horses usually wouldn't buck with him.

Orrin loved to dance and he loved to party.

He was a man loved by everyone (even enemies of each other).

HE WAS ONE OF A KIND!