

# Larry James Chevallier

March 11, 1950 ~ March 8, 2013

Husband,  
Son,  
Brother,  
Father,  
Grand Dad,  
Friend & Cowboy



On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 our lives were changed forever when Larry James Chevallier peacefully left us for a quieter place. His hand was held until the end by his beautiful wife of 39 years, Diana.

Larry was born in Eckville, Alberta on March 11, 1950 and was raised in Rocky Mountain House until he came to Peachland, BC in 1967 where he spent most of his active and colorful life.

He was 17 years old when he went to work at Brenda Mines for Troutman and Garraway and a few years later the Rocky Mountain House based Chevallier Construction had their own cats working at Brenda Mine on the tailings dam and they stayed there until the dam was complete in the mid 1980's.

After the mine closed Larry took the equipment on several highway building jobs around BC including several sections of the Coquihalla Connector, Meziadin Junction, Pink Mountain and Fort St. John. He then changed to mostly consulting jobs on various mine projects around the world including Mindanao Island in the Philippines, Copper Canyon in central Mexico and some great mine jobs in Alaska and northern British Columbia. One of his favorites was a mine out of Juneau, Alaska where he became a tug boat captain as they shipped mining equipment up the river on tugs to the mine site.

Larry was an outstanding horseman and cowboy. He started riding horses as a young boy in Rocky Mountain House and in 1969 in Peachland, he and Ferdie Brent spent endless hours helping build fences at the newly formed Peachland Riding Club. He later was one of the directors that signed a personal bank loan to build the clubhouse that we still use today. Larry was the longest consecutive member of the Peachland Riding Club and in 2005 he and Diana were awarded honorary lifetime memberships.

He was also very active in the Canadian Cutting Horse Association during the 1980's and early 1990's as a director, judge, competitor and champion at many events. In 1984 the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association honored Larry and Diana with an award for contributing the most to promotion, publication and public relations towards Cutting Events in Canada. That was also the time they got involved with High School Rodeo taking their son Shawn to many National High School Finals Rodeos in the boys cutting event. Larry was also a director, sponsor and long time supporter of High School Rodeo in BC.

Larry was always quick to give any kid a chance and get them involved with horses. There have been too many times to count over the years when kids have ridden his horses to the winners circle at cutting, rodeos and other events at local and national levels. For the past 20 years most kids that have known him fondly refer to him as "Grand Dad".

He rode many great horses over the years. He loved the smartness and athletic ability of a good cow-horse and he would amaze us when he would climb aboard one and go win an event without even practicing! He had talent in the saddle that many horsemen spend their lives trying to achieve. He had a very competitive spirit but at the same time, a soft compassion for all his good horses. His favorite was a talented mare named Dew N Peppy. Every family member won some type of award riding her, from cutting to roping and later his good mare carried his oldest granddaughter Candace to win many awards in barrel racing and gymkhana events.

Larry loved his animals. His dogs were a huge part of his life as well. He usually had two or three dogs with him wherever he went. He had a great connection with them all.

Larry wore many hats throughout his life. Hard hat, pilot hat, tug boat captain and volunteer, but the one that describes him best is "cowboy".

Larry was predeceased by his dad, Joe Chevallier in 2002 and by his nephew Mark Chevallier in 2012.

He is lovingly survived by his wife and best friend Diana Chevallier of Peachland, BC, his mom Vivian Chevallier of Westbank, BC, his son Shawn Chevallier (Jerri-Lynn) of Beaumont, AB, his daughter in-law Sandy Chevallier (Carl Woods) of Peachland, BC, his granddaughters, Candace, Fallon, Raven, Hunter and Bailey, his brother Don Chevallier (Kim) of Rocky Mountain House, AB, his sister in-law Connie Volk (Les) of Bowden, AB, his nephew Grant Chevallier (Elyse) of Rocky Mountain House, AB, his niece Amanda MacKenzie (Travis) of Spruce View, AB, his great nephews Charlie, Alex, Matthew, Cole and Tyrell and his great niece Sierra.

***The Chevallier family will be hosting an Open House at the Peachland Riding Club, 5380 Princeton Avenue, Peachland on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 1pm to remember the good times we have been lucky to share. An open mic session will be available for anyone wishing to share their great stories.***

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the Peachland High School Rodeo Scholarship Fund would be welcome.