



## Lawrence C. Roberts

October 3, 1933 - August 29, 2017

Lawrence C. "Buck" Roberts, age 83, of Wibaux, Montana, passed away on Tuesday, August 29, 2017, after a brief illness. A gathering to honor the memory of Buck will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2017, at 3:00 PM on the family ranch located at 201 Dry Creek Road, Wibaux, MT. A supper will follow. Guests are invited to share their memories of Buck Roberts.

Buck was born in Cawood, Missouri, on October 3, 1933. He was the second child of seven born to Lawrence W. and Opal (Vanfossen) Roberts. After enduring eight years of school he started breaking horses and mules in Arizona and then Wyoming.

He enlisted in the Marines in April of 1952 and served in two campaigns in Korea as a rifleman in the 1st Division, 7th Marine Regiment, 3rd Battalion, Item Company. He was wounded in February and again in July of 1953. He received numerous medals including the Korean Service Medal with two battle stars and a purple heart for wounds suffered in combat. He was honorably discharged in April of 1954.

Although Buck was raised on a farm, he always had the dream to be a cowboy. While serving in Korea, he sketched pictures of horses, mules, longhorns, and cowboys for his three little sisters. Once home, he returned to Wyoming to ride colts. He then moved on to Boyes, Montana, in his old pickup with stock rack, his blue mustang mare, and \$265 in his pocket. There he met his future wife, Donna Denzien. They married in 1957 and worked in various places, including the Mizpah, Powderville, Wibaux, Missouri, Mildred, and

Jordan. Their son, Dave, was born in 1959. The family moved to Dry Creek north of Wibaux in 1965 to lease a ranch they eventually purchased in 1971. Their daughter, Kate, joined the family in 1970.

Buck and Donna's first house at Wibaux was a stock trailer covered by a canvas tarp. In 1972, they built the current ranch house using some of the lumber salvaged from buildings in Missouri. No matter how small or large their home was, company was never turned away. Family and friends came to experience ranch life and the hospitality that was found at their ranch. Buck's sisters, nieces, nephews, and other children spent anywhere from a few days to months during the summers at "Buck and Donna's." Neighbors frequently dropped by for a visit which included coffee and baked goods. When Donna's health failed, Buck cared for her until she passed away in 2001.

Following is an excerpt from Buck's writings: "I was blessed with a good family, good friends, and a good life. I valued freedom and open spaces and good country-covering horses. I held an undying enmity for tyrants and oppressors. Government of men I considered a curse 'Because the people clamored for a king like the heathen nations had' (I Samuel 8:20). The Creator God and Christ the Redeemer were the only kings I ever served. I will rest for a while in a place where the wind blows free until the resurrection. All Glory to God."

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife Donna; daughter Kate; and infant sister Kay.

He is survived by his wife Pam; his son Dave (Bobbie) and their children, Jessi, DJ, and Danny; his brother Bob (Joyce) of Rea, Missouri; sisters Marilyn (Waylon) Holbrook of Belle Fourche, South Dakota, Carolyn (Dan) Harrington of Hammond, Montana, Barb (Ken) Jones of Columbus, Kansas, and Karen (William) McGaughey of Savannah, Missouri; step-children Michelle (John) David and family, Jesi (Charles) Thiel and sons, and Newly (Jenny) Burman and family.

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



# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **24.** 3:00 PM (MT)

Roberts Family Ranch  
201 Dry Creek Road  
Wibaux, MT

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence C. Roberts*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *My Mother and Donna were cousins. All my younger days were filled with stories of Buck and Donna living on a ranch in Montana. My Mother would tell me if I didn't behave she would send me to live in Montana.*

*After I came from the Army, I loaded my saddle and headed to Montana. It was a experience I'll never forget. I was there for a week and what I learned from Buck and Donna and son Dave I still use in my every day life.*

*I have never topped that experience.*

-----  
**Ron Mayberry** - August 02, 2020 at 09:14 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



-----  
**Pam** - September 15, 2017 at 11:34 AM

PA

“ 1 file added to the album *Our Horses ~ In Memory of You!*



---

**Pam** - September 15, 2017 at 11:14 AM

PC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Pam Cale-Roberts** - September 14, 2017 at 11:04 AM

DW

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Debbie Weyer** - September 13, 2017 at 11:39 AM

MC

“ Buck might have started out as a young farmer in Missouri, but he darned sure lived to be a true Western Cattleman. We counted Buck and Donna as friends for more years and for more memories than can be related in a few short words. I'm thankful to have known them and we shall meet again. We send our prayers to his son and family. Wish that I could be there to hear all the stories that will be told. Semper Fi, Buck

---

**Marvel Cale-McKerlick** - September 12, 2017 at 03:19 PM

DN

“ Our thoughts & prayers are with the family as we remember our friend, Buck. He touched many lives & will be missed by all who knew him. He now rides where the grass is always green & the creeks run full.  
Dar & Diane Nelson

---

**Diane Nelson** - September 12, 2017 at 10:13 AM

 Marcy Smith

“ With quiet ease, Buck was such a large presence in so many lives! With great sadness we say goodbye to the greatest Cowboy ever...What a perfect addition to the heavens! Brandings and the great north will never be the same!

*Pam, Katie and Dave, my prayers for you and your family,  
Marcy Feldmann Smith*

---

**Marcy Smith** - September 07, 2017 at 09:54 AM

JM

“ My time conversing with Buck were some of the most influential parts of my life. We have lost a treasure with Buck's passing. My sympathies and prayers.

*Janet Banister Morgenstern*

---

**Janet Morgenstern** - August 31, 2017 at 10:47 PM

DW

*Buck was always kind to me coming into the community later than the other neighbors... He & I had some really good conversations about cattle, Bobbie's illness & just life in general. He was one of the good guys. Let God wrap his arms around you as you navigate the waters of grief.*

---

**Debbie Weyer** - September 13, 2017 at 12:37 PM