

Kevin Reece, 57, passed away Oct. 19, 2022 at his ranch home near Valentine, NE.

Kevin Jon Reece was born May 11, 1965, to F. M. 'Bud' Reece Jr. and Judith (Maranville) Reece in Valentine, NE. He loved the ranch on which he was raised and where he lived his entire life. Kevin attended grade school at Simeon District 5. He was active in 4-H and junior wrestling. He was a 1984 graduate of Valentine High School where he participated in football, wrestling and track, as well as rodeo. He was awarded the 1984 Nebraska 4-H Horse Award.

Kevin attended the University of Nebraska, graduating in 1989 with an Ag Economics degree. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Sigma fraternity and was active in UNL Rodeo Club. He traveled to numerous rodeos, making many friends along the way. He was the 1987 and 1988-89 UNL Rodeo Association All-Around Cowboy. In the fall of 1989, the Rodeo team traveled to Shizouka, Japan to produce a rodeo as part of the city's 1,000-year celebration. Kevin also visited Australia and New Zealand while in college.

On April 22, 1994, Kevin married Jennifer Wietzke and they made their home on the ranch. Together they raised three children Jordan, Kaitlin, and Kooper. Being a significant part of the family's business brought them much happiness and many adventures together.

Besides ranching, Kevin enjoyed creating cowboy poetry, writing poems about ranching, rodeo life, family, and friends. Kevin found his greatest joy in his children and grandchildren, and their many activities and accomplishments.

He is survived by his wife Jenny; children: Jordan (Cimone) Garvin of Denver, Kaitlin of Stanton, NE, and Kooper of Kearney, NE; grandchildren: King Brown of Valentine, Djerik Garvin, Cayden Chukwuka and Maclin Garvin of Northglenn, CO; parents Bud and Judy Reece of Valentine; sister Janet (Lonny) Thomsen of Wolbach, NE; mother-in-law, Marie Wietzke of Valentine; sister-in-law Carol Wietzke of Valentine; brother-in-law John (Shelley) Wietzke of Valentine; nephews: Andrew (Jamie) Thomsen of Sterling, NE & Blake Thomsen of Valentine, Tony (Laura) Reed of Gretna and Kasey Wietzke of Valentine; nieces CaLee Thomsen of Wolbach, NE and Aly Mechant & Lila Reed of Gretna ; and his dog, Hank.

He was preceded by his grandparents: Francis Marion (Frank) Reece, Sr., Edna (Gram Gram)Young Reece, Forrest Glen (Opa) Maranville and Thelma (Oma) Wilcox Maranville; and father-in-law Eldon Wietzke.



In Loving Memory Of

Kevin

May 11, 1965 ~ October 19, 2022

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God has laid for me;
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play;
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy;
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes, these things I too will miss!

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow;
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief;
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee,
God wanted me now...He set me free!

In Celebration Of The Life Of Kevin Jon Reece

Memorial Service

Saturday - November 12, 2022 @ 2pm
Methodist Church in Valentine, NE

Officiant

Pastor Jake Schadel

Music

"Ride Me Down Easy, Lord" – *Waylon Jennings*
"A Cowboy's Prayer" - *Casey Donahew*
"How Great Thou Art" - *The Statler Brothers*
Postlude: "God Be With You" - *Jim Reeves*

Honorary Bearers

Jordan Garvin ~ Kaitlin Reece ~ Kooper Reece
King Brown ~ Djerik Garvin
Cayden Chukwuka ~ Maclin Garvin

Arrangements By
Holmes Funeral Home ~ Valentine, NE
www.HolmesFH.com