

Obit. Baker, John Earl
Aug. 23, 1880 -

Earl Baker
**Ex-Resident
Of Eagle Dies**

EAGLE — A prominent former Eagle man died over the weekend at his home in Mill Valley, Calif., where he retired about five years ago.

He was John Earl Baker, 76. The son of Francis and Lydia Baker, the deceased was born Aug. 23, 1880 in Eagle. Baker died Saturday and his body will be shipped here.

Baker, a native of Wisconsin, first went to China in 1916 as an economist.

In the 1920s he became director of American Red Cross work in China and for 34 years he was a key figure in almost every American relief project in China.

HE LATER was appointed by former President Harry Truman as chief American member of the joint rural reconstruction commission, which sought to develop rural irrigation and flood control in southwest China.

Baker left the JRRRC shortly after the Reds took over the entire Chinese mainland, forcing the commission to withdraw to Formosa.

Survivors are his wife, Wilkie Katherine; one son, John Earl Jr., Sebastopol, Calif.; two daughters, Mrs. Howard Ross, Silver Springs, Maryland, and Mrs. Barbara, Louden, Center Square, Penn.

ALSO SURVIVING are three sisters, Mrs. Lena Hulce, Whitewater; Miss Alice Baker and Mrs. Harold Pardee, both of Eagle; three grandsons and two granddaughters.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the Eagle Methodist church with the Rev. Robert Kuhn officiating. Burial will be at the Little Prairie cemetery.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. tomorrow at the Mealy funeral home in Eagle, and on Wednesday at the church from noon until time of serv-