



Richard "Bud" Edward Watson

August 20, 1936 - January 15, 2023

Richard E. "Bud" Watson, 86, of Torrington, WY passed away surrounded by his four children on Sunday,

Jan 15, 2023. Cremation has taken place.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, Jan 20th at 2:00pm at First Wyoming United Presbyterian Church in Torrington, WY and burial will take place at a later date.

Bud was born Aug 20, 1936 in Lingle, Wyoming to Agnes (Jones) and Walter Watson. He graduated from

Lingle in 1955 and went on to attend Goshen County Community College where he received his AA. He

married Virginia Halstead of Torrington Wyoming on June 30, 1957 at the Torrington Methodist Church.

Bud and Virginia lived in Lusk, WY before moving to Denver where he learned the refrigeration and air

conditioning trade which became his career.

The family moved back to Torrington in 1966 and started Watson's

Refrigeration. In the early 70's, Bud

took his career into teaching at Eastern Wyoming College where he started the college refrigeration

vocational program. During this time Bud was active in Jaycees and in May 1971 joined the Torrington

Volunteer Fire Department. While in the fire department he held many roles

including Fire Chief during the 80's and early 90's. One of his favorite activities was helping to restore the 1934 Ford fire engine.

Bud's love for nature and hunting was instilled in him by his grandfather and father which he passed on

to his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren as a family tradition.

Many memorable days were

made at the Running Water Ranch outside of Lusk as well as sitting in the goose pit. The only thing Bud

loved more than hunting was his love for his Lord and Savior. Bud was very active in the All-Saints

Episcopal Church, De Colores, and Saints and Sinners. Even as busy as he was, Bud was always willing to

lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

Shortly after their 50th wedding anniversary, Virginia passed. Within the next year, one of Bud's great

granddaughters was diagnosed with leukemia. Seeing the financial and emotional stress this put on

families, Bud's vision for Gracie's Promise was started by monies granted by "The seed" - a Foundation

for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming. At the time of his passing, Gracie's Promise has provided support

to over 100 families in need. Bud was an accomplished local artist and active with the Southeast Art

Association. His paintings were another source of his giving heart and have been used to raise money for

numerous charities in and around Wyoming.

Bud is survived by his four children, daughter Brenda (Bill) Vance of Torrington, WY, daughter Helen

(Dan) Doherty of Douglasville, GA, daughter Karen Moore of Ellenton FL and son David (Jodi) Watson of

Hebron, KY; 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; brother Raymond (Della) Watson, brother Bill (Betty) Watson and brother-in-law Jim Farmer. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, nephew, and sister Shirley Farmer.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Gracie's Promise.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN **20**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Gayle Hascall lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bud" Edward Watson*



Gayle Hascall - January 20, 2023 at 06:38 PM



“ *Royce Carolyn Nelson lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bud" Watson*



Royce & Carolyn Nelson - January 18, 2023 at 01:15 PM



“ *Bud was a wonderful man!! His heart was large, warm and inviting. His smile lit up a room and his hugs were "real hugs" as my mom always used to say, which means big and felt by your heart! He was a true blessing in every sense of the word. He enriched the lives of everyone who had the pleasure of being in his presence. He was such a giving man, perhaps his greatest legacy. My heart goes out to the family in this time of sorrow! We on earth have lost a wonderful man, but heaven has gained a beautiful soul! Each of us has been so blessed by his giving legacy, I pray each of us holds tight to Bud's legacy and continue in his footsteps with a charitable hearts and a giving spirit that he implanted in each of our hearts!!*

Ronda Hager - January 17, 2023 at 09:58 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Richard "Bud" Edward Watson.*



January 17, 2023 at 04:58 PM



“ *Debi Pam Weickum lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bud" Watson*



Debi & Pam Weickum - January 17, 2023 at 02:56 PM



“ *Carol Peterson lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bud" Watson*



Carol Peterson - January 17, 2023 at 12:05 PM



“ *Bud always had a kind word for everyone and was a shining light wherever he went. Just so sad at the loss of this wonderful man. Prayers and Condolences sent to all from Jim and I.*

Jim and Cherry McKimmey - January 17, 2023 at 11:45 AM

SW

“ He was a smile in the darkness with a heart as big as that smile. I was 22 the first time I had ever met Bud and he was just such an amazing person and I'd never met anyone quite like him. His work for Gracie's Promise made me want to be apart of it. I had the pleasure of working with Bud on the Gracie's Promise Board of Directors for the last 3 years. He has left a hole not only in that organization, but in the community as a whole. He will be truly missed but never forgotten. Bud's personality was so infectious. He is, was and will always be a great, wonderful, loving and caring man. It has been my pleasure to know him.

Stephanie Wise - January 17, 2023 at 11:17 AM

SW

“ Stephanie Wise lit a candle in memory of Richard "Bud" Watson



Stephanie Wise - January 17, 2023 at 11:12 AM