



Billy Ray Nelson

November 23, 1943 - May 3, 2024

Billy Ray Nelson, a true Texan through and through, born on November 23, 1943, bid farewell to his loved ones on May 3, 2024, at a local hospital in Arlington, TX. He leaves behind a grieving wife of forty years, Lorna Stewart Nelson, a loving daughter, Raye Anne Thomas, son-in-law Chris Thomas, and a cherished granddaughter, Zemirah Rose Thomas.

Billy was well-known for his passion for rodeoing and was a true cowboy at heart. His roots in Texas ran deep, having retired from the Irving Independent School District and working in sales and special events at Wild Bill's Western Wear. He could often be found working at the Mesquite Rodeo in Mesquite, TX.

The youngest of two boys, Billy was born to the late Fletcher Nelson and the late Dorothy Downs Nelson in Irving, TX, and graduated from Irving High School. He shared a special bond with his brother, Jimmy Lee Nelson, and leaves behind beautiful memories for his nephew Allen Nelson (Carol) and niece Kelly Minnix (Randy), and generations of nephews and nieces.

A celebration of Billy's life will take place at Shady Grove Cemetery, 3000 Hardrock Road, Grand Prairie, TX, 75050, at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 11, 2024, where family and friends will gather to honor his legacy. His love for Texas, riding, roping and helping others will always be remembered and cherished by

those who knew him.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 11. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Shady Grove Cemetery
3000 Hardrock Road
Grand Prairie, TX 75050

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Billy Raye Nelson.* ”



May 09, 2024 at 01:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Billy Raye* ”



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