

Billy Custer, 70

August 9, 1943 - June 4, 2014



SOLDIER — Billy Ray Custer, 70, of Soldier died Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at Burgess Health Center in Onawa.

Billy Ray Custer was born August 9, 1943 at Missouri Valley, the son of Gerald A. and Pearl (Hulsebus) Custer. Billy graduated from Woodbine High School.

After graduating from High School, Billy married Jolene Marie Shafer and to this union two sons were born, Cole and Curtis. He worked in various packing houses after graduation.

While working at the most recent packing house, he met his life partner, Ruby Huisenga and they were united in marriage on February 7, 1980. The couple moved to Soldier and established Custer Archery in 1984, and then in 1990 they added a hunting guide service. Billy enjoyed sports as a boy in school. He also enjoyed taking his boys hunting and to the stock car races in their youth. Billy loved the outdoors and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He traveled to many states to bow hunt for many big game species, and harvested: antelope, elk, mule deer, white-tail deer, caribou, javelin, and wild boar. He also enjoyed fishing in Minnesota, Alaska, and Canada, and the Red River. He liked watching basketball and football. Billy enjoyed going to all-you-can-eat meals at the casino, especially crab legs. Billy also enjoyed classic cars and attending car shows.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents, Gerald and Pearl; grandchildren, Jessica and Cory Custer; and a brother, Kenneth Custer. Survivors include his life partner of over thirty years, Ruby Custer of Soldier; two sons, Curtis (Ann Langenfeld) Custer of Harlan, and Cole (Michelle) Custer of Harlan; grandchildren, Jonny, Whitney, Eli, and Brianna Boldan all of Harlan; one brother, Jack Custer of Logan; two sisters, Kay (Virgil) Speake of Fountain Hills, AZ, and Paula (Tom) Lewis of Logan; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 7, 2014 at the Rush Family Chapel in Onawa, led by Doug Rush. Music selections were "The Ride", "Simple Man", "Green River", "Go Rest High On That Mountain", "How Great Thou Art", and "Country Boy Can Survive". Visitation was from 12:00 noon until service time on Saturday at the Rush Family Chapel. Condolences may be left online for the family at www.rushfamilycareservice.com



Rush Family Care Service

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