



Jack Ray Matthews

January 4, 1936 - December 1, 2017

Jack R. Matthews

TORRINGTON, WYOMING -- Jack R. Matthews, 81, died Friday, December 1, 2017 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, December 11 th , at the First Wyoming United Presbyterian Church with Kate Morrison officiating. Burial will follow in the Valley View Cemetery in Torrington.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Torrington Shrine Travel Fund for families, P.O. Box 2129, Casper, WY 80602 or donor's choice.

Visitation will be Sunday from 1 to 4 pm at the funeral home.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Colyer Funeral Home and friends may send their condolences to the family at www.colyerfuneralhome.com .

Jack was born January 4 th , 1936, in North Platte, Nebraska, son of Harold A. and Doris M. (Baty)

Matthews. Jack lived with his family in North Platte until they moved to Torrington in 1947.

Jack graduated from Torrington High School in 1955.

Jack met Joanne Harris in high school and the two were high school

sweethearts. The couple married in 1963, living in Torrington and having one daughter, Thyra. During high school Jack excelled at sports – playing football, basketball, and track, receiving several awards during his playing years. After graduation Jack enrolled at Scottsbluff Jr College in the fall semester and played football. His love of sports was with him throughout life as he coached and refereed several sports over the years. Jack enlisted in the Army in 1956 and spent 2 years on active duty, being stationed in Germany for a time. After Jack left full time service, he remained in the National Guard for another 27 years, serving as the unit's culinary specialist for many years and achieving rank of Sgt. 1 st Class. He retired from the Guards in 1996. When returning to Torrington after his active duty military service, Jack worked for Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and attended EWC, earning his Associates Degree in 1962. From 1962-65 Jack worked at Wyoming Lanes and Farmers Ins. Group. In 1967 Jack started his longtime career with the Torrington Job Service office, working there for 28 years, retiring in 1995. During his time there, he was appointed as the office manager in 1971, and earned his BS in Human Resource Management through Westminster College. After retirement, he spent many years working his "other jobs". Jack and Joanne owned and managed the Chicken Hut in Torrington for 27 years and they also owned and maintained many rental properties

around town.

Jack and Joanne enjoyed their retirement by spending time with their grandchildren and sharing in their school activities, going on cruises and tours all over the world with many good friends, fishing, participating in Shrine activities, and caring for elderly relatives and friends who needed assistance. Jack was a long-time member of the Shriners International, Royal Order of Jesters, Scottish Rite Masons and the local Torrington Masonic Lodge. He was a 32 nd degree Mason, past Director of the Jesters and very active in raising funds for Shriners Hospitals for Children. He was also involved in Eastern Star and Job's Daughters over the years. Survivors include daughter Thyra (Rodney) Welsh of Omaha, brothers Bernard (Dorothy) Matthews of Wheatland, Jim Matthews of Torrington, Daryl (Laurell) Matthews of Fresno, California, sister Jerina Curran of Torrington; grandson Evan Welsh of Omaha, Nebraska; granddaughter Abigail Welsh of Omaha, Nebraska; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceding him in death were his wife Joanne, his parents, and brothers Donnie and Robert.

Cemetery Details

Valley View Cemetery

30th Avenue
Torrington, WY 82240

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 10. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (MT)

Colyer Funeral Home
PO Box 20 / 2935 Main
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 532-2320
colyerfuneralhome@gmail.com

Service

DEC 11. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

First Wyo United Presbyterian Church
2972 Main Street
Torrington, WY 82240

Tribute Wall

KW

“ Jack has been a credit to both his family and his community. He was a class act.
Thyra,,we send our sympathy to you and your family. Jack will be missed.
Keith and Gwen Whitney

Keith and Gwen Whitney - December 11, 2017 at 01:20 PM

KW

“ Keith And Gwen Whitney lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Keith and Gwen Whitney - December 11, 2017 at 01:18 PM

DC

“ I will always have good memories of The Matthews family. I grew up down the street from them and enjoyed my time in Job's Daughters, softball and at the Chicken Hut around them. Hugs and prayers to you Thyra. You were very loved by your mom and dad.

Diane Surratt Carlini - December 10, 2017 at 03:24 PM

JM

“ I've known Jack since I was in 1st grade. I used to run around with Thyra and spent many times at their house which at the time was across the street from the Elementary School. As time went on, our greetings was always "Hello Jackie, Hello Jackie". I always gotten a big kick out of that, because I couldn't believe that he was also Jackie being a man. He was a wonderful man and will deeply be missed.

Jackie (Etzel) Miller

Jackie Miller - December 09, 2017 at 11:07 AM

TB

“ Thyra, I'm so sorry for your loss, and you are in my prayers. Your parents were special, and you know how much your mom meant to me. I think about her often and now they are together in eternity. They were so proud of you. Much love to you! xo Tammy (Backman) Benshoof

Tammy Benshoof - December 08, 2017 at 12:20 PM

CB

“ Colleen And Tracy Brown lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Colleen and Tracy Brown - December 07, 2017 at 11:43 AM

JC

“ Joe And Henrietta Clutter lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Joe and Henrietta Clutter - December 06, 2017 at 08:06 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jack Ray Matthews.



December 06, 2017 at 06:30 PM

RC

“ Thyra, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jack is resting in peace and has taken his place with the Lord in heaven.

Ray and Mary Carabajal - December 06, 2017 at 02:07 PM

TR

“ Theil Ryan lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Theil Ryan - December 06, 2017 at 01:07 PM

JC

“ Jay, Mary & Matthew Cross lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Jay, Mary & Matthew Cross - December 06, 2017 at 12:20 PM

TB

“ Thyra, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you and your family.

Terry Butler - December 06, 2017 at 09:02 AM

VC

“ Virginia Clark lit a candle in memory of Jack Ray Matthews



Virginia Clark - December 05, 2017 at 05:08 PM

KR

“ Jack was always a joy to be around. We will miss him dearly. Love, Konne, Charlie, Trevor and Jenny Rife.



Konne Rife - December 05, 2017 at 11:51 AM