

*I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on the tombstone
From the beginning ... to the end
He noted that first came the date of birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years*

*For that dash represents all the time
That they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them
Know what that little line is worth*

*For it matters not, how much we own,
The cars ... the house ... the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.*

*So, think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
That can still be rearranged.*

*If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.*

*And be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect
And more often wear a smile,
Remembering this special dash
Might only last a little while*

*So, when your eulogy is being read
With your life's actions to rehash ...
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent YOUR dash?*

In Loving Memory of

Lavern Cecil Whitemouse

August 10, 1952 ~ September 12, 2025

Funeral Service

Diamond Willow Ministries

Fort Thompson, SD

1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 20, 2025

Officiating

Rod Vaughn

Andrew Thomas

Casketbearers

Michael Zachow

Arlan Bagola

Alan Bagola

Jesse Whitemouse

Peter Lengkeek

Chris Harrison

Honorary Bearers

Ray Hawk

Arnie Harrison

Rory Bishop

Chamberlain Care Center

Kimball Retirement Home

Dr. John Jones

Amber Kenobbie

Barb Weber

Bill Wells

Renae Whitemouse

Dennis Onihan

David Middletent

Gary Middletent

Valsworth "Pudgy" Hawk

Scottie Kennedy

Fred Gray Cloud

Troy Whitemouse

Vonnie Whitemouse

Brennon Whitemouse

John Daly & Family

Carlton Whitemouse

Mary Jane Bildeau

Doll Mouse

Christine Medicine Crow

The Cowan Family

Interment

Lakeview Cemetery

Fort Thompson, SD

Arrangements By: *Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD*

Lavern Whitemouse, 71, of Fort Thompson, SD passed away on September 12, 2025 at the Prairie View Assisted Living in Kimball, SD.

Lavern Whitemouse was born August 10, 1952 in Chamberlain, SD to Bernice Whitemouse. He was raised by his grandmother as Lavern was an only child. Lavern was their greatest joy.

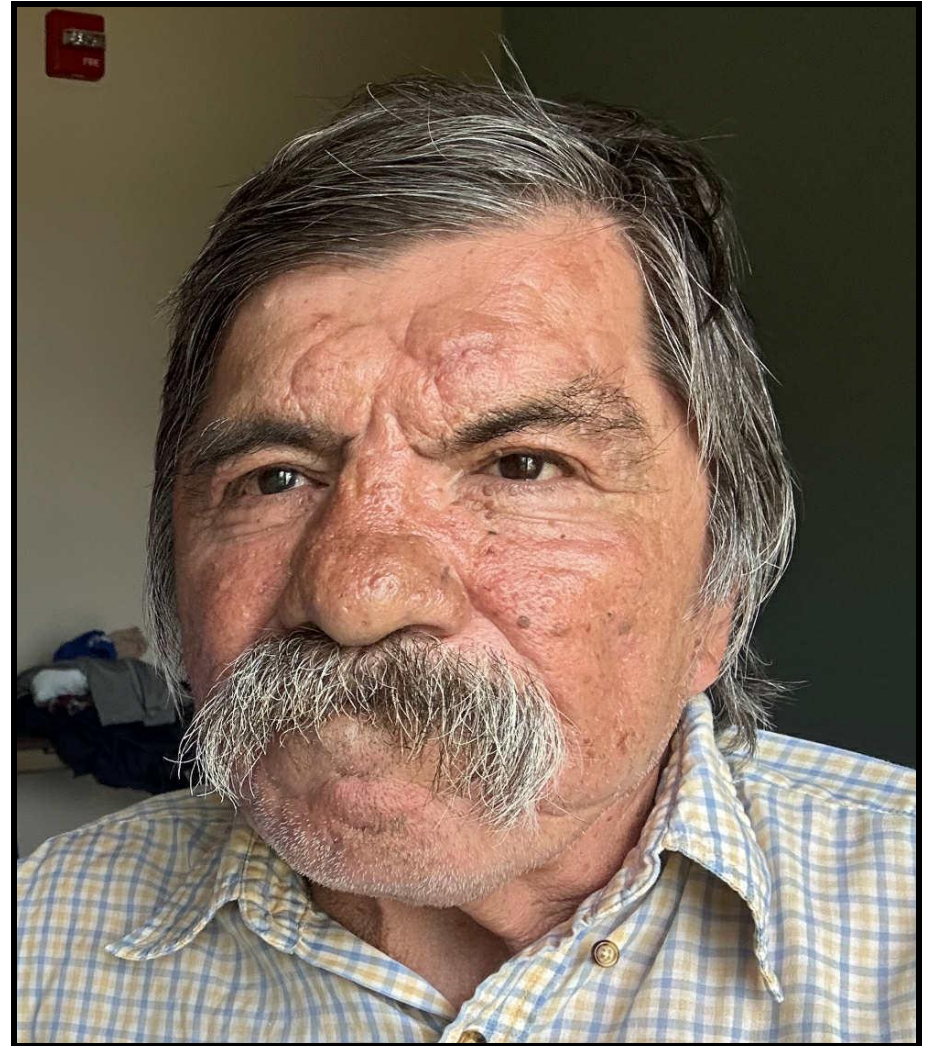
Lavern lived a free-spirited and happy life. He was a man who loved the outdoors-especially hunting, caring for horses, and traveling to new places. He carried laughter, adventure, and kindness wherever he went, leaving a lasting impact on all who knew him.

In 2010, Lavern met the love of his life, Laurie. The two were united in marriage on March 10, 2011 and built their life together at Bad Nation. Their years together were filled with love, family, and countless cherished memories. Above all, Lavern treasured spending time with his family and friends who were the heart of his world.

He is survived by his wife Laurie of Chamberlain, his twin sons Arlan and Alan Bagola, son Jess Whitemouse, his stepchildren Rhiannon (Michael) Cline and Michael Zachow, and many other relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death were his mother Bernice and other loved ones who welcomed him home.

Lavern's joyful spirit, love for family, and adventurous heart will live on in the memories of those who loved him.



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