

Clayton Nels Overland, 87, Whitewood, SD, rode over the great divide on September 16, 2020.

Clayton was born on December 10, 1932, to Ruth Viola (Phillips) and Freeman Dewey Overland in New Underwood, SD. The eldest son of eight children, they homesteaded in Red Owl, SD. Most material goods were limited, but life was rich in the little stone/sod house. Clayton worked on and off the place, going to school through his 8th grade year.

As a young man, he enlisted into the Army in Fort Carson, CO for two years: May of 1953 to May of 1955, and served in the Korean War. He received the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal. Following the war, he served in the Army Reserve until 1961.

He was married to June (Moreland) in November of 1957, and to this union three children were born: Carmen, Todd, and Dwight. They lived outside of Sturgis and later moved into Whitewood in 1963. Clayton and his brother, Wayne, owned the Mobil gas station in Whitewood, which still stands today. He worked in the logging industry for many years for Garhart & Pool Timber, and worked in his own saddle shop and horse shoeing for years. June and Clayton divorced in May of 1972. Clayton still resided in Whitewood, SD.

On May 19, 1973, Clayton married Mary Melitta (Taggart) Thompson in Spearfish, SD, adding two more children to the union (Rhonda and Ethan). They lived in Whitewood and owned their own business, Overland Building Supply, until selling out in October of 1996, and then ran Overland Trailer Sales. They moved to Crook City, SD in 1988, after a house fire at their home in Whitewood. Mary passed away on October 3, 2003.

Clayton always enjoyed rodeos. He rode broncs in his early years, loved riding and attending parades, Days of '76 always being a favorite, and riding in the Buckaroo, of which he was a lifetime member. He held many offices in the Whitewood Saddle Club, Roping Club, and 4H groups. He was Fire Chief of Whitewood and belonged to the Volunteer Fire Department for years. Clayton was Mayor of Whitewood and also served on the Chamber of Commerce. He was instrumental one year in helping cut and load the Christmas tree to the White House. He loved the holidays, big family dinners, playing cards, fishing, going on drives, and having coffee at the café with all the good ole boys. Mostly though, he just liked people, always willing to visit, give you a smile, and help anyone who needed it. He was so generous and kind and just enjoyed life. He loved a good joke or a good story to tell. Clayton also loved his animals, and had all types through the years, but his favorite was his horse, Rudy, whom he taught many tricks and was enjoyed by all.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ruth and Freeman Overland; his wife, Mary Melitta Overland; sisters, Doris Bastian and brother-in-law, Merle Bastian, and Shirley Drum and brother-in-law, Zearl Drum; brothers-in-law, Wallace Strong and Melvin Hauser, and stepson-in-law, David Martin.

Clayton is survived by his children, Carmen (Frank) Wurnig, Huntley MT, and their children Kaitlyn Mack and Matthew Wurnig; Todd (Dory) Overland, Whitewood, SD, and their children Casey, Hayden, Chance, and Tate Overland; and Dwight (Kathy) Overland, Athol, ID, and their children, Bridget Hannah and Kyle Overland; stepchildren, Rhonda Martin, Faith, SD, and her children, Jeremiah and Alyssa Martin and Melitta Bohnet; and Ethan (Lisa) Thompson, Boyertown, PA, and their children, Felicia Prichard, Alissa Reid, and Desirae Escott; brothers, Wayne (June) Overland and Jack (Kay) Overland; sisters, Barb (Richard) Isaacs, Norma Hauser, and Pearl Strong; special longtime friend of 70 years, Mary May Isaacs; and numerous great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends.

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

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Oak Park in Whitewood following the graveside service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Clayton Nels Overland

December 10, 1932 ~ September 16, 2020



Cowboy's Prayer

*O Lord, I've never lived where churches grow:
I've loved creation better as it stood
That day You finished it, so long ago
And looked upon Your work and called it good.*

*Just let me live my life as I've begun!
And give me work that's open to the sky:
Make me a partner of the wind and sun,
And I won't ask a life that's soft and high.*

*Make me as big and open as the plains;
As honest as the horse between my knees;
Clean as the wind that blows behind the rains;
Free as the hawk that circles down the breeze.*

*Just keep an eye on all that's done and said;
Just right me sometime when I turn aside;
And guide me on the long, dim trail ahead - -
That stretches upward towards the Great Divide.*

In Memory Of Clayton Nels Overland

Date of Birth

December 10, 1932
New Underwood, South Dakota

Date of Death

September 16, 2020
Fort Meade, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Monday, September 21, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Calvin Chapman

Musician

Jack Isaacs

Songs

"God Must Be A Cowboy"
"I Want To Stroll Over Heaven With You"
"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Pallbearers

Matthew Wurnig Kyle Overland Jeremiah Martin
Casey Overland Hayden Overland Chance Overland Tate Overland

Honorary Pallbearers

Wayne Overland Jack Overland Richard Isaacs Gale Bastian
Harold Isaacs Spud Lemmel Jimmy Wilson Joe Taggart Bob "Buck" Prunty

Military Honors

Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard

Final Resting Place

Whitewood Cemetery
Whitewood, South Dakota