



James "Jim" Leroy Barnes

Visitation

Wednesday, April 3, 2024~4:00-6:00 p.m.
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home
Miles City, Montana

Funeral Service

Thursday, April 4, 2024 ~10:00 a.m.
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home
Miles City, Montana

Officiating

Pat Linger

Music

"In the Garden"
"Go Rest High On that Mountain"

Pallbearers

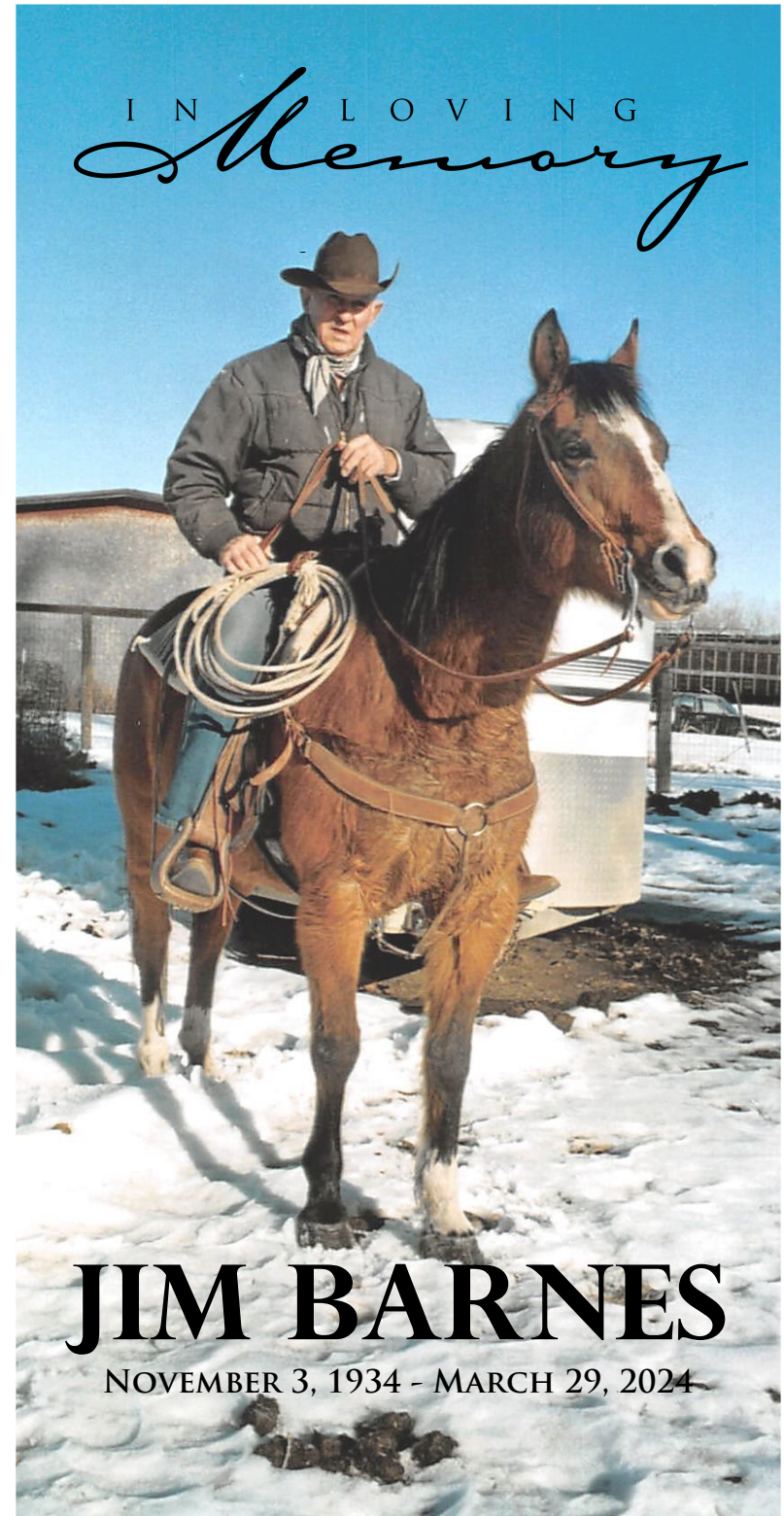
Ryan Barnes, Alyssa Barnes
Tanner Barnes, Taiden Barnes, Levi Lewis
Clancy Lewis, Timothy Lewis, James Guffey
Shaun Guffey, Micheal Guffey

Interment

Thursday, April 4, 2024 ~2:00 p.m.
Cohagen Cemetery
Cohagen, Montana

*A luncheon will be held immediately following
the Funeral Service at The Parlor 1806 Main
Street. Everyone is invited.*

Arrangements by
Stevenson and Sons Funeral Home



Celebrating

THE LIFE OF

James Leroy Barnes, age 89, passed away peacefully at home of natural causes in the early morning hours of Good Friday, March 29th, 2024. He was born November 3, 1934 in Miles City, MT, to John and Helen Barnes (Sindelar) of Cohagen, MT. He was raised on the family ranch that his grandparents, Joseph and Annie Barnes, homesteaded on NE of Cohagen in 1911. He attended various country schools and finished his elementary schooling in Cohagen. Since the Cohagen High School was closed by then, he finished out his high school years in Jordan, graduating in 1953. In 1953 he enrolled at University of Montana in Missoula for one year.

Jim was inducted into the US Army Reserves December 20, 1957, at Ft. Ord, CA, and after 7 weeks of basic training, he was transferred to Ft. Bliss, TX, then after 6 months active duty he went into the MT National Guard where he was honorably discharged on December 1, 1963.

Jim worked for different ranchers in the area, most notably for three different Pluhar families. He worked for his Uncle Herb Zook hauling hay and feed. He worked for Lee Rhea at the Mill Iron Ranch. In 1961 he began his professional career as a trapper for the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, retiring with the US Dept. of Agriculture – APHIS – Animal Damage Control after 31 years. He spent the last seven years of his career working in the Carson, ND area and moved back to Miles City in 1992. After retiring, he worked for the McRae Ranch north of Miles City, and then started a new career at Steadman's Hardware.

On June 8th, 1963 he married Ardell Howard and to this union were born their son Tracy J in 1964 and daughter Melanee in 1965. Ardell passed away on January 26, 1971. Jim then married Darleen Cline (Johnson) on November 13, 1971. Her son Tracy L Cline also joined the family. Then in 1972 their son Kerby was born. Darleen passed away in 2001.

He enjoyed anything to do with horses and cows, having owned several horses over the years and running a small herd of cattle with the –NS brand on his land adjacent to his Dad's ranch at Cohagen. He loved to dance and play cards with all of his friends and family. He belonged to the Busy Bee square dancing club attending dances all around eastern Montana. He also loved bowling, playing on several leagues in Miles City and Carson, ND. Playing horse shoes, working crossword puzzles and reading about local history were some his other favorite pastimes. He was a lifetime member of the NRA, and the Eagles Club. He was also a member of the Range Rides Club and served on the board of the Senior Citizens organization.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Allen and Bob, wives Ardell and Darleen, and special friend Margaret Sherman.

Jim is survived by his fiancé, Helen Martin, his children, son Tracy J (Kathy) of Miles City, daughter Melanee Lewis (David) of Fergus Falls, MN, son Kerby of Billings, MT., stepson Tracy L Cline, a sister Kay Collins (Jerry) of Cohagen, MT., eight grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, sister-in-law Karen Barnes of Jordan, and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Range Riders Museum, Bunny Miller, Curator, 435 L P Anderson Rd, Miles City, MT 59301 or to the Custer County Food Bank, 13 N 8th, Miles City, MT 59301.

