

Vernon Jerome “Tuff” Meyer, 88, of Sturgis, SD, died Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at Monument Health Sturgis Hospital.

Tuff was born December 25, 1934, in Sturgis, SD, to Frank and Hattie (Mailloux). He grew up and went to school in Sturgis, Upton, WY, and Golden, CO. He joined the US Air Force and served as an airplane mechanic, traveling worldwide for 9 years.

In 1962 Tuff and older brother Jim ran Meyer Brothers Auto Repair Shop in Sturgis. Later he worked at a gas station with Guy Edwards and Chuck Fowlkes, Homestake Gold Mine, and Wheeler Post and Pole. In 1971 he went to work for the US Forest Service, in the Hill City mechanic shop until 1990, when he took early retirement. During this time, he purchased a home in Hill City with his mother Hattie, which they shared. After his retirement he returned to the home place in Sturgis. He built a big shop and his brother Bill (Clifford) and friends added an apartment.

On May 15, 2004, he married Bonnie Blakeley Morgan and they continued to live in Boulder Canyon. With this union he inherited 3 children, 5 grandchildren, and their spouses, as well as 6 great grandchildren who adored their Papa Tuff and he called them his own.

He enjoyed owning and flying a plane and riding motorcycles with brother Jim and Marlys. They built a log cabin near Deadwood and enjoyed cards, hunting, and family. Tuff and Bonnie enjoyed several winters as “snowbirds” in Quartzite, AZ. Family and friends helped remodel Uncle Paul’s house, and Tuff and Bonnie moved in August 2012.

In retirement the family laughed and said Tuff became a professional auction patron, going to “Ralph’s” with Russ Rigsby and friends. He also spent many summers at The Buckhorn Place in Wyoming, enjoying extended family and friends for food, fun, and laughter.

He lived a long busy life, more generous and kinder than most and he always enjoyed having a laugh. During his later years, food was utmost in his mind, and he was delighted with Russ’s chocolate covered doughnuts, Frankie Lee’s famous pie, or Jim’s lasagna.

He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Bonnie; 3 children, Angela Winters of Norfolk, VA, Shelly (Jim) Schroeder of Rapid City, SD, and Todd (Karen) Morgan of Toponas, CO; sister, Betty Griffin of Thermopolis, WY; brother, Bill and Judy of Boulder Canyon; 5 grandchildren and spouses; 6 great grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; extended family, and a wealth of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Hattie Meyer; brother, Jim and Marlys Meyer, and numerous other loved ones.

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

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch
at the church, following the burial.*

Thank you for your presence and condolences.

In Loving Memory Of



Vernon Jerome “Tuff” Meyer

December 25, 1934 ~ January 24, 2023



The Broken Chain

*Little did we know that morning,
God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly.
In death we do the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you.
You did not go alone,
for part of us went with you
the day God called you home.*

*You left us peaceful memories.
Your love is still our guide.
And though we cannot see you,
you are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken
and nothing seems the same,
but as God calls us one by one,
the Chain will link again.*



In Loving Memory Of Vernon Jerome "Tuff" Meyer

Born

December 25, 1934
Sturgis, South Dakota

Died

January 24, 2023
Sturgis, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Crossroads Assembly of God
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Linda Grenz

Musical Selections

"Far Side Banks Of Jordan" "I Believe"
"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Pallbearers

Del Meyer Mike Meyer Todd Morgan Dale Lange

Honorary Pallbearers

Russ Rigsby Johnny Steeves Wilbur Lease
Bryce Sigman Leland Komars
All His Family & Friends

Final Resting Place

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota