Joseph Henry Renville Sr.

CASPER - Memorial services for former Casper resident Joseph Henry Renville Sr., 83, will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 24, at the chapel of Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery.

He died March 17, 2004, at the Veterans Administration facility in Sheridan.

Born in December of 1920, in Trenton, N.D., he was the son of Henry and Mary Renville.

A veteran of WW II, he began his service in 1942, serving with the Air Corps as a military policeman.

In 1966, he married Joyce Stover of Memphis, Tenn., and they moved to Henderson, Ark., where he was a commander of a Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron. There he was awarded with the Certificate of Merit, the highest national award given by the American Red Cross, signed by President Richard Nixon and presented by the governor in a ceremony at the Arkansas state capitol in 1970.

He later returned to North Dakota and was a deputy commander of the state's wing of the Civil Air Patrol. For conspicuous heroic action above and beyond the call of duty, the Civil Air Patrol awarded him the Bronze Medal of Valor. He also worked for several years with the United Tribes Education Center and North Dakota State University, assisting with Native American issues across the state and South Dakota.

He was a member of the American Legion, Moose, Eagles, Elks and a life member of DAVs. He was active as a Red Cross volunteer for 25 years, serving in Memphis and Casper. He was also a volunteer for the BLM in Quartzsite, Ariz., where he was a host and worker.

Survivors include his brother, Vic Renville of Trenton; two daughters, Mitzie Hotard and Dena Ayres, both of Casper; two step-sons, John Molyneux of Casper and Greg Stover of Medan, Tenn.; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, a brother, Lawrence Renville, and a son, Joseph Renville Jr.