



Harry Warren Townes

October 12, 1937 - July 6, 2024

Harry Townes, age 86 of Glendive, Montana passed away on Saturday, July 6, 2024 at the Wibaux County Nursing Home in Wibaux, Montana. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Harry Warren Brown III was born in October 1937 to Ruth Price and Harry Brown Jr. and was nicknamed Sonny. Following his parents' divorce he was adopted by his stepfather Eugene Townes. Eugene and Ruth had two more children, Sandra and Robert. The family lived in Lisbon Falls, Maine and enjoyed many happy memories at their home on Sebago Lake with their extended family.

Harry graduated from Lisbon Falls High School and was valedictorian of his class. He earned his bachelor's degree from Brown University and his doctorate from Cal Tech University in Mechanical Engineering. While in school, Harry and his friends enjoyed adventures to places such as Mexico, California and Alaska to camp, rock climb, float rivers and explore.

Following his graduation, he was offered a position as a professor at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana that he happily accepted. Harry taught for 25 years. He was a lifelong learner, teaching himself to code in several computer languages and writing several programs including one to reconstruct auto accidents for his profession as an expert witness after his retirement as a professor.

The mountains of Montana provided all of Harry's favorite activities. He was an avid hunter. He enjoyed hiking in the mountains and floating the rivers.

Harry especially enjoyed hot springs and frequently traveled to enjoy both developed and undeveloped springs. Harry stayed physically active until a year before his passing, walking two miles a day down the country road or around the perimeter of his property.

Harry married Charlene Bowman in 1979 and to this union one daughter, Joy, was born. The marriage lasted five years. Harry was a loving and devoted father. Harry and Joy made memories on various camping trips, hiking, fishing in the rivers of Montana, and visiting hot springs. He loved his son-in-law, Jay, and his two grandsons, Carson and Zane. He was happy to see Carson graduate from high school this spring.

Harry's last eight months were spent living with his daughter and her family in Glendive, MT.

After his mother's death when he was only 22 years old, Harry vowed never to attend another funeral including his own. He was true to that vow and therefore no services are planned.

Harry is survived by his daughter Joy, son-in-law Jay, grandsons Carson and Zane, siblings Sandra (Richard), Robert (Pauline), and Gage (William) along with several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. Harry's last written words to Joy were the same daily advice that was given to her growing up: "Always remember two things Schnuckel, number one that I love you, and number two, always tell the truth."

Tribute Wall

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“ Joy and family, my sincere condolences to you. I enjoyed meeting your dad when he first moved to town. I pray that peace and comfort surround you in the coming days.



Penny Zimmerman - July 09, 2024 at 09:40 PM