



Raymond A. Johnson

Raymond A. Johnson was born August 24, 1923, on the family ranch near Deers Ears. He attended country school and at the age of 14 he went to work for area ranchers. He broke horses and punched cows until he enlisted in the US Army. He was awarded a purple heart, one silver and one bronze star. Upon his honorable discharge, he returned home to western South Dakota where he continued to cowboy. He worked ranches in North Dakota and also Montana.

He married Sue Hedrick at Sturgis on February 14, 1973.

Raymond bred, trained and raced quality horses for many years. He won the Central States Fair Futurity race both July 1980 and June 1981 with the same horse. He was also known for his ability to witch wells.

Raymond was a member of the VFW and the American Quarter Horse and American Paint Horse associations.

Raymond, 88, Newell, died Friday, September 30, 2011, at his home near Newell.

Survivors include his wife, Sue, Newell; sons, Randall and his wife, Patricia, Littleton, CO, Mike and his wife, Marlys, Lakewood, CO, and Dary and his wife, Cyndi, Terrel, TX; daughters, Rita and her husband, Don, Piedmont, Sherrill and her husband, Malcom, Centerville, OH, Barbara and her husband, Deek, Custer, SD, Raylene and her husband, Mike, Sturgis, Cathy and her husband, Ray, Auburn, WA, Dusty of Park City, UT, and Robin and her husband, Shayne, Cheyenne, WY; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter and one brother.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to VA Black Hills Hospice at Fort Meade.



In Loving Memory Of



Raymond A. Johnson

1923 ~ 2011

*The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch
at the NVN Senior Center following the interment service.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



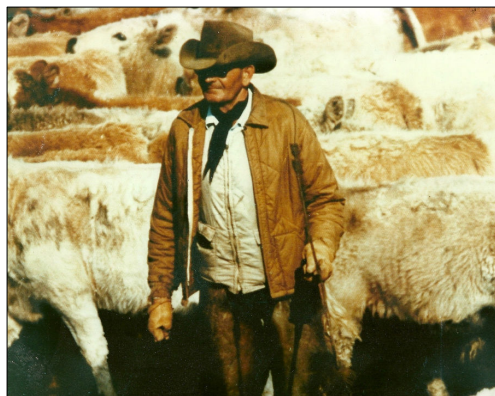
COWBOY'S PRAYER

*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 Loving Memory Of

Raymond Arthur Johnson

Born

August 24, 1923
Newell, South Dakota

Died

September 30, 2011
Newell, South Dakota

Graveside Service

Monday, October 3, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.
Hope Cemetery
Newell, South Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Sean Carney

Special Music

Vonda Mahaffy

"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Pallbearers

Jeff Smeenk ~ Robert Boylan ~ Duane Kirk
Gary Donahey ~ Don McVay ~ Mason Nash ~ Shayne Hobbs

Honorary Pallbearers

George Batchelder ~ Art Reynolds
And All Other Family and Friends

Military Honors

Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard

Interment

Hope Cemetery