William "Fred" Ellis

March 19, 1949 - June 11, 2021

William (Fred) Ellis passed away on Friday June 11, 2021, at the age of 72 at his home where he was surrounded by his loving family, he was born on March 19, 1949, in Tucson Arizona to Thelma F. and Richard H. Ellis. He grew up on the Campstool Ranch in Willcox Arizona, where he loved ranching. He attended Willcox school district from kindergarten through senior year. During high school he was involved in FFA and he was able to attend nationals. After graduating high school, he worked at the Willcox Packing Plant for several years. Later on, in life he went on to run a ranch in New Mexico, he was a man of many talents including welder, cowboy, builder and the list goes on. He also had a passion for rodeo, especially team roping. He left a huge footprint wherever his travels took him. Fred never left his house without his black Resistol cowboy hat. One of his favorite activities was going to the Arena Bar to visit his friends, where his seat on the corner was always reserved for him. He is preceded in death by his mother Thelma Ellis and his father Richard (Dick) Ellis and he is survived by his sons Marty Ellis and Preston Ellis, his daughter Sarah Gartin Ellis, his one sister Shirley Wood, nephew Darrin Wood, nieces Tammy Wood Murrietta and Darla (DeeDee) Wood Thornberry, three grandchildren Sheridan, Taylor and Gunner as well as multiple other family members. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Arena Bar on Saturday, June 19, 2021 beginning at 2:00 pm. Contributions may be made thru Face book to the Fred Ellis Memorial Rodeo Scholarship. You may express condolences at westlawnchapelmortuary.com Arrangements

entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary and Crematory of Willcox, Arizona.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **19**. 2:00 PM (MT)

Arena Bar and Restaurant
250 N. Prickly Pear Ave
Benson, AZ 85602

Tribute Wall

William "Fred" Ellis

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM

CL

I was so sad to hear that Fred passed away in June. He was a legend in Cochise County. Very good cowboy, worker, dancer, the list goes on and on. He truly will be missed.

Cassie McGuire Lee - July 14, 2021 at 03:19 PM

NF

Many memories! May he rest in peace! Prayers to the whole family! Nancy Fenn and Casey Faulkner.

Nancy Fenn - June 19, 2021 at 08:20 PM

JJ

Jeannie Johnson lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Jeannie Johnson - June 17, 2021 at 10:01 PM

KS

Kevin Schmelzla lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Kevin Schmelzla - June 15, 2021 at 01:26 PM

JM

Such sad news. Our condolences to the family. Rest in peace.
Rey - Jonnie Martinez

Jonnie Martinez - June 14, 2021 at 05:20 PM

JM

Such sad news. Our deepest condolences to the family. Rest in peace Fred.
Rey & Jonnie Martinez

Jonnie Martinez - June 14, 2021 at 05:10 PM

BH

Fred has been a friend since we were both 11 years old at Willcox Elementary School. We graduated from Willcox High School in the Class of 1967. He has been a life long awesome friend. My condolences to Shirley, Smurf, and his two boys.
Bruce Heiden

Bruce Heiden - June 13, 2021 at 10:43 PM

JB

RIP Fred, heartfelt condolences to the families so sad!

Janine Brown - June 13, 2021 at 04:01 PM

CM

Candy Morgan lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Candy morgan - June 13, 2021 at 11:30 AM

TM

Trey Moses lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Trey Moses - June 13, 2021 at 11:04 AM

GM

Sending heartfelt condolences to the entire family from Lee & I. So many memories. ❤️

Gail Martin - June 13, 2021 at 10:56 AM

Betsy Ajeman lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Betsy Ajeman - June 13, 2021 at 10:03 AM

JI

Our deepest heart felt sympathies in your loss

Jim and Kathy Cook

James B Cook II - June 13, 2021 at 07:16 AM

HF

55(') yrs as friends....my heart is sad.... from one Outlaw to another we will meet again & hope to have a brew or 2 like old times.... rest in peace my brother...

Hector M Figueroa - June 12, 2021 at 06:53 PM

GA

Gussie & Sharon Arzberger lit a candle in memory of William "Fred" Ellis

Gussie & Sharon Arzberger - June 12, 2021 at 06:09 PM

CC

Our deepest sympathy to Shirley, Marty, Preston and Sarah. Fred was a one of a kind, he will be missed by many. May God comfort you all.

Carol Case - June 12, 2021 at 04:45 PM