Ralph A. Taylor

Ralph A. Taylor was born at Overton, Nebraska, December 15, 1918, the son of John and Daisy Losee Taylor, one of thirteen children. The Taylor family moved to Broadwater in 1930 where he graduated from high school.

Ralph and his twin brother, Ray, enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in February 1939. They were stationed in the Philippines where they were prison guards at #48 Naval Prison, Cavité, at the time the Navy Yard was bombed on December 10, 1941, after which he went to Corregidor. Ralph was assigned to beach defense on Ft. Hughes, an island in Manila Bay and was captured by the Japanese, May 15, 1942.

The next three years, five months he spent in Prison Camp #1 and ¡C3 at Cabanatuan in the Philippines and Camp # 17 Fukuoka, Japan, where he worked in a coal mine under the bay for two years.

Ralph was liberated, September 1945 and received his discharge as a Platoon Sergeant, February 19, 1946.

Ralph and his twin brother, Ray, were separated in October 1943 when Ralph went to Japan.

Tragically Ray died of beriberi in Formosa enroute to Japan, January 1945.

In 1946 Ralph married Marjorie Jensen of Bridgeport, Nebraska. He worked as a civilian guard at the Black Hills Ordnance Depot, Provo, South Dakota, until 1948, when he moved his family to a farm near Broadwater where he was engaged in farming and ranching until the time of his death. In 1970, he went to work at the post office ¡n Broadwater as a part-time Postal Clerk, retiring in 1989.

Ralph was 73, living in Broadwater, Nebraska, when he died unexpectedly from pneumonia July 21,1992 at Regional West Medical Center, Scottsblul'f, Nebraska. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, two sons, Ray and Steve, a daughter, Kathy and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers. Internment was at Rose Hill Cemetery with military honors by American Legion Post #312, Broadwater.

Ralph loved God, his family, his country, the Marine Corps and people in general. He was a good man who left a host of happy memories.