



## Dave Ericsson

August 4, 1940 - August 23, 2020

Legendary Cowboy David Leroy Ericsson was born in Belle Fourche, South Dakota on August 4, 1940 and passed away on August 23, 2020 in Kingman, AZ. He was 80 years old. He will be forever loved and remembered by all who knew him.

Dave is survived by his wife Jennifer Nanke Ericsson, his children Connie Gist, Rebel Clayton, Travis Ericsson and Wheeler Ericsson, his grandchildren Tom Gist, Robert Gist, Jim Gist, Sara Brown, Devan Clayton, Fallon Clayton, Marlowe Clayton, Harper Clayton, Wesley Bond, Grace Ericsson, Hailey Ericsson, Ellie Ericsson, Leif Ericsson, Owen Ericsson, David Ericsson, his great-grandchildren, Travin Gist, Rylan Gist, Tacie Gist, Oaklie Gist, Shad Gist, Maddox Brown and Nixon Brown. In addition, Dave is survived by his siblings Gary Ericsson, Jim Ericsson, Gene Ericsson, Mary Ellen Cook, Barbara Ericsson and Todd Ericsson.

Dave is preceded in death by his first wife Bonnie Tyree Ericsson, his daughter Jill Marie Ericsson, his parents Eric and Norma Ericsson and his sister Sara Lee (Sally) Ericsson.

Dave was the truest of cowboys, a legend in every right. His accomplishments in the saddle have earned him a place in history. Throughout his lifetime he has been the subject of newspaper articles, magazine features, books and documentaries that have captured just some of his achievements. In 1966, Dave won the IRA Saddle Bronc World Championship. He had been contracted by the likes of ASARCO, BHP, Resolution, the Bureau of Land

Management, the National Park Service and even the US military to catch mustangs and wild cattle in the roughest terrain of the southwest. And of course, in infamy, Dave led the tremendous operation of the expulsion of wild burros from the Grand Canyon in 1980, with a team of his finest hands that included his brothers, brother-in-law and friends he kept for life. Dave Ericsson's reputation as a cowboy and horsemen precede him, but it is his legacy of his family that is his crowning achievement.

Please join us for a Celebration of Life held at the Prescott Rodeo Grounds on September 4, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, and in honor of Dave Ericsson's contribution to the Arizona Cowpunchers Reunion Association, please show your love and appreciation by donating to the ACRA Cowboy Crisis Fund payable to Cowboy Crisis Fund, PO Box 277, Humbolt, AZ 86329.

# Cemetery Details

**Private Cremation**

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

SEP 4. 12:00 PM (MT)

Prescott Rodeo Grounds  
Prescott, AZ

# Tribute Wall

AN

“ *Dave lived forty miles farther West than most men have ever been.*

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**anonymous** - September 26, 2022 at 08:03 PM

CS

“ *The Ericsson family welcomed me into their home and way of life when I moved from Georgia to Arizona. The western way of life in Wikieup was a completely different world than I was accustomed. I was allowed to ride Topper, experience a bull slaughtering, and camp in the desert. I will forever cherish those memories and will never be able to repay their kindness.*

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**Christy Miller Sturgill** - October 03, 2020 at 09:15 AM

JW

“ *I have very fond memories of times when Connie and I would help our dads, Dave and Jim, round up cattle on the Boquillas Cattle Co. I remember all of the good times when I used to go spend every summer with Connie after moving from Seligman, to Wikieup! Dave was a great man, who will be missed dearly! Till we meet again!*

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**Jody Lowrance Ward** - September 06, 2020 at 12:55 PM

WE

“ I worked with Dave at the TS ranch about 1965 in Battle Mountain Nevada on the wagon and Bonnie was the cook. I was only 12 years old. I remember there was a bronc ride every morning with hands like Dave, Little Ben Fancher, Bob Scott. There was never a dull moment.

Latter on during in my rodeo days we were acquainted again when Dave was a pickup man.

Dave was the type of person a young guy could look up to whether it was riding bucking horses, roping, or just being horseback. Dave was one of the best

RIP

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**Wayne Evans** - September 03, 2020 at 09:04 PM

JR

“ We met & became good friends in 1965, a more loyal friend you could never have ! Through out the yrs he never changed, he was the same Cowboys' Cowboy right up til the end.

The epitome of the word Cowboy.! In the rodeo arena, on the ranch or the Range a better Hand doesn't exist. A poet / story teller supreme. The Legacy of the Ericson Family in Arizona & the South West is large & long, with Dave leading the Band in its Merry Chase of Adventure, Believe me there are too many to count ;- ) Adios my old Companero'

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**Johnny Roberts** - September 02, 2020 at 06:23 PM

BM

“ Dave was having lion trouble on his ranch at the top of the world. Dave called me and ask me to bring my lion hounds to help out, I had just taken a manager job at APS in globe and couldn't get away so I told Dave to come pick up some of my lion hounds, he said he wasn't a lion Hunter and I told Dave to turn them loose and follow them. He called me up a couple of days later to tell me he caught a lion and he was all excited. Dave was a good friend and one of the toughest cowboys I ever knew. R.I.P. my friend and prayers for his family.

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**Bill Marshall** - September 01, 2020 at 10:15 PM