

HUGOTON – Ernest “Ernie” Gentry Norton, 68, died Monday, Jan. 25, 2010, at his home in Canton, Okla.

He was born Aug. 12, 1941, to William Sr. and Julia (Gentry) Norton in Fillmore, Calif.

He married Teresa Klaus Feb. 23, 1962, in Ulysses. She died Sept. 16, 1975.

He served in the U.S. Army. He was owner and operator of the Jet Cafe in Hugoton for several years. He cooked at the Feather Warrior Casino in Canton.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and racing horses.

Survivors include his companion, Shirley Rigsby, Canton; three sons, Brian Norton and wife, Melisa, Hugoton, Jeff Norton and wife, Marnie, Liberal, and Justin Norton, Wagner, Okla.; one daughter, Wanda Zaleski, Gaylord, Mich.; two brothers, Omar Norton and wife, Betty, Moscow, and Leonard Norton and wife, Bernice, Moscow; and eight grandchildren, Steven Norton, Kyle Norton, John Zaleski, Blaine Zaleski, Caleb Norton, Jaden Norton, Mariah Ramsey and Miranda Ramsey; and other relatives and friends.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, James Norton, Linzy Norton and William Norton Jr.; one stepbrother, Mimo Mitchell; and three sisters, Venita West, Louise Smith and Doyle Bell.

o Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the First Christian Church of Hugoton with Minister Randy Nash presiding.

Military graveside services will be conducted by the Vets Group of Hugoton and the Fort Riley Honor Guard with burial at the Hugoton Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the family and may be mailed to Paul's Funeral Home, Box 236, Hugoton, KS 67951.