

Claire Lynn Potts was born May 11, 2009, to Clint and DaLauna Potts. She was joining her big brother Forrest just 12 1/2 months after he was born. The two siblings were inseparable. As soon as they could walk, they could ride, and from then on the family was able to cowboy till the job was complete.

Claire's work ethic was never questioned. From a young age, her determination and grit shined through. Her horsemanship skills were something to see, especially her trick riding. Not only could Claire handle the regular cowboying tasks, but she could look stunningly beautiful while hanging off the side of her loyal steed, Batman, to entertain a crowd. Claire always seemed at ease flying on the back of her horses.

Claire's fearlessness was a part of everything she did. It was part of her presence when she entered the room, court, track, or arena. She could smile and we all knew Claire was ready for whatever came next. On the flip side, if Claire didn't smile, you also knew she was not in a mind to be bossed around, and you might not want to crowd her. Fortunately, these moments never lasted long, and her beautiful smile would return, ready to find fun with any of her many friends or family, especially at the lake on a hot summer day.

Claire found success in many things. She was a successful student, state-record track athlete, accomplished livestock judge, rodeo competitor, artist, and 4-H'er. Her medals, buckles, and ribbons proving her work ethic and confidence served her well in any competition. Aside from all these accomplishments, the one that mattered the most was her ability to work side-by-side with her mom, dad, brother, and grandpa. Clint could count on Claire for any job, and she obliged her dad's requests and his confidence in her never wavered.

Claire's life was cut much too short. However, the only peace that can be gained is knowing she lived fully while she was here. She knew the love of her parents and family. She knew the kindness and loyalty of friendship. She knew the joy and satisfaction of working to accomplish her goals, not only for herself, but for the many around her. She loved life passionately and cared for people and animals with the same devotion. Some will never know these truths if they live to be 100 years, and Claire accomplished them all in the short time we were blessed to have her on earth.

Claire leaves behind her parents; brother Forrest; Grandfather Rick (Lisa) Potts; Grandmother Terri Potts (Terry Mason); Grandmother Jacque Gregg; Great- Grandmother Margaret Cremer; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Claire is preceded in death by her grandfather, Bob Gregg.

Family Receive Friends

Tuesday, November 5, 2024 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.
VFW Hall
Jordan, MT

Funeral Service

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
Garfield County High School Multipurpose Room
Jordan, MT

Officiating
Bryan Phipps

Music
National Anthem ~ Emma Morrison
"Dandelions" ~ Annie Bosko
"If I Die Young" ~ The Band Perry

Pallbearers
Gracie Phipps, Reese Witt, Rachael Murnion
Willa Harbaugh, Cassidy Gairrett, Kacy Phipps

Final Resting Place
Pioneer Cemetery
Jordan, MT

*Following the burial,
a luncheon will be held at the VFW Hall.
Everyone is invited.*

Arrangements By
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home

Claire L. Potts



2009 ~ 2024



Stolen away so quick, a life so young,
It makes no sense why her bell was rung,
A beautiful girl, on the inside and out
It's impossible to understand why life chose this route.
A girl who would go out of her way
To help improve anyone's day.
Up sheering sheep, at the fair, 'til midnight,
To show a little girl and her mom how to do it right.
Lending her horse to help an admirer learn,
How to make maneuvers, twists and turn.
Born to be a high class performer for all,
Trick riding, rodeo, 4H, and volleyball.
Everything she did was mastered with skill,
And she was sure to give the audience a thrill.
A contagious smile would often show on her face,
With an attitude that was lead by her stunning grace.
The little cowgirls all want to be like her,
Determined, hard-working, (and maybe her spur).
She was the ideal roll model, all the kids will tell,
And us parents approved, since we loved her as well.
Time doesn't stop, it doesn't matter why,
Even when the circumstances lead us to cry.
We were left breathless, nauseous, distraught,
We didn't believe the news,
'There is no way anyone could have thought.
An entire community crushed
in a moment so grim and unfair,
Her parents and brother left in an unbelievable nightmare.
It feels surreal that everything keeps moving along,
When to her loved ones it is all so terribly wrong.
Her family will never be the same or find a way to heal,
But they will go on with her memories so they can still feel.
Our hearts will forever be broken,
our stomach in knots,
But we will never forget
the inspirational young cowgirl named
Claire Potts.



- By Stephanie Smotherman