

### *A Cowboy's Prayer*

*Oh Lord, I've never lived where churches grow.  
I love creation better as it stood  
That day you finished it so long ago  
And looked upon your work and called it good.  
I know that others find you in the light  
That's sifted down through tinted windowpanes.  
And yet I seem to feel you near tonight  
In this dim, quiet starlight on the plains.*

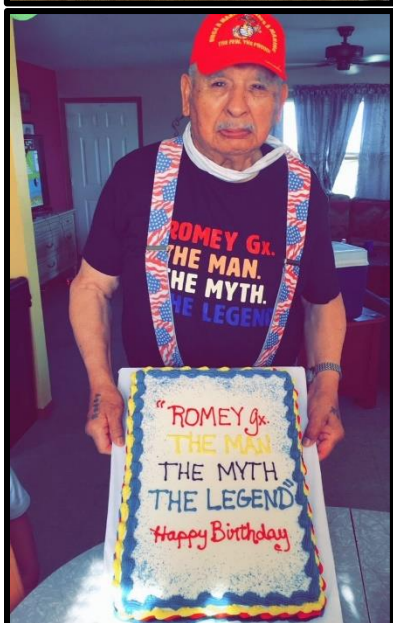
*I thank you, Lord, that I am placed so well  
That you have made my freedom so complete:  
That I'm no slave to whistle, clock or bell,  
Nor weak-eyed prisoner of wall and street.  
Just let me live my life as I've begun  
And give me work that's open to the sky;  
Make me a pardoner of the wind and sun,  
And I won't ask a life that's soft or high.*

*Let me be easy on the man that's down:  
Let me be square and generous with all.  
I'm careless sometimes, Lord, when I'm in town,  
But never let'em say I'm mean or small  
Make me as big and open as the plains.  
As honest as the hawse between my knees,  
Clean as the wind that blows behind the rains,  
Free as the hawk that circles down the breeze!*

*Forgive me, Lord, if sometimes I forget.  
You know about the reasons that are hid.  
You understand the things that gall and fret:  
You know me better than my mother did.  
Just keep an eye on all that's done and said  
And right me, sometimes, when I turn aside,  
And guide me on the long, dim trail ahead  
That stretches upward toward the Great Divide.*



Ph. (605) 964-3614  
Gettysburg, South Dakota  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)



## **In Loving Memory**

# **Romey August Garreau**

June 15, 1937  
Gettysburg, South Dakota

April 28, 2024  
Eagle Butte, South Dakota

### **WAKE SERVICE:**

6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Thursday, May 2, 2024  
CRST Bingo Hall ~ Eagle Butte, South Dakota

### **FUNERAL SERVICE:**

10:00 a.m., Friday, May 3, 2024  
CRST Bingo Hall ~ Eagle Butte, South Dakota

**OFFICIATING:** Pastor Chug Garreau

### **CASKET BEARERS:**

Chug Garreau, Galen Garreau, Levi Hansen, Jeffrey Dunn,  
Bradlee Garreau, Western Ducheneaux, Sydney Walker Garreau,  
Allen Garreau, Jr., Paul Broner, and Lyle Claymore

### **HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:**

Julie Garreau, Teddy Miner, Jerry Chase, John Hoven, Carole Hollers, Duane Lafferty, Dave Pesicka, Marty Ward, JD Williams, Tucker Garreau, Clavel family, Mortenson family, Laurenz family, Lesmeister family, Brotsky family, Rivers family, Holloway family, LeCompte family, Bachman family, Woods family, Cheyenne River Youth Project staff and volunteers, Lakota Thrifty Mart staff and patrons, all of his rodeo and poker buddies throughout the years, there would just be too many to name and we truly do not want to leave anyone out. Dad knew everyone and everyone knew him. We have been blessed many times over the years to meet complete strangers and, once we tell them our name, of course they knew our Pops. He will be greatly missed and we so appreciate the hugs and stories.

### **MUSIC:**

Randy Hahne

### **INTERMENT:**

Mossman Cemetery ~ Ridgeview, South Dakota

**Romey August Garreau**, 86, of Eagle Butte, passed away Sunday, April 28, 2024, at his home in Eagle Butte just like he wanted.

Romey August Garreaux was born on June 15, 1937, in Gettysburg, SD, to Gilbert Sr. and Delphine (Hennessy) Garreaux. Romey grew up north of Ridgeview and attended school at the Old Agency through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He lost his father in 1946 when he was only 10 years old. After he finished school, he worked for area ranchers. At 17 years old, he got his mom to sign his papers allowing him to join the U.S. Marine Corps. Romey served three years at Camp Pendleton, California, as a Combat Engineer, earning the National Defense Service Medal.

After the service he returned to the area and became a ranch hand to many local ranchers. Soon after he returned to Cheyenne River, his mother passed away in 1959, when he was 22. In 1960, he married Mary Jo Nordvold and to this union were born Fay Allen "Chug", Delphine Renelle, Kelly Jean, Tracy Lee, Romey Jo, Martha Raye, Jeri Jewel and Sydney Gilbert.

He worked for the Mortenson family for many years, living down by Foster Bay and again on Highway 63. He also worked at the Tribe's Beef Camp where he moved his family once again. He eventually had his own range unit and ran cattle for many years.

Romey was a champion bull rider, steer wrestler and Old Men's breakaway roper over the years. He worked with a road crew flagging and driving a pilot car which he really enjoyed. A long-time poker player, in his later years it became his favorite pastime. He even won some tournaments, proudly bringing home a few buckles. He loved gambling and would hitch rides every now and then so he could go hit those slot machines and buy his lottery tickets.

He also volunteered at The Main and Cheyenne River Youth Project from 2002 through 2015 as the gardener, security officer and chief coffee maker. He took such pride in that garden. He and Julie Anne Garreau formed a pretty tight bond, and they looked out for one another. After he retired from volunteering, he spent his mornings at the Lakota Thrifty Mart. He would walk over from his home and have his coffee and donut and visit. He rarely missed a day and if he did the staff would reach out to Tracy and check on him.

In honor of his many contributions to the community over his life and his staunch support of tribal sovereignty, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe declared September 1, 2006, Romey Garreaux Day and he was sure proud of that!

Romey is survived by sons: Chug (Karen), Sydney (Lacey); daughters: Delphine, Tracy and Martha (Dustin); sisters: Shirley (Jay) Christensen and Malinda Means; 25 grandchildren; 47 great-grandchildren; five great-great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and those that called him Uncle or Grampa Romey.

Romey was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Delphine; daughters, Kelly, Romey Jo and Jeri Jewel; one grandson, Dace; one great-granddaughter, Christian; brothers: Grant, Frank, Melvin, Manson, Alphonso, Gilbert Jr., Tracy, Gibson Garreaux, and Harold "Peaches" Lee; and sisters: Margaret McLemore, Verna LeCompte, Alphonsine Simpson, Serena Garreau, and Faye Walters.

