



Gene Sackman

April 3, 1941 - May 30, 2014

Sackman Lived an Exceptional Life

Gene Sackman died of a heart attack he had while on a cattle drive May 30, 2014. He was 73 years young. He was a memorable character to those who knew him. With a wink and a twinkle in his eyes, paired with that genuine smile, Gene loved people. He had more talent in his pinky finger than a hundred men; he lived a whole hearted life. He became something of an American folk figure, hero to some, and a pain in the ass at times to others. Gene was the kind of person you wanted to be around, he truly was the life of the party. A voice from the past carrying the old time ways with him through stories and his cowboy way of life. Sackman, for so many, was a symbolic male figure; welding, fixing, carving, horse breeding/breaking, Western book reading...He had a handsome and hearty face, with crinkles around those teasing eyes, expressing much emotion and giving the impression of a man of action, a man who lived life. When he walked into the room, one could sense the arrival of coiled vigor waiting only to be sprung. His confident and friendly demeanor was that of a man who did not look for trouble, but was relentless in tackling it when it affronted him. He was born on April 3, 1941, in Colfax, WA, and grew up in Omak on the family ranch. He went to college at Wenatchee Valley, worked at Sears until retirement, then built a log home above Conconully in the rawness of nature with his beloved wife, Annie, whom he loved dearly. You never thought of Gene without Annie; they made the perfect

team. Annie was his helpmate and the one Gene enjoyed provoking the most. I'm not sure she'd have it any other way. Together, they were examples of true grit; they were the moon and the stars. Gene initiated unforgettable adventures worthy to be shared over again with family and friends. He enjoyed his Westerns on television and in books, but he loved living them even more. Gene had a tendency to reach a little bit into our souls through his insight of people. Take with you a piece of Gene Sackman and when you reach the mountain's summit, take a pull back on the reins, where it might make the boldest hold their breath, and let the pony have his head.

Gene is survived by his wife, Annie; daughter, Kim Bartel; son, Tony; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; his sister, Sally Eder; his brothers, John and Buck; and a slew of amazing friends.

A Potluck Celebration will be held, Saturday, June 28, 2014, at

2:00 p.m. at the Sittin' Bull in Conconully. Please bring any photos of Gene, a lawn chair and a favorite dish for the potluck. In lieu of flowers, donations will be accepted for the Conconully Fire Department.

Tribute Wall

KM

“ I will always remember Gene with a smile. 40 years ago this summer Gene, Annie, Chris and I went to Royal City one late afternoon after work to pickup a load of hay for the horses with one of our lumber trucks. Loading the hay went just fine. However we were hauling the hay during the summer that there were a rash of arsonist hay fires. We were stopped in Quincy by the local law enforcement to verify the bill of sale as there were thefts of hay also happening. All four of us stuffed into the cab and even though it was at night it was still quite warm plus it was dusty. It took law enforcement at least an hour to verify our bill of sale. I think they had to wake up the farmer who I believe was a relative of Gene's. Finally we got on the road and pulled into town about 11:30 PM. We had to unload the hay after that. We finished about 1 AM. Gene and Annie had me stay on their couch that night. I did not argue at all and I made it back to work the next morning by 7AM. It was fun and certainly an adventure that I will never forget. I saw Gene a number of times over the years and we'd always chuckle about that evening. Gene was a friendly and neat guy. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

ken marson - June 09, 2014 at 06:02 PM

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“ Gene Sackman..Cowboy and Mr. Sears. First met at sears. A special guy with a great personality and big heart.

Our thoughts and prayers to his family

"Happy Trails to you Gene".

Denny and Sandy English

Denny English - June 07, 2014 at 05:54 PM



“ *lit a candle in memory of Gene Sackman* ”



June 07, 2014 at 05:47 PM