



## John Grazier

March 19, 1934 - October 9, 2016

John Grazier passed away Sunday, October 9, 2016 surrounded by his close friends. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, October 28th in the Walker-Brown Funeral Home Chapel. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Walker-Brown Funeral Home. John was born in Nowata, OK on March 19, 1934 to Roy and Estelline Grazier. John was raised on a farm in Nowata which turned into a lifetime passion of a becoming a successful rancher and horse trainer. John graduated from Nowata High School. He worked in a local nursery which led to opening his own nursery and landscaping business. Over the years John trained quarter horses and Arabian horses. He was well known as a mentor to several local ranchers. John became involved as the horse trainer and instructor at Bluestem Therapeutic Riding which helped those who are physically handicapped. John won a National Championship showmanship title at Madison Square Gardens and the National Championship title in the halter class. He lived several years in Kentucky as a rancher and enjoyed working with the Amish community. John will be remembered for his sweet smile and contagious laugh.

# Tribute Wall



“ Posted by Laura Neal from Bartlesville, Oklahoma

*John taught me to train and ride back in 1983, I was hone red to have him as my instructor*

*10/23/2016 at 10:33pm*

*Posted by Brenda Byler from Marion, Kentucky*

*I write this with great distress as I read about the passing of John Grazier. I have known John since October 12th, 1965. There is no mention of his family, but I knew them all. His parents were the most special people God ever created. He had one brother who was struck with polio at the age of 14. He never let a it stop him. He attended college and pursued his dream of being a lawyer. John also fathered some amazing children. His oldest daughter followed his lead and owned a flower shop and won many awards for her accomplishments. His next daughter is one of the greatest teachers the state of Oklahoma has ever had. His son, who is now retired from the military. With courage beyond my understanding; he left his family and did a tour in Iraq and a short tour in Afghanistan. He is still teaching junior ROTC to young people in Virginia. John had five of the most amazing grandchildren. Serving full time army, coast guard, national guard-children of character, integrity. It is with great honor I write this. He also had four young and very young great-grandchildren. They have hopes and dreams and I am certain as they grow and mature will be nothing less than accomplished men and women. As for me, I am the fall fillie that come along in October of '65'. As my mind is flooded with memories my greatest pain is that no family was notified or given the opportunity to say good-bye. But if I would have been given the opportunity to say good-bye I have no doubt that John would have told me that cowgirls don't cry. But I have learned that we really do, we just do it behind hay bales where no one sees us. I love you. Always have. Always will.*

*Cowboy up, Dad.*

*10/25/2016 at 04:09pm*

*Posted by Sami Saunders from Bartlesville, Oklahoma*

*John was always kind and polite. Always a gentleman.*

10/25/2016 at 06:21pm

*Posted by Sharon Jeffco from Nowata, Oklahoma*

*John Grazier was a huge part of who I am today. If it weren't for John, I could be dead. When we met I was a shy, backward, scared woman. John saw a God given gift in me that I didn't know was there. Horses. God gave me the gift to completely understand and communicate with them. John spent years with me everyday developing my skill together, many times 5-6 days a week for years. Together we ran the first accredited Premier Therapeutic Riding Center in the country. We became family and developed a friendship very close to a father/daughter relationship. There were times in his life that he lived with me and my husband and we were happy to have him. He was most always smiling and laughing about something. I will always be in his debt for the love, reassurance, gentle prodding he gave me turning me into a strong independent person. Because of John Grazier, I share my gift of horses to help troubled teens, disabled people, give confidence to others, increase their self esteem; in essence pay it forward and giving the glory to God just as John would have wanted. Rest in peace, John. Your last years were hard, but I look forward to riding with you again in God's army. I love you and will always miss you.*

10/25/2016 at 06:45pm

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**Dffh Dewey Chapel** - January 03, 2019 at 04:26 PM