

**EDWIN JAMES
TELLING**

**June 13, 1923
February 27, 2011**

Edwin James Telling, 87, of Port Townsend passed away peacefully at home, as he wished, on February 27, 2011, surrounded by his children.

He was born on June 13, 1923, to Charles Robert and Edith (Bath) Telling in Butte, Montana.

After losing his father at age 6 and mother at age 8, he moved to Discovery Bay to live with his aunt Jane and cousin Fred Stewart in 1932.

Ed graduated from Discovery Bay School in 1939 and Port Townsend High School in 1943. During his senior year of high school, he drove a school bus from Gardiner to Port Townsend. Charlie Olin says he was "the best driver ever."

He worked with his cousin Fred in Fred's chicken/egg business. They sold eggs to locals and the military who were stationed in the area at the time. He also cut hay with a hand scythe for a



Mr. Telling

dollar a day and meals on local farms.

Mr. Telling went into the U.S. Army right after graduating from high school in 1943. He was stationed with the 236th Combat Engineers in Burma during the construction of the 1,079-mile Stilwell Road, which was the first overland road between India and China. He left the Army at the end of World War II.

After returning from World War II, he lived in the Lake Leland area until moving to Port Townsend in 1974, and resided there

until the time of his passing.

He worked as a security guard at Indian Island, guarding the flat-top carriers that had returned after the war. He also worked at Moe's Sawmill and rafted logs for Stim Brown Mill at Discovery Bay.

Ed was a heavy equipment operator for the state Highway Department out of Discovery Bay for over 25 years, until his retirement in 1980. He spent many cold nights plowing snow and sanding roads, taking great pride in keeping the roads safe.

Mr. Telling married Florella Gillam on August 3, 1947, in Quilcene. She preceded him in death on May 8, 2006.

He enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting, playing cards, bingo, cooking and making raspberry wine. He really enjoyed his trips to the local cafes, especially to Bayview in Port Townsend, for "coffee and the latest scuttlebutt."

Mr. Telling was a member of the Port Townsend Elks Lodge since 1963, the Sequim Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Federation of

State, County and Municipal Employees.

Dad had an unconditional love of his family. Family gatherings during holidays were very special to him.

We were blessed to have him at this last Christmas gathering. We have many fond memories of him and will miss him.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Florella; infant son, Robert William, in 1958; brother, Fred Telling, in 1987; and sister, Marie Butler, in 1983.

Ed is survived by sons Charles E. Telling and Terry Telling and wife, Cleone; daughter, Cathy M. Turner; six grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held on Sunday, March 13, 2011, at the Port Townsend Elks Lodge, 555 Otto Street, at 1 p.m., with Pastor Wendell Ankeny officiating.

A potluck will be held after the services at the Elks Club. Friends and family are invited to join.

Memorial donations in Mr. Telling's memory may be sent to a charity of your choice.