



## Joe Barbour

July 23, 1941 - September 5, 2014

Joe Richard Barbour, age 73, passed away on Friday, September 5, 2014 at his home in Wibaux, Montana. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at the Squaw Gap Community Center in Squaw Gap, North Dakota with Reverend Warren Maxted officiating. Silha Funeral Home of Beach, North Dakota has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Joe was born on July 23, 1941 in Fairbury, Nebraska, a son of Carl Francis and Marguerite Ruth (Stanton) Barbour. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Anita, Iowa where he was raised and educated; graduating from Anita High School with the class of 1960. On the very night of his graduation, Joe left with a custom combine crew and traveled with them as far as Great Falls, Montana. While in Great Falls, Joe worked for several ranchers in the area and he later worked for the copper smelter in Anaconda, Montana. He eventually came to work on a ranch near Billings, Montana where he met Ardyth McGill Kukowski. They were later married on January 14, 1974 and Joe quickly assumed the role of father to Ardyth's five children. Throughout the years he worked for numerous ranchers in many different places before settling in Squaw Gap in 1981, where he and Ardyth decided to start their own ranching business on some land that they leased. Together they ran the business for ten years when they bought their own land on the Montana-Dakota border. They operated the ranch until 2007, at which time they semi-retired and eventually sold the ranch. Joe also enjoyed working with border

collies. He believed they were important to a cattle operation. Being a rancher was Joe's lifelong dream and he worked hard to attain it. Following their retirement, Joe and Ardyth moved to Wibaux where they have remained since.

Joe's family was very important to him. He enjoyed spending time with them, especially talking guns and hunting with his grandsons. He was proud to be Opa, Grandpa and Pa Joe. "His heritage to his children wasn't words or possessions, but an unspoken treasure, the treasure of his example as a man and a father." By Will Rogers Jr.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Marguerite; and one step-son, Darin Kukowski.

Joe is survived by his wife, Ardyth of Wibaux; four step-children, Kenneth (Jamie) Kukowski of Billings, Jeff (Lisa) Kukowski of Pine Bluffs, Wyoming, Vernon (Senja) of Wibaux, and Susan (Brian) Sarsland of Golva, North Dakota; ten grandchildren, Christopher Kukowski, Austin Kukowski, Arthur Kukowski, Robert Kukowski, Ryan Kukowski, Cheyenne Kukowski, Casey Kukowski, Cayden Sarsland, Kyle Sarsland and Carter Sarsland; four siblings, Martha (Ted) May of Havensville, Kansas, Polly (Doyle) Ruth of Orient, Iowa, Ellen Barbour of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Jon (Celine) Barbour of Cheyenne; nieces, Stacey Cass, Elizabeth and Carley Barbour; and nephews, Travis Ruth and Jeremy Crowder.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP 11. 2:00 PM (MT)

Squaw Gap Community Center  
Squaw Gap, ND

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joe Barbour*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Ardyth I am so sorry to hear of joe's passing. Want you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

**alice kunick** - September 12, 2014 at 10:01 PM



“ *Our hearts go out to you. Roger & Gail Chinn*

**Roger & Gail Chinn** - September 12, 2014 at 09:28 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Joe Barbour.*



September 10, 2014 at 08:51 AM