

Lloyd Eugene "Gene" Collins

On April 4, 2019, Lloyd Eugene Collins was promoted from this mortal life of pain and tears, into the eternal joys of our LORD and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thomas Merton once said, "The things that we love tell us what we are." There are many facets to Gene's life that have formed cherished memories but the thing that he will be most remembered for is his love of his family. He will also be remembered as:

A leap year baby: born February 29, 1932, to Lloyd H. and Ruth (Sisk) Collins (both deceased) in Sturgis, SD. He was the oldest boy in the family and had four siblings: two brothers, Ronald (Wendy) Collins, Whitewood, SD, and Milton (Faye) Collins, Newell, SD; and two sisters, Nedra "Dory" Ingersol, (deceased), and Patricia (Jerry) Austin, White Owl, SD.

A farm/ranch boy: his family moved to the country around the Newell and Vale areas, where he nurtured his love for that way of life and where he obtained most of his schooling to the 8th grade.

A loving son: he left school and worked different jobs to help support his family.

A soldier: he was drafted into the Army, but had a short career after being injured and unable to continue his service.

A loving husband: he married the love of his life, Georgia (Yoder) Collins on May 26, 1953. She survives him and resides in Spearfish, SD. Someone once said that the best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. Gene lived this. Together, they shared the joys and the struggles of almost 66 years, in sickness and in health, demonstrating that love is self-sacrifice.

A loving father: making their home in Newell, SD, Gene and Georgia were blessed with nine children. Gene was preceded in death by an infant son. He is survived by four sons, George (Betty) Collins, Kemmerer, WY, Auddie Joe (Rose) Collins, Rock Springs, WY, & Washington state, James (Natalie) Collins, Cheyenne, WY, and Nathan (Nerissa) Collins, Greenwood, AR; and four daughters, Georgina (Kevin) Hughes, Rapid City, SD, Audree Perschbacher, Belle Fourche, SD, Jessica (James) Olsen, Zap, ND, and Nanette Collins, Black Hawk, SD. He was proud of each of them.

A loving grandfather and great-grandfather: He rocked a lot of babies and loved every minute of it and most of the time, so did they. He was patient and calmed many a cranky wee one.

A music lover: he often entertained his children by playing the harmonica or yodeling. He sang often. One of his greatest joys was to listen to his family demonstrating their musical talents and entertaining. He didn't make it to a lot of performances, but he watched lots of videos and was proud of the musicians and music lovers in his family.

A master craftsman: Gene had the ability to build or fix just about anything with detail and pride. His mental acuity and mechanical aptitude amazed almost anyone who had him work on something. Yet, it all failed to impress him.

An outdoorsman: he enjoyed hunting and fishing with his sons and grandsons from time to time. He enjoyed gardening. He had a love for horses and farm life.

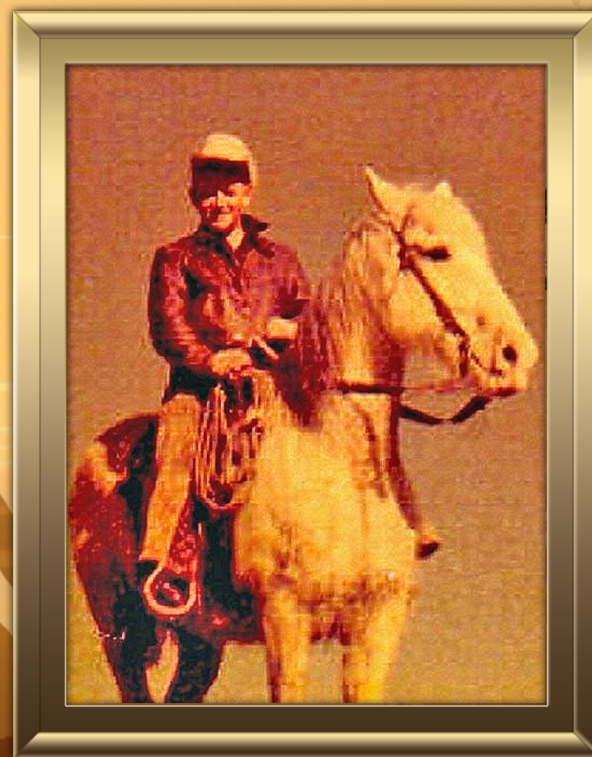
A lover of laughter: he had a great sense of humor and enjoyed sharing laughter, even to the end. Four days prior to his passing, while two of his great-grandkids were visiting, they were eating and every time they would take a bite, he would look at them and say, "Yum, yum, yum!" and the laughter would resound.

A most often reluctant traveler: he enjoyed the idea of a trip to see family, but when the time came, he drug his feet and hated leaving the comfort of home - most likely due to the effort it took to drag his oxygen tank around. After he was on the road, he enjoyed the MANY miles he traveled to Lusk, Rock Springs, Torrington, Casper, Cheyenne, Granger, Evanston, Sheridan, Pinedale, and Farson, WY; Phoenix, AZ; Washington; Oklahoma; Minnesota; North Dakota; Hawaii; several locations in Colorado; and a wedding in Canada. Except for his trip to boot camp, he spent his time and resources visiting the family who filled his heart with pride and joy. He had no desire to see the wonders of the world and travel just for the sake of it.

Lastly and most importantly, a born-again Christian: as his earthly dwelling was wearing out, he pondered where he would spend eternity and a month before his passing, he entered into a relationship with his Savior Jesus Christ. Gene's last trip was to be joyfully reunited in heaven with several loved ones. This time, he got to leave the oxygen tank behind.

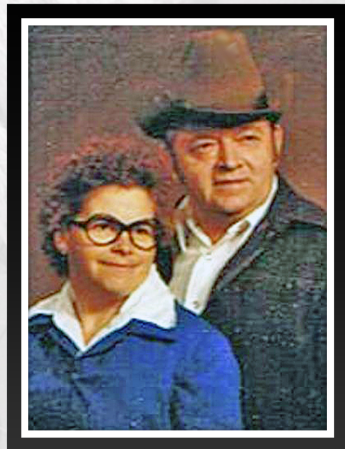
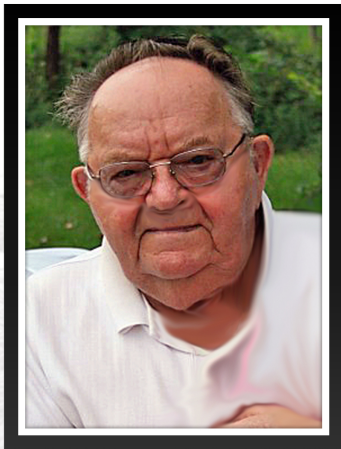
Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at Kinkade Funeral Chapel following the memorial service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



In Loving Memory
Lloyd Eugene "Gene" Collins

February 29, 1932 ~ April 4, 2019



I Made It Home

***I just wanted to let you all know that I made it home.
The journey wasn't an easy one, but it didn't take too long.***

***Everything is so pretty here, so white, so fresh and new.
I wish that you all could close your eyes and that you could see it too.***

***Please try not to be sad for me.
Try to understand God is taking care of me . . .
I'm in the shelter of His hands.***

***Here there is no sadness, no sorrow, and no pain.
Here there is no crying and I'll never hurt again.***

***Here it is so peaceful when all the angels sing.
I really have to go for now . . .
I've just got to try my wings.***

In Memory Of Lloyd Eugene "Gene" Collins

Date of Birth

February 29, 1932
Sturgis, South Dakota

Date of Death

April 4, 2019
Spearfish, South Dakota

Memorial Service

Friday, April 12, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Jeff Chaffin

Musicians

Marco and Eric Mirador

Songs

"Well Done"
"On the Wings of a Dove"

Honorary Pallbearers

Gene's Grandsons:

Justin Collins Travis Collins Lance Collins Jesse Collins
Michael Krein Darrin Krein Marco Mirador Eric Mirador
Bucky Collins Jeremiah Perschbacher Zachariah Perschbacher
Jim Olsen Earl Cornett, III Kayden Zoll Hunter Zoll
Zeman Collins Eli Collins

Military Honors

Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard

Inurnment

At A Later Date
Bear Butte Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota