

William "Bill" Marion Grimes

July 4, 1927 - February 15, 2020

William "Bill" Grimes, 92, U.S. Army veteran and Copan resident, died Saturday in Dewey.

Bill was born the son of Guy Clarence and Lois (Thompson) Grimes on July 4, 1927, in Bartlesville. The family moved to Perry, OK, where Bill was raised. At age 12 he found his lifelong passion for rodeo and horses. Wrestling was his favorite sport during high school where he was undefeated, winning the state championship in his weight class. After graduating from Perry High School in 1946, Bill went on to a wrestling scholarship at Central State College in Edmond, OK, before being drafted into the U.S. Army and serving from 1950-'51.

Once honorably discharged Bill met a feisty woman at Rick's BBQ. He swept her off her feet and asked "You want to go rodeoing?" Two days later Bill and May married on August 10, 1951, in Clayton, New Mexico, on the way to a – you guessed it - rodeo. Once hitched, they made their home in Guthrie, OK, then Wichita, KS, where Kerry was born, and Coffeyville, KS, where Guy was born. Bill took a new job with Allstate Insurance, first in Tulsa before transferring to Oklahoma City and finally retiring in 1987 with 31 years of faithful service under his belt. The next year Bill and May settled in Copan on 80 acres with plenty of room for his horses to pasture.

Bill's life centered around rodeo and the horses which he trained himself. For many, many decades, he rode bulls from 1939-'58, saddle bronc from 1939-'67, steer wrestling from 1958-'71 and hazed from 1958-'17 when at long last Bill retired at age 90. Over the years he took home many prizes, belt buckles and bragging rights. When he wasn't rodeoing, he enjoyed fishing and bird hunting. Bill loved his friends and his friends were friends for life.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 68 years May; two children, Kerry Chaney and husband Bob of Dewey, and Guy Grimes and wife Donna of Copan; four grandchildren, B.J. Walker and wife Melanie, Jamie Ingraham and husband Chris, Jodi Grimes, and Sammi Grimes; and nine great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at the Dewey Church of Christ under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Family Funeral Home – Dewey Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Dewey Church of Christ

1313 N Osage Ave.

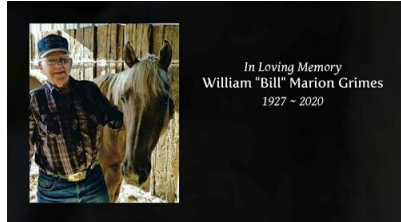
Dewey, OK 74029

<https://sites.google.com/site/deweycofc/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Davis Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Bill" Marion Grimes*



Davis Family Funeral Home - February 17, 2020 at 04:21 PM

BR

This is a very nice video and included many photos that I had never seen. Thank you to the family for putting this together. Well appreciated!

Betty Ann Racer - February 19, 2020 at 08:19 PM

DP

“ *Uncle Bill took me in as a kid.....he was tough but looking back it was really special the care I received from both Uncle Bill and Aunt Bill.....Rest in Peace uncle Bill, I had not forgotten you or what you did for me.*

*Don Pearston
dpearston@gmail.com*

Donald pearston - May 23, 2020 at 01:29 AM

DP

.....Aunt May I meant...;)

Donald pearston - May 23, 2020 at 01:30 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Marion Grimes.*



February 17, 2020 at 05:30 PM