



Merlin "Mert" Edwin Hatcher

November 2, 1926 - January 16, 2018

MERLIN "MERT" E. HATCHER

HUNTLEY, WYOMING –Merlin "Mert" Hatcher, 91, passed away peacefully at sunrise on 16 January 2018, after a brief, noble, and extremely brave battle with cancer.

Memorial services will be held at 10:30 Monday, January 22, at the Colyer Funeral Home Chapel with Deacon Rollie Raboin and Pastor Don Mathis officiating. Cremation has taken place.

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

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to the American Cancer Society in Mert's honor.

Mert was born on 2 November 1926 on a farm near Thurman, Iowa. Mert was the 8th of 11 children of Charles and Rosa Ella Hatcher. When he was fourteen, his father retired from farming and moved the family to Council Bluffs, Iowa. In his 20s and 30s, Mert was an adventurous soul and developed a deep passion for writing and a life-time fascination with the "wild west". He reveled in the excitement of learning new skills through the many diverse jobs he held as he traveled extensively; visiting Canada, Mexico, and 26 of 50 states. In 1963 Mert "settled down" in Omaha, Nebraska, and started a family when he married Anna May "Annie" Miracky. Over the next 15 years he worked for Weyerhaeuser and served as an elected local union officer. In 1978 Mert moved his family to Huntley, Wyoming. Once there, he and Annie

established the modest “Yellow Bird Ranch” and kicked off a successful steam cleaning and janitorial business which they operated until retiring in 1995. Mert then turned his attention to his love for writing and western folklore. He soon became a published author by writing poems for The Wyoming Rural Electric News Magazine. He then went on to meticulously research and pen three historically-accurate western novels; all of which were published between 2004 and 2008. Family and friends have said Mert will be remembered as “a likable scallywag”, “a character”, “having a remarkable sense of humor”, “a joker and teaser”, “an exceptional person”, and “the Hatcher Godfather”.

Mert is survived by his wife, Anna May; children Rebecca Hatcher-Pankratz, Brian Hatcher, Robin Hatcher-McCready; 11 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his 10 siblings, son Jack and daughter Carol.

Previous Events

Service

JAN **22**. 10:30 AM (MT)

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

Tribute Wall

DZ

“ *Robin and Brian, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Just know the old neighborhood kids are thinking of you.*

Dianna Zika (Stogdill)

Dianna Zika - January 22, 2018 at 01:34 PM

BM

“ *I remember just going over walking around the yard talking and then we would talk about tge garden. Then we would go inside and talk about history and the book he was writing. Just good quility time.*



Benjamin Mills - January 22, 2018 at 12:48 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Merlin "Mert" Edwin Hatcher.*



January 20, 2018 at 04:48 PM

MM

“ *Marjie Montgomery lit a candle in memory of Merlin "Mert" Edwin Hatcher*



Marjie Montgomery - January 19, 2018 at 12:16 AM

TM

“ *Family of Mert Hatcher, our thoughts and prayers to everyone. Love Theresa (Urbanek) Madsen and families.*



Theresa (Urbanek) Madsen - January 18, 2018 at 06:01 PM

TR

“ *Theil Ryan lit a candle in memory of Merlin "Mert" Edwin Hatcher*



Theil Ryan - January 18, 2018 at 04:25 PM