



Jay Gorrell

April 29, 1932 - July 30, 2007

Jay Gorrell, age 75, of Trotters, North Dakota, passed away peacefully from complications of heart disease on Tuesday, July 24, 2007, at the Sidney Health Center in Sidney, Montana. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Monday, July 30, 2007, at the Squaw Gap Multi Purpose Center. Interment will follow in Sunny Side Cemetery in Trotters, North Dakota. Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Beach, North Dakota, is entrusted with arrangements. Jay was born on April 29, 1932, in Keene, North Dakota, the son of Jesse and Hazel (Jore) Gorrell. When Jay was nine years old, his family moved to Trotters, North Dakota, and bought the Hodgin's ranch. Jay was educated at the Trotters' School, and he worked on the Spike Meek ranch. Jay's father died when Jay was 16 years old. In 1952, Jay married Jo Ann Myers. Jay and Jo Ann moved about the country while Jay worked for oil companies in Colorado, Oklahoma, and Montana. After the birth of their two daughters, Miki and Margie, Jay and his family moved back to Trotters and the family ranch in 1957. Two sons, Jeff and Joel, were born to Jay and Jo Ann. In 1969, Jay and his family bought the Robertson ranch and moved on to it. Jay thought it was wonderful to live where there were trees. He had a great love for horses, and he was happiest on a good horse with a rope in his hand. Jay won his first buckle in team roping in 1961, and he won a saddle when he was 60 years old. He loved to ride his horse early in the morning through Prairie Dog Pasture with his family. Jay raised quarter horses and felt fortunate to have Vernon and Harris Goldsberry as neighbors and friends. Jay was on the Earl

School District Board for several years while his four children attended Plainview School. Jay was director of the McKenzie Grazing District and belonged to the North Dakota Stockmen's Association and the American Quarter Horse Association. Jay was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, James of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Jay is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Jo Ann of Trotters, North Dakota; his two daughters, Miki Zeman and her husband Alan of Tucson, Arizona, and Margie Maher and her husband Joseph also of Tucson; his two sons, Jeff Gorrell and his wife Kelly of Trotters, North Dakota, and Joel Gorrell and his wife Debbie also of Trotters; his four grandsons, Tyler Zeman, Colt and Clinton Gorrell, and Grady Jay Gorrell; one step-grandson, Dalton Miske; and his two sisters, Lilian "Bunny" Jenkins of Boise, Idaho, and Dorothy Reid of Grand Rapids, Michigan. "Lay my spurs upon my chest, my rope and saddle tree, and when my friends lay me down to rest, set my horses free." "Peace like a river."

Tribute Wall



“ *Jay Gorrell*

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