

Robert “Dakota Slim” Natchke

Robert Arthur Natchke, 90, died March 30, 2013 at Weston County Health Services in Newcastle, Wyoming. He was born February 4, 1923 in Bloomfield, Nebraska to Alfred and Emma (Rabe) Natchke.

Robert traveled the country extensively as a youngster, until serving in the United States Navy - Seabees from 1944 to 1946 in the Pacific. He raised hogs on Dunn Island on the Missouri River and farmed in Potter County, South Dakota. He met Marlene Millar at the Medicine Rock and they were married November 12, 1954 in Benson, Minnesota, returning to farm in Potter County until 1959. The family moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, and then to Sturgis in 1961, and in 1994, they moved to Newcastle, Wyoming.

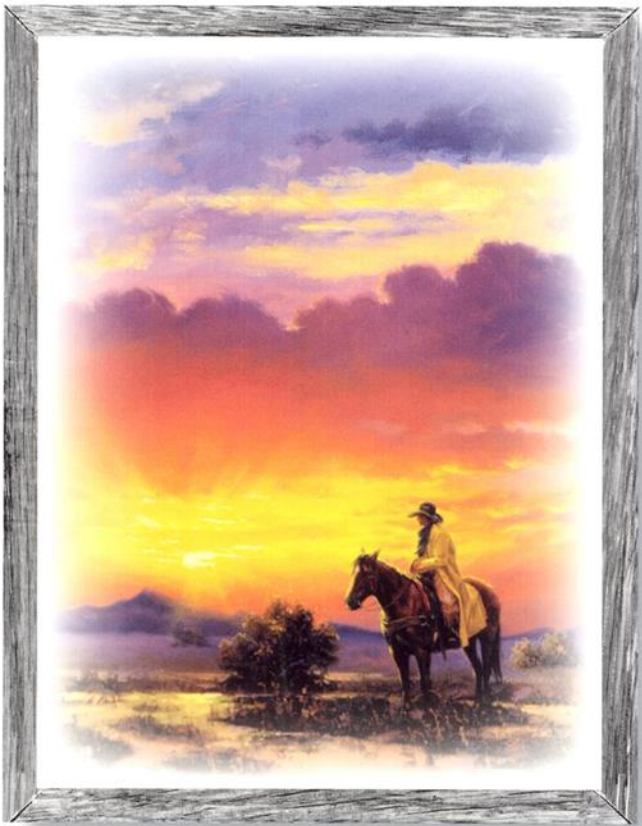
After studying and appreciating precious truths from the bible, he became one of Jehovah’s Witnesses in 1996. He valued the hope of the ransom sacrifice that was made available to all meek ones. That moved him to share those truths with his family and many others.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Marlene; seven children, Joy Manning, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Vonnie and Lon Bachand, Aurora, Colorado; David and Donna, Sturgis, South Dakota; Paul and Kathy, Sturgis, South Dakota; Mark and Amy, Newcastle, Wyoming; Neil and Lori, Denver, Colorado; and Ellis, Newcastle, Wyoming. He has six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Slim was preceded in death by one infant daughter, Jeanne Marie; two grandsons: Joshua David and Robert Joseph; and one granddaughter, Riley Elizabeth; his parents, four sisters, two brothers, and one son-in-law, John Manning.

A man of many talents, Robert was a trapper, a mechanic, a carpenter, a farm hand, and an electrician. After retiring, he began writing cowboy poetry as “Dakota Slim,” often reciting with nationally-known cowboy poets. He wrote four books, with a fifth in production. Upon moving to Newcastle in 1994, he started metal detecting and walked his “penny route” daily, picking up trash along the way as his volunteer work to beautify Newcastle. His best days came when he found coins and other treasures, instead of getting “skunked.”

Slim, as he was affectionately called in later years, entered Weston County Health Services in January 2013 to join his wife.



Robert “Dakota Slim” Natchke

Robert Arthur Natchke, 90, died March 30, 2013 at Weston County Health Services in Newcastle, Wyoming. He was born February 4, 1923 in Bloomfield, Nebraska to Alfred and Emma (Rabe) Natchke.

Robert traveled the country extensively as a youngster, until serving in the United States Navy - Seabees from 1944 to 1946 in the Pacific. He raised hogs on Dunn Island on the Missouri River and farmed in Potter County, South Dakota. He met Marlene Millar at the Medicine Rock and they were married November 12, 1954 in Benson, Minnesota, returning to farm in Potter County until 1959. The family moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, and then to Sturgis in 1961, and in 1994, they moved to Newcastle, Wyoming.

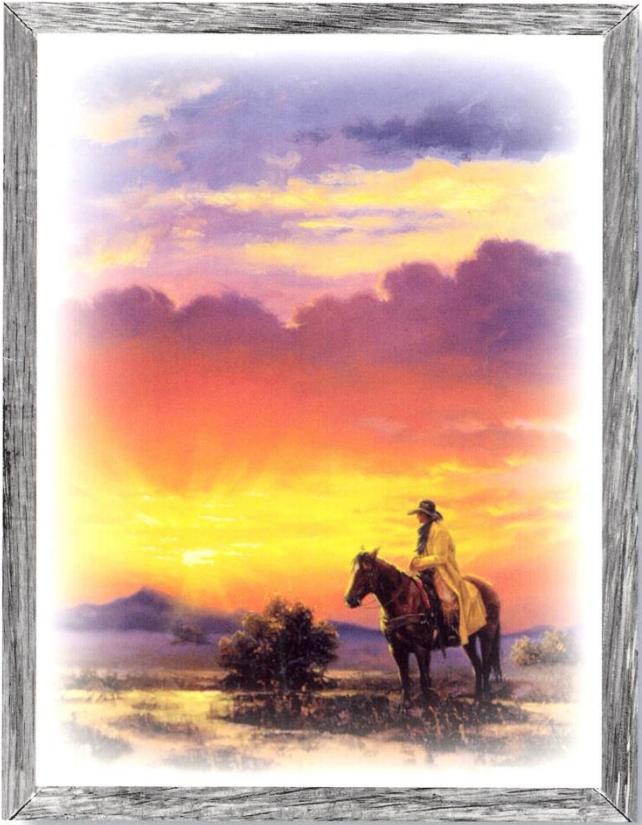
After studying and appreciating precious truths from the bible, he became one of Jehovah’s Witnesses in 1996. He valued the hope of the ransom sacrifice that was made available to all meek ones. That moved him to share those truths with his family and many others.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Marlene; seven children, Joy Manning, Cheyenne, Wyoming; Vonnie and Lon Bachand, Aurora, Colorado; David and Donna, Sturgis, South Dakota; Paul and Kathy, Sturgis, South Dakota; Mark and Amy, Newcastle, Wyoming; Neil and Lori, Denver, Colorado; and Ellis, Newcastle, Wyoming. He has six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Slim was preceded in death by one infant daughter, Jeanne Marie; two grandsons: Joshua David and Robert Joseph; and one granddaughter, Riley Elizabeth; his parents, four sisters, two brothers, and one son-in-law, John Manning.

A man of many talents, Robert was a trapper, a mechanic, a carpenter, a farm hand, and an electrician. After retiring, he began writing cowboy poetry as “Dakota Slim,” often reciting with nationally-known cowboy poets. He wrote four books, with a fifth in production. Upon moving to Newcastle in 1994, he started metal detecting and walked his “penny route” daily, picking up trash along the way as his volunteer work to beautify Newcastle. His best days came when he found coins and other treasures, instead of getting “skunked.”

Slim, as he was affectionately called in later years, entered Weston County Health Services in January 2013 to join his wife.





Cheat Grass

I've been bucked off horses
And taken a lot of hard knocks
But nothing agitates me more
Than cheat grass in my socks.
Now I don't have very much
But I've got two things I don't need,
One's a note due at the bank
The other's socks full of cheat grass seed.
Now if I should pass away
And leave this earthly scene,
You can bury me 'neath the cheat grass sod
But be sure my socks are clean!

...Dakota Slim...

In Loving Memory Of

Robert Arthur Natchke
"Dakota Slim"

Born

February 4, 1923
Bloomfield, Nebraska

Died

March 30, 2013
Newcastle, Wyoming

Memorial Services

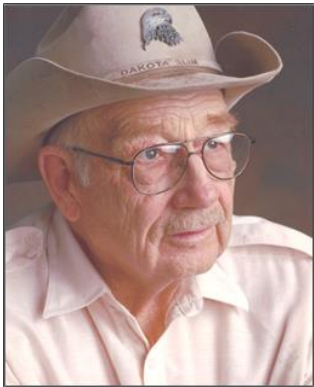
9:30 a.m. Monday April 1, 2013
Weston County Health Services

Officiating

Mr. Bruce Frye

Interment

Black Hills National Cemetery



Cheat Grass

I've been bucked off horses
And taken a lot of hard knocks
But nothing agitates me more
Than cheat grass in my socks.
Now I don't have very much
But I've got two things I don't need,
One's a note due at the bank
The other's socks full of cheat grass seed.
Now if I should pass away
And leave this earthly scene,
You can bury me 'neath the cheat grass sod
But be sure my socks are clean!

...Dakota Slim...

In Loving Memory Of

Robert Arthur Natchke
"Dakota Slim"

Born

February 4, 1923
Bloomfield, Nebraska

Died

March 30, 2013
Newcastle, Wyoming

Memorial Services

9:30 a.m. Monday April 1, 2013
Weston County Health Services

Officiating

Mr. Bruce Frye

Interment

Black Hills National Cemetery