



Raymond Laverne Hanzlik

Raymond Laverne Hanzlik was born January 14, 1929, in Sturgis, SD, the second of 5 children, to Charles and Marilla (Shuck) Hanzlik. As a young child, the family lived for a time in Idaho, moving back to Meade County in 1938. They lived in Sturgis where he attended school until their family moved to Sulphur Creek, not far from his grandparents, where he attended Squaw Butte School through the 8th grade. He married Frances A. Moelter on June 3, 1952, at Opal, SD. Together, they raised sheep and cattle and ranched on Sulphur Creek until they moved to Sturgis in 2009 due to health reasons.

Ray was a true "Cowboy" at heart. He loved his horses and cattle, and was an accomplished horseman. He was a cowboy poet and attended many functions all over the country. Ray enjoyed leather crafting and was a wonderful father and grandfather.

Ray, 86, Sturgis, died Sunday, January 10, 2016, at Sturgis Regional Hospital.

Ray is survived by his wife, Frances Hanzlik, Sturgis; four sons, Robert (Maureen) Hanzlik, Mud Butte, Tater Hanzlik, Gillette, WY, Norman (Theresa) Hanzlik, Union Center, and Maurice (Shirley) Hanzlik, Winnemucca, NV; two daughters, Christi (Dennis) Gregersen, Gillette, WY, and Janette Collins, Gillette, WY; 12 grandchildren, Heath, Clinton, and Lindsay Hanzlik, Dana Sparks, Trinity Neno, Heidie Jasiak, Todd Hanzlik, Michael Hanzlik, Brittney Hanzlik, Niesha Hanzlik, Cindy Collins, and Colleen Collins; and 17 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; an infant brother, Darwin; brothers, Eugene "Gene," Orville "Orrie," and Wayne; one sister, LaVonne Remington; one son, Frank Hanzlik; and one granddaughter, Charity Collins.

Memorials have been established to the Enning Fire Department, Rural Meade Ambulance Service, and the Fairpoint Cemetery Board.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*The family would like to invite you to join them for fellowship and lunch following committal at the Central Meade County Community Center.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

In Loving Memory Of



Raymond Laverne Hanzlik

1929 ~ 2016

The Sound Of Rain

God gave most of us two ears
To appreciate the sound
Of the pretty things in life
As the world turns around.

The soft tone of a mother
When you first begin to hear.
Or a sharp crack of thunder
That will fill your heart with fear.

But there's a sound to cowboys
That to some you can't explain
It's to be ridin' horseback
In a slicker in the rain.

You can hear the sounds of birds
As they sit atop the trees,
Or the scream of an eagle
As it circles down the breeze.

Hear Hudson River tugboats
As they bellow in the fog,
The crash of falling timber
As a tree becomes a log.

But there's a sound more pleasant
Than a mockingbird's refrain.
That's sittin' in a saddle
In a slicker in the rain.

A cowboy counts on rainfall
It's what makes the green things grow,
So that he can put up hay
To feed the cattle in the snow.

You can hear a mama cow
When she's callin' to her calf.
The magic sound of children
As they run and play and laugh.

But hear the chime of church bells
Or the whistle of a train,
Ain't close to sittin' horseback
In a slicker in the rain.

Hear a banjo and a fiddle
And sounds of a steel guitar,
The blend of brass band music
That your ears will never scar.

You hear a cowboy yodel
Though he may not sing a word
Or hear the Vienna Choir
Is enjoyment most assured.

But there's one thing you should hear
That helps keep a cowboy sane.
It's ridin' in the country
In a slicker in the rain.

By Ray Hanzlik

In Loving Memory Of Raymond Laverne Hanzlik

Born

January 14, 1929
Sturgis, South Dakota

Died

January 10, 2016
Sturgis, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.
Central Meade County Community Center
Union Center, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Harold Delbridge

Musician

Danny Chapman

Special Music

"How Great Thou Art" ~ "The Old Rugged Cross"
"Let's Meet By The River" ~ "Daddy's Hands"
"God Must Be A Cowboy At Heart"

Pallbearers

Clint Hanzlik ~ Heath Hanzlik ~ Todd Hanzlik
Michael Hanzlik ~ Myron Weiss ~ Gary Remington

Honorary Pallbearers

Nephews and Neighbors

Interment

Fairpoint Cemetery
Fairpoint, South Dakota