



Steven Sylvester Payne was born December 31, 1945, but his life truly began when he was adopted by Jerome and Helen (Gerth) Payne. He was handpicked by his older sister Gerry, at the age of six months. From that day on, Steve considered himself "the luckiest man alive." Growing up he was a proud Braves basketball player and continued to support the Braves all of his life.

Steve graduated from Cheyenne-Eagle Butte High School, and continued his education at Northern State College in Aberdeen. He returned to "his town" of Eagle Butte where he worked alongside his father at the State Bank of Eagle Butte. Steve was proud to have his children continue Jerome's legacy while operating the bank.

While enjoying life with his wife, Susie and children: Tammy, Stephanie, and Russel, he also enjoyed hunting, fishing all over the country, cars, and had a love for guns. Along with his family, he enjoyed the company of Jerry Hinzman, Andy Meier, Rich Vought, Francis Zacher, Rick & Larry Eberhard, famous Fisherman Bill Dance, his son Russel, and grandson Ridge. Steve was an official South Dakota state recorder of the Eagle Butte area for the National Weather Service. He wrote a weekly column for the Eagle Butte News called the West River Angler and reported for the South Dakota Proud Anglers. Steve enjoyed contributing to his community by assisting

with organizations such as the Eagle Butte Gun Club, Hunter Safety Courses, Goose Creek Tactical Range, CRST Fair & Rodeo, Tiny Tots, Lakota Nation Invitational, Crazy Horse Memorial, Eagle Butte Social Services, Eagle Butte Volunteer Fire Department and fireworks displays. A summer highlight for Steve was Hometown Days, where the whole community came together to celebrate, which he was honored to be a part of.

Steve is survived by his wife of 54 years, Susie; daughter, Tammy (Glenn) Gunville; son, Russel



(Amber) Payne; grandchildren: Crystina, Stevy, Ridge, Mason, Glennee, Tia, Anders, Maxtyn, Camryn, Reese, Brittany, and Brooke (Zach); great grandchild, Coleson (which he called Colton); adopted children: John (Heather) Muir and children, Sidora and Everett Payne Muir, Jonni Lynn Thompson and her children LaRissa, Mark, Maegan, and Linus, Jeff (Pam) Zacher, Lisa Zacher, Scott Zacher, Stacey (Ruben) Grajeda, Doug (Nanette) Even, Cyndi (Glenn)



Fischer, Ethel Even, and Butch Engebretson; extended family: Susan (Keith) Smart, Rikki (Kirk) Fast Horse, Galen (Sheyenne) Eberhard, Jennine Dolphus Family, Trini (Chip) Bird Necklace, Harley (Wanda) Gunville, Dawson (LaRae) Gunville, Joyce Gunville Family, Bill (Margret) Gunville, all Gunville families, Dan Keller Family, Kristen Walters, Tiffany Larson, Holly Annis, Audrey (Red) Traversie Family, Jack (Melissa) Neigel, Cody (Paige) Neigel, Robert and Dorothy Short Family, Janice Eberhard, Terry Pearman, Kelsie (Justin) Haskell, and Juli Haskell. Steve was preceded in death by his beloved daughter Stephanie Sue Payne; his parents, Jerome & Helen Payne; and his sister, Gerry Zacher.

In lieu of gifts, please consider making a donation to Eagle Butte Community Club in Steve's memory. Donations may be mailed in C/O State Bank of Eagle Butte, PO Box 10, Eagle Butte, SD 57625.

## We Had a Wonderful Grandfather

*Unknown Author*

We had a wonderful grandfather,  
One who never really grew old;  
His smile was made of sunshine,  
And his heart was solid gold;  
His eyes were as bright as shining stars,  
And in his cheeks fair roses you see.  
We had a wonderful grandfather,  
And that's the way it will always be.  
But take heed, because  
He's still keeping an eye on all of us,  
So let's make sure  
He will like what he sees.

"I'll see ya when I see ya" -Steve

## *In Loving Memory Of* **Steven S. Payne**

December 31, 1945  
Sioux City, Iowa

June 29, 2021  
Eagle Butte, South Dakota

**FUNERAL SERVICE:** 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 3, 2021  
All Saints Catholic Church  
Eagle Butte, South Dakota

**CLERGY:** Fr. John Paul Trask

**CASKET BEARERS:**

Galen Eberhard, Gary Berndt, Randy Thomas,  
Rick Hinzman, Andy Meier, Kent Larson,  
Mark Policki, Richard Larson, Kimball Russell

**HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:**

All present and past staff of State Bank of Eagle Butte,  
South Dakota Trap Shooting Association,  
Eagle Butte Community Club,  
Eagle Butte Volunteer Fire Department,  
and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

**EULOGIST:** Lisa Zacher

**OBITUARY READING:** John Muir

**USHERS:** Brock Fischer, Keaton Peterson, Cody Niegel

**VOCALIST:** Michelle Walking Elk

**SONGS:** "Amazing Grace"  
"Sherry" by the Four Seasons  
"Song of Farewell"

**INURNMENT:** Eagle Butte Cemetery

*A Celebration of Life.....  
A Life Remembered*



**Steven S. Payne**

1945-2021