

The Lord spoke to the heavy hearts that stood with hats in hand  
"Your sadness pains me deeply and I know you'll miss this man  
But, it's true what you've been hearing, Heaven is a real place.  
That's no small consolation, You should use that fact to face.

The emptiness his parting left that seeps into your bones  
And draw on it to ease your pain. For he is not alone.  
You see, all his friends are up here and all his loved ones, too,  
'Cause it wouldn't be a heaven without each one of you.

And heaven for a cowboy is just what you might expect,  
It's horses that need tunin' up and heifers that need checked.  
It's long rides with a purpose and a code that lights the way  
And a satisfying reason to get up every day.

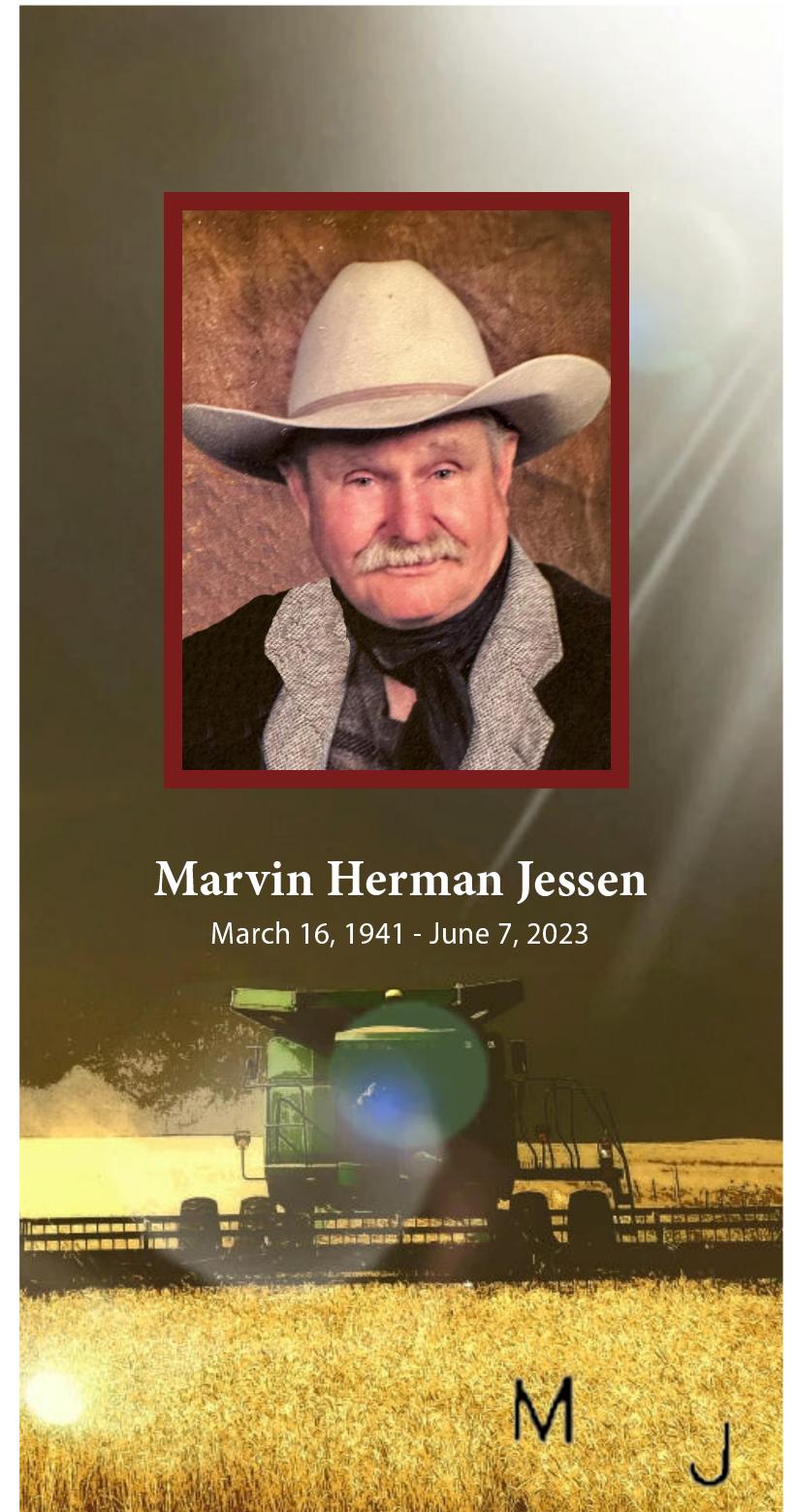
It's the ranch he's always dreamed of and never knew he'd find  
And if you think about it, you can see it in your mind.  
Him, leanin' in the saddle with his ol' hat on his head,  
Contentment set upon his face like blankets on a bed.

The leather creaks a little as he shifts there in the seat.  
The bit chains give a jingle when his pony switches feet.  
And you somehow get the feelin' that he's sittin on a throne  
A'gazin' out on paradise just like it was his own.

I can promise you he's happy, though I know you can't pretend  
You're glad he made the journey. It's too hard to comprehend.

The earthly way you look at things can never satisfy  
Your lack of understanding for the answer to the 'Why?'

So, I offer this small comfort to put your grief to rest,  
I only take the top hands 'cause my crew's the very best.  
And I know it might seem selfish to friends and next of kin  
But I needed one more cowboy and Marvin fit right in."



# Jessen Ranch



M J



Marvin H. Jessen, 82, of Holabird, passed away Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at Highmore Health, after a seven-year battle with multiple myeloma cancer.

Marvin Herman Jessen was born March 16, 1941, in Pierre, South Dakota to Herman and Paulina (Hieb) Jessen. He attended country school through the 8th grade and graduated from Harrold High School in 1960. While in school, he participated in track. He went on to farm and ranch his entire life; living in a 10-mile radius of where he grew up.

On June 10, 1967, in Pierre, South Dakota, he married the love of his life, Mary Gaetze. To this union, five children were born: James, Julie, Jon, Susan, and Steven. Marvin did custom silage cutting and custom trucking along with farming and ranching. He also worked at Highmore Livestock for a time. He always enjoyed working with cattle and was an avid reader.

Marvin and Sheldon Reding made an old Ford car into a race car which they ran for a year in Pierre, until he married and his priorities changed. He enjoyed spending time with his family and grandchildren. He taught his children and grandchildren how to hunt deer and the value of hard work.

Being involved was important to Marvin. He was a lifelong member of the Harrold United Methodist Church, served as a director for the S.D. Stockgrowers Association, the Highmore Farmers Union Oil Company/Midwest Coop, the Hyde County FSA County Committee, and a 50 plus year member of Lily Lodge #62, Masonic Lodge in

Harrold. Marvin and his dad were awarded the South Dakota Soil and Moisture Award in 1964. Marvin and Mary were awarded the Soil and Moisture for Hyde County in 1989, showing his continued love for the land.

His memory will be cherished by his wife and best friend of 56 years, Mary of Holabird; children: James (Stacey) Jessen of Woonsocket, Julie (Jeremy) Thompson of Jefferson, Maryland, Jon (Janelle) Jessen of Ree Heights, and Steven (Tonja) Jessen of Harrold; grandchildren: Clint (Melissa) Bohr of Alpena, Bryce Jessen of Pierre, Brandon Jessen of Huron, Byron Jessen of Mitchell, Gideon (Brianna Beckler), Velvet, Letha and Ervin Jessen of Harrold, Sydney and Sara Jessen of Ree Heights, Zachary Thompson of Jefferson, Maryland, and six great grandchildren; sisters: Delores (Roger) Husted of Harrold and Ruth (Harney) Hohrman of Ft. Pierre; brother, Ronald Jessen of Highmore; and a host of extended family and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Susan; his parents; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.



Arrangements Entrusted To  
Luce, Luze, & Reck Funeral Homes  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)