



Eldora & Bob Minto..1994

June 7, 1997

BOB & ELDORA MINTO

In 1867 Bob's grandfather settled in Surprise Valley on land still owned by the Minto family. Bob's grandfather homesteaded 160 acres of grazing land in Fandango Valley, Modoc County.

Bob was born in Eagleville, Modoc County, October 7, the oldest of five brothers and one sister...he was babysitting at five years old.

He had his first horse when he was two years old. He made friends with this horse (that bucked everyone else off) by taking him brown sugar. At five he was riding around inside the barn (no bridle..no saddle) when the horse decided to venture out into the corral, his mother was quite surprised when she saw him.

In this area everyone had their own horse AND they were for working, so when Bob met Eldora and she wanted to go horseback riding he thought that was the "silliest thing he had ever heard"..horses were for work not pleasure. Bob remembered his early days when Eagleville hosted the County Fair. They would bring in a load of sand, lace it with coins for the kids to scramble through, that might have been the beginning of what we now call Child Care.

Bob's first car was a 1937 Ford (some of you might relate to that).

Eldora's folks moved to Rio Linda, Sacramento Co., on a land grant 1915-16. Eldora was born in Rio Linda August 24, the youngest of six children... in her own words "I was spoiled". She went to school in Sacramento. Grant Union High School, Sacramento J.C. and then to Chico State. She was active in the music department, with music her minor. She was president of the Student Christian Association and enjoyed all forms of sports. She played field hockey with Jean and Jane Wageman and Marguerite Wheelock Crenshaw.

When she graduated from Chico State Eldora got a job teaching in a little school in Eagleville, where she met Bob.

Bob and Eldora were married in Eagleville July 23, 1944 and took their honeymoon on horseback. About a year or so after marriage they bought a 280 acre ranch and 10 years later decided they were working for Standard Oil and Bank of America.



When they left the ranch they went to work for a "gold-plated school" in Shasta Co. at Bush Bar. She was the teacher and he the Janitor. The school board was happy to hire them for they brought three more children into the school and made enough ADA to hold school. Eldora taught all eight grades, a total of nine students. When the trustees did a white-glove treatment around school Bob decided there had to be something better, so at 40 he began his higher education at Shasta J.C. In his spare time he drove the school bus for the high school and the Junior College. He said the high schoolers were pretty rowdy and after he had driven a while the high school principal called him into the office. The principal asked him what he had been doing on that bus...Bob was concerned and nervous.. the principal said since he had started driving everyone on the bus had raised their grades.

Bob moved from Shasta J.C. to Chico State and then received his degree in agriculture from Davis. He did his student teaching at Hamilton City, during the year his teacher had a heart attack and Bob finished the year doing the main teaching. Bob taught agriculture one semester at Shasta College and 13 years at Durham High.

Eldora taught a total of 26 years, with 16 of those in the Chico schools.

Bob and Eldora have four sons David in Alaska, Ralph in Colusa, Don in Corning and Jim in Durham, and eight grandchildren.

They have a 52 acre tree farm at Round Mountain, when the BIG forest fire in 1992 burned their home there and all their possessions they had to start over. Pictures show the fire damage and their return.

They have been working on the Minto History and Geneology for 10 years and the book will soon be ready to go to press.

Bob and Eldora joined the Durham Good Sams in 1977, one year Eldora was the treasurer and they have served as trail boss several times including a trip 10 years ago into Modoc Country such as this one we are enjoying.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**



**Eldora and Robert Minto**



**The Mintos married July 23, 1944 in Eagleville.**

## **Minto**

DURHAM — Robert and Eldora Minto marked their 60th wedding anniversary July 24 with a celebration hosted by their four sons' families and cousins from Oregon. It was held at Durham Grange Hall, where more than 150 relatives and friends gathered.

Both were school teachers and mementos chronicling their years of teaching were displayed at the celebration.

The couple married July 23, 1944, in the Eagleville Church in Eagleville. He did his student teaching in Hamilton City and taught at Princeton High School before finishing his first year of teaching at Shasta College. He retired after 12 years of instructing in agriculture and science shop at Durham High School.

She taught elementary school in Eagleville, Cedarville in Modoc County, Bush Bar and Montgomery Creek in Shasta County, Robla in Sacramento County and retired from teaching in Chico schools.

They have lived in Durham since 1965 and also spend time at their property in Round Mountain.

Their children are David Minto of Fairbanks, Alaska; Don and Lea Minto of Corning, Jim and Angel Minto of Durham, and Ralph and Sherry Minto of Stonyford.

They have eight grandchildren.