

PARADISE

# Gentrys celebrate 70th anniversary

Don and Lorene Gentry celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary at an open house at their home at DIG Ranch in Paradise Sunday.

The couple met while attending Paradise High School in 1949 and wed at the Methodist Parsonage in Paradise July 29, 1951.

They have four children, Glenn, Donna, Gary, and Roger, who all live in Wise County; 12 grandchildren (one deceased); and 19 great-grandchildren (one deceased).

Donald Isaac Gentry was born and raised in Cottondale, having descended from great-grandparents who homesteaded in that area in 1866. Don was a charter member of the Paradise Young Farmers Association in 1964 and received awards as Outstanding Young Farmer from Texas Area V for diversified farming consisting of cattle beef operations, row crops and hay crops in 1965 and 1966. He was named a Texas Outstanding Young Farmer in 1965. He has been active in the Wise County Soil Conservation Committee since 1958 and helped found the Cottondale Community Improve-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
DON AND LORENE GENTRY

ment Committee in 1965. Don has been a farmer/rancher most all his life and still operates DIG Ranch in Cottondale and has received various Top Hay Show Awards. He has also operated various businesses in Wise County, including Boyd Feed Store, which has been in operation since 1971.

Don and Lorene are also charter members of the First Baptist Church of Cottondale, organized in 1955, where Don

still serves as a deacon.

Lorene was born in Agnes in Parker County, but lived primarily in Wise County during her childhood. She is descended from great-great-grandparents who settled in Texas prior to 1845. Lorene was active in the Paradise Young Homemakers chapter, PTA, a 4-H leader, and supported her husband in his various Young Farmer and Soil Conservation endeavors as well as participating

in the various family farming operations.

She was active in several of the family-owned businesses, but most notably, D&D Grocery in Boyd. She has always been well-known for her home-cooked meals and baked goods. There was always a place at their dinner table for neighbors, hired hands and friends.

The couple has been a farming family since their marriage and has supported local com-

munity, church and schools throughout their lives in Wise County.

They traveled extensively in earlier years, attending farm and ranching conventions and international farm tours learning about various farming methods all over the world. They currently live a quiet and semi-retired lifestyle in their home four miles west of Cottondale.