

# **Bud Wilson Memorial**

## **SQUARE DANCE with LIVE MUSIC**

*by Red Rag Andy Band*

**Saturday, August 28th, 7:30 – 10:00 pm, Wilsonia Clubhouse**

Admission \$10 per adult, \$5 children; pay at the door

This event is open to Wilsonia residents and guests, but is subject to sufficient participation. Please sign up in advance, before August 16th.

**\*\*Please RSVP – your reply is needed for the event to take place\*\***

**RSVP by email** to Bud's daughter Margy: **margarethyun@yahoo.com**  
**or by phone** to Bud's son John: **(559) 732-4292**

Please leave your name, number of adults and children in your party, and your contact info should we need to cancel the event.

*additional information available - wilsoniatimes@msn.com*

Bud Wilson passed away on July 4 at age 91. He had a long history in Wilsonia from the 1920s to present. His parents, Dick and Velma Wilson, operated a grocery store in the octagonal building, which stood on the site of the present day Wilsonia Clubhouse. That structure burned, and Bud's father opened a riding stable in Wilsonia. In those days, the stock was herded (not driven in trucks!) from Hanford to the hills. As a teenager, Bud did not enjoy the experience, due to the likelihood that women along the way would run out to complain of dust kicked up on their clotheslines. Before that, as children, Bud and his sister, Dorothy "Dottie" Jamison, were Wilsonia newspaper delivery kids.

Three generations of Wilsons grew up in Kings Canyon National Park, as Bud continued to operate the Grant Grove Riding Stables until the 1990s, as well as the Wilson Pack Station in Cedar Grove until 1955. As the family grew, Bud and his wife Ferne returned to their roots, purchasing two cabins in Wilsonia, where their children, John, Susanne, and Margaret, had enjoyed weekly Saturday night square dances and campfire entertainment, as their parents and grandparents had from the 1920s through the 1960s.

Most of Bud and Ferne's great-grandparents are buried in the farming communities of the Central Valley. All were engaged in farming and ranching since the 1870s, some since the 1850s. All worked very hard to establish a new life in this new state. Those who were able made their way to the Sierras during the summer to escape the heat, to work, and to regenerate.