



Richard Dale Clark

June 6, 1933 - June 3, 2023

Richard D Clark, journeying through life ruggedly from 6/6/1933 - 6/3/2023. Dubbed the “Mountain Man”, Richard passed peacefully at his home in Gould, Colorado. Richard is survived by his daughters, Kim Clark (Patrice Franklin) Carolyn Gillis (Chris Gillis), and Stephanie Bollinger (Thomas Bollinger), and preceded in death by his daughter Cynthia Dianne and grandson Corey Clark who both passed in 2013. He is also survived by his grandchildren Hallie Bull Jones, Zachary Gillis, Samantha Gillis Adams, Taylor Shea Waters, and great grandchildren Cameron and Mckenna Waters.

Starting his journey in 1933, Richard was born in Anthony, Kansas. He was raised by parents Minnie and Glenn “Buck” Clark, growing up with brother Glenn and sister Joyce (the only immediate member still among us). Richard spent his younger years in Argonia working on farms and on the railroad with his father. During high school he made a trip to Colorado with his sister Joyce where his deep love for the Rocky Mountains was sparked. Upon graduating high school he received two scholarships to play football and basketball at Friends University in Wichita, KS. However, at age 19 he was pulled from college and drafted in the US Army (1952-55) where he would serve 3 years for his country. Shortly upon being discharged from the Army Richard met his first sweetheart and first wife Sheryl Jean Strohl. After getting married they moved to Colorado and the mountain man legend began, along with the quote - “I wasn’t born in Colorado but got here as soon as I could.”

Richard and Sheryl “Shay” moved to Boulder, CO in 1956 to get their teaching degrees from the University of Colorado. Shortly after, their first daughter Cynthia Dianne was born. They would go on to have 3 more beautiful girls, Kimberley Jean (‘60), Carolyn Chris (‘64) and Stephanie Joanne (‘68). Rich and Shay taught in Greeley, Brighton, as well as Poudre School District in Fort Collins. After being an administrator at Putnam Elementary and Juan Fullana for 25 years, Richard retired in 1990.

While teaching was a passion of his, his true love was the mountains. After exploring the Gould area for several years during his many hunting, fishing, and random escapades, Richard and Sheryl acquired some property in Whispering Pines. This is where he built the Clark family cabin. Later that same year, in 1968, Richard was approached by Johnny Anderson to see if he wanted to purchase a cabin rental business we now call the Powderhorn, and the rest is history.

Richard loved the outdoors! He lived for fishing, hunting, and sitting around the campfire with his family and friends. He took great pride in sharing his love of the Powderhorn with any intrigued listener. He will be remembered for his ability to capture an audience with one of his ghost stories, tell a colorful story from his past (often airing on the side of a fabled ghost story) or dress up as Bigfoot to scare his grandchildren.

Even at 89 years of age, Richards wry smile and dry wit would animate any conversation. If you were lucky, he would share a secret location for where to land the biggest brown trout, see the most Moose, or where to hike in God’s country. He will be sorely missed and forever remembered. His presence will be felt by those who loved him within every rugged adventure yet to pass. We choose to celebrate his life by exploring the wonderful beauty of Mother nature and the wild outdoors that he so dearly loved.

A celebration of life will be held in Gould, CO at the Powderhorn Cabins on September 30th, time to TBD.

For more information on the celebration of life contact Kim Clark at kiclark@hughes.net

If accommodations are needed call: Powderhorn Cabins @ (970) 723-4359

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 30.

Gould

Tribute Wall

LL

“ What do we do when all of our heroes are gone? He was my friend, my brother, my hero and one of the wisest men I ever knew. Have enlightened wonderful journeys to the light of God’s love my friend.
Lt. Col. Donald S Lamb

Lt. Colonel Donald S Lamb - October 01, 2023 at 04:43 PM

DM

“ Richard was the principal at Putnam when I attended there. Then we reconnected at Powderhorn Cabins many years later as we hunted in the area. He always had a smile at Powderhorn when we would visit! R I P!

Denise Morgan - June 14, 2023 at 11:11 AM

KC

“ I miss you terribly Dad:(

Kim

Kim Clark - June 13, 2023 at 07:26 AM

SS

“ He was born in the summer of 1933 and came to a place he'd never been before. Over time he created his own Colorado song. I have great memories of meeting Richard in the 70s, staying at the cabins, and later teaching his children Carolyn and Stephanie. *steve schell*

Stephen Schell - June 11, 2023 at 12:56 PM

KW

“ I am so glad I was able to get to know Richard.He loved to watch old Western movies on TV. we had that in common!! the mountains will miss him as well as his family and friends.

Karen Winchell - June 08, 2023 at 12:26 PM

JK

“ Rest in God's loving arms, neighbor. You will be missed!

Jean Krause - June 08, 2023 at 08:44 AM