

Larry E. Walker was born, January 4, 1945, in Pierre, SD, to Chet and Vera (Hopkins) Walker. He grew up and spent most his life on a ranch in southeast Meade County on the scenic Cheyenne River breaks. Throughout his childhood, he rode horseback with his four other siblings to attend rural grade school. Larry graduated from Wall High School and went on to attend Black Hills State. Larry always had a yearning for fast horses, so he joined his brother in California, where he rode racehorses up and down the west coast. Moving back to South Dakota in his early twenties after a horse racing injury, Larry worked construction with his lifelong best buddy, Butch Beach, at the Cactus in Wall, South Dakota. Larry then headed back to the Cheyenne River in Plainview, buying the family ranch from his parents at their point of retirement.

He married the love of his life, Judy Slovek, in 1980. They raised three girls: Melissa (Fosheim), Amy (Schuelke), and Tracey (Wendt). At the family ranch, they took pride in the cattle, horses, and wheat they raised. Larry did not have any boys per say of his own, but he sure taught his girls the ins and outs of the ranch and how to be independent. As the kids grew up, he took many of their friends and neighbor kids under his wing and found great joy in their games, rodeos, track meets, tubing and ice-skating parties, and generally “most” of their shenanigans. Larry was a neighbor man, where friends were family and you always lent a helping hand. Some of the fondest memories were spent at neighborhood brandings, roping at the H&M, helping with livestock show at the Faith Stock Show, shimmying up that big cedar tree to light the star for Christmas, and an occasional foot race that he always dominated.

Larry and Judy continued to ranch until 2002 when his health said no more. Larry and Judy moved to the Black Hills by Custer and opened the Stage Stop gift shop in 2006 in Hill City. He very much enjoyed meeting new people and made some lifelong friends. Once you visited with Larry for very long, you were no longer a stranger, but a friend. Stories were always being told and connections were always being made. After being confined to home for health reasons, Larry enjoyed watching the wild life out the window and the beautiful sunsets to the west. He also very much enjoyed his role as “Grandpa,” and the grandkids were the apple of his eye. Judy loved and cared for him beyond measure, and did everything in her power to spoil him.

Grateful for sharing his life are his wife- Judy Walker, Custer, SD; one sister- Carole (Roy) Morris, Greenfield, CA; brother-in-law, Jim (Marianne) Geis, Aladdin, WY; children- Melissa (Pat) Fosheim, Midland, SD; Amy (Kasey) Schuelke, Faith, SD; Tracey (Rory) Wendt, Castle Rock, SD; grandkids: Baxter Fosheim; Logan and Rylann Schuelke; Whitley and Weston Wendt; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and special friends that were like family to him.

Larry is preceded in death by his parents, Chet and Vera Walker; sister, Linda Geis; and brothers, Jack (Sharon) and David (Yvette) Walker; and special friend, Larry Sandal.

May there be fast horses, fat cattle, loyal cow dogs, lush grass, good music, and a Camel smoke waiting for you in heaven.

*The family invites you to join them downstairs for fellowship and refreshments following the service.*

*Thank you for your presence and condolences.*



*In Loving Memory Of*

*Larry Walker*

*January 4, 1945 ~ November 29, 2022*



"Oh, The Last  
Goodbye's The  
Hardest One To say,  
And This Is Where  
The Cowboy Rides  
Away."

*In Loving Memory Of*  
**Larry Walker**

***Born***

January 4, 1945  
Pierre, South Dakota

***Died***

November 29, 2022  
Rapid City, South Dakota

***Memorial Service***

Monday, December 5, 2022, 1:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Officiants***

Pastor Harold Delbridge  
Pastor Paul Henschen

***Musician***

Danny Chapman - Guitar & Soloist

***Musical Selections***

"My Best Friend"  
"The Cowboy Rides Away"  
"When I Get Where I am Going"

***Pallbearers***

Paul Sandal   Bob Hanson   Bob Silbernagel  
Dee King   Merlon Bachman   Tucker Hudson  
Zeb Hoffman   Bub Thompson

***Honorary Pallbearer***

Butch Beach

