



Richard W. Riggs

March 10, 1939 - November 24, 2017

Richard W. Riggs of Willcox died in Tucson on November 24, 2017 at the age of 78. He was born in Bisbee, Arizona on March 10, 1939 to William Christopher Riggs and Hazel (Corcoran) Riggs. Richard was a lifelong rancher owning the 7 V T Ranch in the Dos Cabezas Mountains near Willcox. In 1991 he was awarded Conservation Rancher of Year by the Willcox-San Simon Natural Resource Conservation District. Richard also served on the NRCD board for many years and was very involved and sponsored the FFA Field Day every year. He worked at Bell Aerospace as a Electrical Engineer when he was younger and he also was retired School Teacher working in Elfrida and Willcox School Districts. Richard was a member of the Willcox United Methodist Church. On August 1, 1993 on Mount Graham he married Marsha Bakarich who survives him. Also surviving is his son Robert (Connie) Riggs of Tucson, step children : Lynn Price of Sierra Vista, David (Missy) Hart of Willcox and Page (Emily) Hart of Safford along with 2 grandchildren, 10 step grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren, and 9 1/2 step great grandchildren. His brother Dan (Monica) Riggs of Phoenix also surviving. Preceding him in death was his parents, a brother Ronnie Riggs and his son Rick Riggs. Memorial Services will be 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the home of Bill C. & Hazel Riggs, 8400 E. Mogul Road, Willcox (Dos Cabezas Mountains). Contributions may be made in his name to the Willcox United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 307, Willcox, Arizona 85644 or to the Ron Riggs Memorial

Scholarship Fund which is now known as the Willcox Foundation, 4149 Oxford Drive, Tucson, AZ 85711. You may express condolences at www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com Services entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary and Crematory of Willcox, Arizona.

Previous Events

Memorial service

DEC 3. 2:00 PM (MT)

Bill C. & Hazel Riggs Home
8400 E. Mogul Road
Willcox, AZ 85643

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard W. Riggs*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM



“ *I know this is late but I was watching an episode of Yellowstone and it brought me back instantly to a memory of working with Mr Riggs on his Ranch for several seasons. He was my teacher and such a great guy and always willing to teach in anyway he could.*

Clayton Price - November 27, 2022 at 11:09 PM

JT

“ My dear friends, Richard, Ronny and Danny, going back to 1952. Bill, Hazel, Ida Berry and Maggie helped my mother and I after my dad was killed in Korea. We lived with Maggie and I got to ride the school bus to Willcox, AZ every school day. However, at the end of the ride each day, Nickie and Arabia would be waiting for me to feed them. (they were more my size). Bert and Lois Gardner were always a sight for sore eyes and the stories he would tell, I had to laugh. My mom and I moved to El Paso from the ranch. Life goes on and until a few years back, I stayed in touch with Richard by email. Danny had retired and had come back to the ranch around 2004 or 2006. (Old age you know), but I lost touch with them. There were visits to the ranch from time to time with my mom and Stepfather, but after I graduated from college in El Paso, the world got bigger, yet email helped. I have tried to reach out to the museum in Willcox, but no luck on a return contact. I do have pictures I would like to share with family, but just don't know how to reach anyone now. I live in Toccoa, GA, my companies are in Atlanta, GA and I also have a home in Gainesville, FL. My corporate email is john_thompson@horizonresources.org if someone would like to reach me. My corporate phone number is 678-362-2231. (They may remember me by my nickname 'Jack') Trust me, sometimes it is very hard to keep up, but I did not make the effort, it would not happen. Kindest regards,
John C. Thompson,
Atlanta, GA US (UTC-5)



John Charles Thompson - February 07, 2020 at 11:23 AM

PS

“ Mrs Marsha Riggs...I sorry for your loss...he was such a smart and funny man...I remember when my friends and I ran out of gas coming back from Chiricahua mountain and we walked to the ranch and found him and we were hoping to get a couple of gallons of gas to make it back to Willcox but he insisted that we fill our tank!!! wow we were thrilled to say the least...May he rest in peace....

Pedro "Pete" Salazar

Pedro Salazar - January 04, 2018 at 05:41 PM

KM

“ My prayers and condolences to the Riggs family. So sorry for your loss.

Kim McRae - December 06, 2017 at 01:09 PM

CB

“ Mr. Riggs was a great teacher and a good friend. He was interested in his students back in High School and continued that interest through the years. Each time we saw each other in town we would stop and catch up on each others lives. He will be missed. May God bless and comfort the family.

Cheryl Myers Bowlby

Cheryl Myers Bowlby - December 03, 2017 at 11:29 PM

PS

“Mr. Riggs” was a teacher and a friend. He modeled for me that scholarship and land stewardship were in no way incompatible, and I’m forever grateful for his kind attention. From my first job “on the clock” feeding yearling heifers, to my first attempts at figuring a stoichiometric equation, I credit him with helping open the world to a student. He was a good man and I’m sorry I did not reach out sooner. Life is fleeting, and I know he understands.

Paul Schwennesen - December 03, 2017 at 09:18 AM

TJ

“The Wild family: Joan, Ryan and Mary Jo purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of Richard W. Riggs.



The Wild family: Joan, Ryan and Mary Jo - December 01, 2017 at 06:38 AM



“Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Richard W. Riggs.



November 30, 2017 at 11:48 PM



“ *Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Richard W. Riggs.*



November 30, 2017 at 04:03 PM



“ *The Willcox-San Simon NRCD Board of Supervisors purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Richard W. Riggs.*



The Willcox-San Simon NRCD Board of Supervisors -
November 30, 2017 at 02:41 PM



“ *Randy And Barb Price lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Randy and Barb Price - November 30, 2017 at 06:52 AM



“ *All my prayers are with the family at this sad timeI did not know till right now..... I have great memoires of his mom and him and his brother when she was as Casa.... and the time he brought me a calf...which was way bigger then the pen that Johnny made of him. may a friend rest in peace.*

Barbara A. hart - November 29, 2017 at 10:55 PM

CC

“ *Richard was my teacher in Elfrida school and in Willcox. I worked with him for 35 years at the ASCS/ FSA Office, such a good man with a great sense of humor! He will be greatly missed by many. The family has my deepest sympathy.*

Carol Case

Carol Case - November 29, 2017 at 05:58 PM

CD

“ *Christine Donnelly lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Christine Donnelly - November 29, 2017 at 12:48 AM

CD

Deepest condolences to Mr. Riggs' family and friends. I remember him as a wonderful teacher. May he rest in peace.

Christine Donnelly - November 29, 2017 at 12:51 AM

MD

“ *Mimi Donnelly lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Mimi Donnelly - November 28, 2017 at 11:51 PM

MD

Mr. Riggs was such an influential teacher at WHS. All my sympathy to Marsha and family. Mimi Donnelly

Mimi Donnelly - November 29, 2017 at 12:42 AM

DO

“ *Donna Owens lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Donna Owens - November 28, 2017 at 04:20 PM



“ *HUGS and prayers ~ my condolences.*

Kris Flanders - November 28, 2017 at 08:04 AM

JA

“ *John And Susan Arbuthnot lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



John and Susan Arbuthnot - November 28, 2017 at 08:02 AM



“ *Brandi-Lyn Ackerson lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Brandi-Lyn Ackerson - November 28, 2017 at 02:35 AM

KR

“ Kelly & Terry Rowden lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs



Kelly & Terry Rowden - November 27, 2017 at 11:18 PM

KT

“ Kathy Thatcher lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs



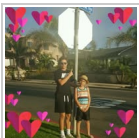
Kathy Thatcher - November 27, 2017 at 11:13 PM

 Samantha Hawkins

“ Samantha Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs



Samantha Hawkins - November 27, 2017 at 08:44 PM



“ Betsy Ajeman lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs



Betsy Ajeman - November 27, 2017 at 08:09 PM

KA

“ *Katie lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Katie - November 27, 2017 at 04:26 PM

 Cindy Nunez

“ *Cindy Nunez lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Cindy Nunez - November 26, 2017 at 08:42 PM

ES

“ *Edna Scott lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Edna Scott - November 26, 2017 at 01:53 PM

AT

“ *Angela Torres sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Angela Torres - November 26, 2017 at 01:37 AM

BT

A man of great integrity, a great teacher, a good friend.

Ben Travis - November 26, 2017 at 01:02 PM

NF

“*Noel And Arlene Forsyth lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



Noel and Arlene Forsyth - November 25, 2017 at 06:45 PM

WW

“*A good man, a good friend, he will be missed.*

Walter Wien - November 25, 2017 at 06:42 PM

KM

“*Kay Mahan lit a candle in memory of Richard W. Riggs*



kay Mahan - November 25, 2017 at 07:45 AM