



## John B. Etchepare

April 22, 1939 - November 24, 2013

John B. Etchepare died November 24, 2013 at home in Fort Collins, surrounded by his family. Heaven needed another shepherd. He was born in Helena, Montana April 22, 1939 to Paul and Hellen Dean Etchepare. After graduating from Randall High School in Denver, he attended Montana State University and was employed by Martin Marietta before managing a lamb feeding operation. He married Katherine Schraeder in 1961 and they had five children. She preceded him in death in 1990. For over 30 years John operated his family's Warren Livestock Company, with his father and brother until its sale in 2000. Additionally, he served as a Director on many state, regional and national Boards. He was a past President of the Wyoming Wool Growers, Western Range Association and the Old West Museum, and served on the Boards of the Production Credit Association, the American Sheep Industry, and the American Lamb Feeders. In 2009 he retired as the State of Wyoming Director of Agriculture. John is survived by his wife, Karen Rose; seven children: Mike Kerry Etchepare of Emporium, Pennsylvania, Mark Kolette Etchepare of Cheyenne, Janine Jon Roaldson, Bismarck, North Dakota; John Etchepare Jr. Corrina, Cheyenne; Robert Etchepare Valerie of Colorado, Jim Susie Brailsford of Fort Collins, and John Sarah Brailsford of Fort Collins and twelve grandchildren. He is also survived by four siblings, Claire Markowitz of Nevada, Angie Colin Carter of Australia; Toni Bill Thomson of Cheyenne; and Paul Etchepare Jr. of Laramie. His parents, youngest brother, Ralph Etchepare, and brother-in-law, Mark Markovitz preceded him in death. John

chose to donate his organs for the study of pancreatic and prostate cancer, and Alzheimer's research. Cremation is under Bohlender Funeral Chapel, Fort Collins. The family invites friends to a celebration of life reception at Little America, 2800 West Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY on November 30 from 4-6 pm. In lieu of flowers he suggested donations be made to Cure Alzheimer's Fund [www.curealz.org](http://www.curealz.org) or Pancreatic Cancer Research [www.pancan.org](http://www.pancan.org) or the charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

AG

“ To all of the Etchepare family, I send you my deepest sympathy. I was too young to know John, but the Etchepare family was known in our family. When they lived in Denver, on Hudson, they were good friends and neighbors of the Bob and Dorothy Parkinson, and their children Pat, Carol and Peter. Pat married my brother Tom. I was the flower girl and Ralph John's little brother was the ring bearer. Ralph was my first crush, as a 5 year old. At any rate, I will be sure to let Pat, Carol and Peter know of John's death....as I know they would have known him very well. Peace and God's Grace be with you all. Amy

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**Amy Stuart Guido** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ Karen, Laird and I are so sad to hear that John passed away. We read the obituary in the Sheep Industry News. We send our sympathy. Laird and Kathleen Noh

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**Kathleen Noh** - January 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ Karen, Laird and I are so sad to hear that John passed away. We read the obituary in the Sheep Industry News. We send our sympathy. Laird and Kathleen Noh

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**Kathleen Noh** - January 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ I was so sorry to learn of the loss of such a great man. I extend my heart felt condolences to his family and particularly Paul. I was honored to have done business with and for John and Paul since 1992. John was a wise, caring and witty man. Paul, I hope you find peace and comfort during this time of loss and adjustment to the new "normal". Please know you have been in my thoughts and prayers. Always your friend and confidant

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**Tammy Powell** - December 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Karen, I'm so sorry and please know I have you in my thoughts and prayers. Brad

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**Brad Brieman** - December 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Fortunately, our paths crossed many times with John and his family since we arrived in Cheyenne in 1982. During football games and swim meets, working for him at the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, being a golf partner with him, and seeing him before, during, and after Denver Bronco football games, we learned of his generosity, compassion, and fearlessness. He loved talking about his family and his many adventures. He loved tackling new challenges and golf courses. He embraced life with an energy we have seen in few others. He is a larger than life presence whom we will never forget. For Karen and his family, we offer our heartfelt condolences. We fervently believe that the more you are loved, the more you will be missed. John will be greatly missed by many, for he was greatly loved by many.

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**Don & Jackie Christianson** - December 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ We are shocked and so sorry to hear of John's death. We send sincere condolences to all the children. John has a special place in our hearts as he is the godfather of our son Alexander Wilson. We will be sending prayers to heaven and money to the Pancreatic Cancer Org. We send our love to all of you.

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**Jim and Phyllis Wilson** - November 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Mike & Janine - so very sad to hear about your father. God bless you during these times. Love Shelly

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**Shelly Miller Shuck** - November 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ I remember John from high school at St. Francis de Sales in Denver, our freshman and sophomore years. Please extend my condolences to all of his family.

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**Norman Silva** - November 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ I am so saddened to hear of John's passing from our lives. He was one of the most remarkable characters that I ever had the privilege to know. Larger than Life, as though straight out of the pages of Western History, He commanded wherever he was with warmth & wit, charm & care, knowledge & wisdom. He fought hard for what he believed in and loved large as well. John just as fully gave of himself to his family and friends as he did to his business and his job as State Director of Agriculture, He could hop up on one of his favorite soapboxes in a trice, argue his point vehemently and, after dismounting and having said his piece, buy you a drink. His Family, Wyoming, the Sheep and Agriculture Industry, Frontier Days and his many, many friends and Yes John, I can see that twinkle in your eye when I say this and we're all going to miss that twinkle even his enemies will miss him for as long as history endures. My heartfelt sorrow to Karen and his family

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**Sonny Bryant** - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Mike, Janine, and the Etchepare Family. We are very sorry to hear about the passing of your father. Please know you are all in our thoughts and Prayers. The Ken Moore Family.

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**Carol Moore** - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

IF

“ We were deeply saddened by the news of John's passing. Our heart felt condolences to your family.

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**Izaguirre Family** - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ I just want you to know I enjoyed knowing John and appreciated all his work and dedication. I knew him when I worked for Larry Bourett at Wyo Farm Bureau, and then again when he was Ag Director, I was on the board for Wyo Ag in the Classroom. I am thinking of all his family today.

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**Tomi Sue Wille** - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM