



## John H. Clapp

December 20, 1926 - May 2, 2009

Glendive, Montana: John H. Clapp, age 82, passed away on Saturday, May 2, 2009, at the Glendive Medical Center in Glendive. A private family gathering was held in the chapel of the Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Glendive. Private interment will be held at a later date in the Dawson County Cemetery. Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements. John was born on December 20, 1926, the son of Clyde Sr. and Freida (Sobotka) Clapp, on the family farm near Stipek, Montana. John was raised and educated in rural Dawson County, where he attended the Deer Creek School. On completion of eighth grade, John went to work in the Clapp family coal mine, until he was drafted into the United States Army in April 1945. The war ended during his basic training and John ended up serving with the 724th Ordnance unit in occupied Japan until his honorable discharge in 1947. After the Army, John came back to Glendive, where he met and married Ramona Klein on September 13, 1953. John started his long association with the oilfield in the early 50's, where he worked on the first discovery well drilled in Dawson County. He generally worked the oil rigs as a derrick man, since he didn't have a fear of heights. John spent most of his career with Western Oilfield Service of Glendive, beginning in 1967, and retiring in 1988, as a rig supervisor. After retirement, John enjoyed spending time on the family farm raising a small herd of Black Angus cattle. John also drove school bus and delivered the Billings Gazette for many years. John enjoyed observing wildlife and tending to his garden. He was happy if he

could move some dirt around with his shovel. He enjoyed planting shrubs and trees and when the later got too big or diseased; he would don his lumberjack hat and bring it down himself. John was also well read and loved following current events and politics. Never shy about expressing his opinions, he would enjoy engaging his listeners in often animated conversation as a regular fixture at the local coffee shops or anywhere one could spend some time visiting. He definitely had a knack for conversation and a ready sense of humor. One of John's greatest pleasures later in life was riding the ups and downs of the stock market. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, David, one sister, Anna, and four brothers, Clyde Jr., Fred, George and Carl, and a daughter-in-law, Gwinn A. Dyrland Clapp. Survivors include his wife Ramona of Glendive, three sons; Alan Clapp of Glendive, Jason Clapp of Miles City, Montana, Brian Clapp and his wife Beata of Bozeman, Montana, one daughter; Gail Overby and her husband Kirk of Farmington, New Mexico, four grandchildren; Sean (Jessica) Donnelly of Spearfish, SD, Chris Donnelly of Billings, MT, Elizabeth Clapp and Benjamin Clapp of Glendive, MT, one great-granddaughter; Eeve Ann Donnelly of Spearfish, SD; two sister-in-laws; Jeanne Clapp and Bea Clapp of Glendive; niece, Terri (Mick) Leary of Boulder, MT and nephew; Mark (Rachel) Clapp of Glendive. Memorials may be sent to the Dawson 100 Club or to Dawson Community College. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silve-rnale-silhafuneralhome.com](http://www.silve-rnale-silhafuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *John H. Clapp*

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December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM