

Walter William 'Bill' Rickey, 79, of Shawnee passed away on November 27, 2024.

Bill was born January 8, 1945 in Hobart, OK to Walter and Nadean Rickey. He was the oldest of two boys. He earned degrees from Oklahoma State University, finishing his formal schooling with a Master's Degree in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Bill married his high-school sweetheart Mary and they had two children, Rhonda and Dale. Later on, Bill and Mary added two daughters of the heart, Darla Shackelford and Terri Ring.

Bill had a love for children and dedicated his life to teaching and coaching. He had a passion for calf roping his whole life, and after retirement, his encouraging personality was continuously seen by the entire roping community. Attending ropings was his favorite pastime and the lifelong memories and stories with countless friends were held close to his heart.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Nadean Rickey and his daughter, Rhonda Thomas. He is survived by his wife, Mary, his son, Dale, and his brother, Tom Rickey and wife Glenna. Bill, better known as Papa, is also survived by his grandchildren - Nathan Thomas, Dia Bodenstein and husband Travis, and Montana Rickey and great-grandchildren - Liam Thomas and Walt and Elizabeth Bodenstein.



In Loving Memory of
Walter William “Bill” Rickey

January 8, 1945
November 27, 2024

The Cowboy's Prayer

Our gracious and heavenly Father, we pause in the midst of this festive occasion, mindful of the many blessings you have bestowed upon us.

As cowboys, Lord, we don't ask for any special favors. We ask only that you will let us compete in this arena as in the arena of life.

We don't ask that we never break a barrier, draw around a chute-fighting horse, or draw a steer that just won't lay. We don't even ask for all daylight runs.

We only ask that you help us to compete in life as honest as the horses we ride and in a manner as clean and pure as the wind that blows across this great land of ours.

Help us, Lord, to live our lives in such a manner that when we make that last inevitable ride to the country up there, where the grass grows lush, green and stirrup high, and the water runs cool, clear and deep, that you, as our last Judge, will tell us that our entry fees are paid. Amen.

-Clem McSpadden

Bill Rickey

Date of Birth

*January 8, 1945
Hobart, Oklahoma*

Entered Into Rest

*November 27, 2024
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

Memorial Ceremony

*Monday, December 2, 2024
Ten O'clock in the Morning
Walker Funeral Chapel
Shawnee, Oklahoma*

Officiant

Rick Davis

The last goodbye's the hardest one to say

This is where the cowboy rides away

