



Forrest C Moen

October 24, 1924 - August 3, 2023

Forrest C. Moen, lifetime resident of Virginia Dale, CO passed away on August 3, 2023 at the age of 98. He was born on October 24, 1924 to John and Mildred (Clark) Moen. He graduated from Fort Collins High School in 1943 where he participated in wrestling and track.

Forrest married his best friend Shirlie McGregor on May 13, 1951 in Phenix City, AL while stationed at Fort Benning, GA. Two days later he shipped out to Germany for 15 months where he served in the Army during the Korean War as a medic in the Fulda Gap. Shirlie always joked her first year of marriage was a breeze. They welcomed son Mark in 1955 and daughter Dana in 1956. Forrest loved hunting and ice cream, but most of all loved his dogs, horses, cows and family. Except for his time in the Army, Forrest spent his entire life doing what he loved every day, working on the family ranch, which was purchased by his grandparents in 1903. He worked very hard to make sure his legacy continues through his children and future generations. He was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and friend as well as an excellent horseman and cowman who enjoyed improving his herd of Hereford cows and breaking and training young horses. In his younger days, he and brother Clark became the ones to beat in calf roping at rodeos all over Colorado and Wyoming.

Forrest chose his family and his ranch over becoming a professional calf roper

but did fall back on his talents after Mark was born by winning second at the Fourth of July Greeley Rodeo, which enabled him to pay the hospital bill. Forrest was a member of the Virginia Dale Community Church, Virginia Dale Community Club and the neighbor everyone could count on for help moving and branding cattle or training their horses or anything else they needed. "The Girls," as Forrest called the nuns at the Saint Walburga Abbey, were particularly fond of Forrest when they became neighbors in 1997. They reached out many times for his advice and he was thanked with prayers, hay, and dozens of cookies. Forrest and Shirly were married for 54 years before her death in 2006. She was the love of his life and the best "hired hand" he could ever have.

Forrest was also preceded in death by his parents, brother Clark, granddaughters Carlee & Alexa Wright, cousin Duane Moen, nephew John Moen and many other family members and lifelong friends. Forrest is survived by his beloved dog Buddy, son Mark (Cathy), daughter Dana (Paul) Wright, all of Virginia Dale, CO, granddaughter Elly Wright of Campbellsville, KY, step granddaughter Skylar Kunce of Arvada, CO, brother in law Paddy McGregor of Fort Collins, CO and several nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Virginia Dale Stage Station on Saturday, August 12th at 1 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Virginia Dale Community Church, 30437 US Hwy 287, Virginia Dale, CO 80536, Virginia Dale Community Club, 844 County Rd 43F, Virginia Dale, CO 80536 or Pathways Hospice, 305 Carpenter Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **12**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Virginia Dale Center
844 County Road 43F
Virginia Dale, CO 80536

Tribute Wall

CY

“Forrest was probably the kindest man I ever knew he never said a bad word about anyone and always had a smile for everyone. My boys and I loved him and had only respect and admiration for him. We often speak of the love his family showed us during our life on the ranch.

Cindy Young - February 20, 2024 at 08:19 AM



“A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Forrest C Moen.



August 11, 2023 at 12:58 PM

HC

“I fondly remember the welcome and hospitality of Forrest and Shirlee when I showed up at the ranch as a geology student in the mid 1970's. They were so kind to this weird young kid looking for diamonds! We had good talks and I even helped out where I could. Lovely ranch!

Howard Coopersmith - August 11, 2023 at 12:57 PM

HC

I first met Forrest at his ranch in 2014 through a mutual friend. We had a great conversation about nothing in particular and everything in general. When I came back to Colorado in 2021 visiting with Forrest was a high priority. He was a one of a kind person and I was looking forward to seeing him again this fall. That will have to wait till a later time, but we will meet again. Rest in peace Forrest.

Harry B. Chilcot

Harry B. Chilcot - August 12, 2023 at 11:30 AM

BW

Forrest was an authentic cowboy as honest and hardworking as they come. He would drive a good ways down to buy our hay and we would chat about the hard times of ranching and farming. One year we priced our hay by the bale to keep from having to find a scale open somewhere to weigh it. He did the math when he was all loaded up and got ready to pay and decided he wanted to weigh it and pay by the ton instead of by the bale. I said fine and followed him to a feedlot scale and waited for the result. Out he came with a sheepish grin on his face saying he guessed he owed me more than we'd asked for by the bale! We had a good laugh about the difficulties of trying to make every dollar count in the ag business. What a wonderful man whose humor and humility will be missed by so many. God's speed Forrest

Becky and John Waldo - August 13, 2023 at 04:30 PM