



Wendell Grapes

July 22, 1933 - November 18, 2009

TORRINGTON, WY . . . Funeral services for WENDELL E. GRAPES, 76, will be held at 10:00am on Saturday, November 21, 2009 at the United Methodist Church with Reverend Ora Dailey officiating. Burial will follow in the Valley View Cemetery. Wendell died on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at his home in Torrington. Visitation hours will be held at the Colyer Funeral Home on Friday, November 20 from 3pm to 7pm and the casket will be open at the church service. Those who wish may direct memorial contributions to either the United Methodist Church or to the Senior Friendship Center. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Colyer Funeral Home and friends are invited to send condolences to the family at www.colyerfuneralhome.com Wendell, the son of Edwin and Agnes (Westerman) Grapes, was born on July 22, 1933 in the basement of the old Goshen County Court House at Torrington, Wyoming. He grew up on the family ranch in the Prairie Center Community. He attended school at the Prairie Center School until the 10th grade and then came to Torrington where he graduated in 1951. He married Shirley Frasier on October 16, 1952 at Torrington and the couple lived and worked on the ranch until 1970 when they moved in to Torrington so that their sons could attend Torrington schools. Wendell was appointed to the office of Goshen County Clerk in 1973 and then was elected to that office from 1974 until 1999 when he retired. He served 14 years on the Goshen County School Board and served on the Board of Directors at the Goshen County Senior Friendship Center for 16 years and was Chairman for 14 years. Wendell also

was a livestock 4-H Leader. He was an avid reader and was a devoted fan of the Denver Broncos and Rockies, the Lakers, and the Wyoming Cowboys. Wendell was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Torrington Rotary Club, Goshen County Chamber of Commerce, Goshen County Stock Growers, and a member of the Farm Bureau. He is survived by his wife, Shirley of Torrington; three sons, Brad (Joy) Grapes and Bryan Grapes all of Torrington, and Steven (Cheryl) Grapes of Casper, Wyoming; a sister, Lucile Watt of Torrington and a brother Robert (Opal) Grapes of Raceland, Louisiana; four grandchildren Elizabeth (Abe) Correa; Toby (Jackie) Grapes, LeeAnn Grapes, and Dana Grapes; and two great grandchildren Evan Grapes and Mateo Correa. He was preceded in death by his parents, and a brother, Leroy Grapes.

Tribute Wall

RH

“ *I know nothing I say can make a difference in how you feel, but know he is in a better place.
Sorry about your loss.
He will be miss by all of us.*

Rick Hoppal

Rick Hoppal - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Dear Shirley and family,*

I am saddened by the loss of Wendell. He was a fair and honest man and always had a smile on his face and kind words to speak! It was a pleasure working for him as an election judge all those many years!

I am sorry I did not make it to his services, unfortunately I had not heard that he was gone until last night! You all have my condolences!

May you lean on your Almighty and seek strength and peace from him in the days to come! Know that he is your guardian angel and will be watching all those he loved from above!

Kathy (Bartow) Beaman - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ To the entire Grapes family,
We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We knew him as a Big man,
with an equally Big heart, both soft-spoken and humorous. We have
also had the unique pleasure of working with all three sons. We can
continue to see his life in his family and consider ourselves very
blessed for this. our sympathy and prayers to you all,
David and Anna Eaton

Anna Eaton - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ I would just like to say that I am sorry to hear of Mr. Grapes'
passing.

Rani Grant - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Shirley, Family and Friends:

I was very sorry to learn of Wendell's passing when I returned from Washington, D.C. yesterday. My mother Isla had left me a voice message earlier in the day.

To me, Wendell possessed a calming quality, with a sense of being very thoughtful, yet firm in his convictions, probably a combination of what he learned from his parents and wife over the years. Those are all traits evident in Brad, Bryan and Steve and I'm sure are in the process of being passed along to the grandkids and great-grandkids.

I didn't realize Wendell was a Lakers fan. I might take a different view of that team now that I know he was.

My thoughts are with you all today and I am sorry I am not with you for the services.

Tony Morton - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *It has been over 58 yrs since we talked, just before our weddings I believe. I do keep in contact with Torrington as I still consider it my home. I was sorry to hear of your loss. May God bless you and your family! Sincerly, Crystal*

crystal chamberlain - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Sorry about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

Kelea Burns - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ I am so sorry to hear fo the loss of Wendell. I met him back 1978 when I started research on my mom's side of the family. Her mother - Velma (Allen) Shoults was born and raised, and died in Prairie Center. Wendell was a neighbor of the Allen and Shoults families. I still remember spending many days talking to him, and his stories of his Aunt Mona. Wendell let me spend many hours in the basement of the Court House looking through all of the old marriage records.

We will ALL miss you very much.

Yours, Randy Eutsler

Randy Eutsler - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Dear Shirley: I was saddened to hear of Wendell's death. You were so blessed to have such a long number of years together. He was a very nice person and you have my deepest sympathy at this time. Lovingly....Pinkie (Clingenpeel) Jo Butler

Pinkie Jo Butler - November 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM