



## John Earl Hammack

May 6, 1955 - August 1, 2013

John was born and raised in Sisters, Oregon. He was considered to be one of the best Bareback Riders in the Pacific Northwest. He won the All Around at Sisters Rodeo in 1974, 1977, 1980 and 1984. He was a very successful Bareback Rider and Bulldogger and won rodeos all over the country, including the Champion Bareback Riding title at the The Worlds Toughest Rodeo at Madison Square Garden in New York City. He made his living Rodeoing and Logging. He loved the outdoors. He was a hard workingman and always took the time to teach and to ensure that he and his partners were safe while logging in the woods. He was a man of his word and reverently respected. He was also a man of God and his religion and spirituality guided him in this life. Believing was not enough for John; he had to act on his strong beliefs and do. He raised his children in Sisters and they followed in his footsteps, both becoming Rodeo Professionals themselves; his son Johnny, a saddle Bronc Rider, and his daughter Kelli Jo, a Barrel Racer. All of his grandchildren are also continuing his legacy in the port of Rodeo. Big John was larger and tougher than life and he touched everyone that he encountered. It was important to him to make his own way in life and his dreams easily became reality. John and his wife Maura built their ranch from the ground up, sawing every board in their mill and implementing solar power so that it was completely self-sufficient. Later in life, John got his greatest joy from helping kids and coaching them in the sport of rodeo and horsemanship, passing on his wisdom and experience to his children, grandchildren and countless others

that came in to his life. He is preceded in death by his father Milton Wesley Hammack, brothers Dick and Lyle Hammack and younger sister Becky Hammack. He is survived by his mother Dona Hammack, his wife Maura Hammack, son John Tyler Hammack, daughter Kelli Jo Hammack, grandchildren Taylie, Taitem, T.C., Taelor and Hazey, brothers Jack and Jim, sisters Patty and Denise and numerous nieces and nephews. There will be a celebration of Life on August 13, 2013 at 3:00 PM. In order to accommodate those anticipated to attend, the original venue has been changed to a building at the Redmond Fairgrounds. There will be a potluck dinner for all. In lieu of flowers there is a John Hammack Memorial Fund set up at Wells Fargo Bank.

Funeral Home:

Redmond Memorial Chapel

717 SW 6th Street

Redmond, OR

US 97756

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ Thoughts and prayers with the family. If there is anything we can do.,

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**Joe holland** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Johnny and Kelli Jo, Im so saddened to hear of this tragedy. Your Daddy was a good man. Heaven gained another angel for sure. Keeping you and your families in my thoughts, Shannon

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**Shannon Hamar Johnson** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ We will never forget you . Heaven just gained a wonderful cowboy and champion.

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**Gladys Engstrom Sappington** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ May the broncs you ride in Heaven give you the rides of your life my friend you will be missed down here for sure

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**Dennis Barclay** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ John was an acquaintance of mine who I knew since the 80s. Loved watching that guy ride and yes he was a some Cowboy. It would have to be a giant Ponderosa Pine to kill him, he was one tough Cowboy. He had that John Wayne air ea about him and you if you knew him you would treat him with respect. I will miss seeing him in the Sister Hotel with a beer. Another Cowboy rides in the Sky.

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**John Harris** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family members and friends of John. His fellow fire fighting comrades will truly miss his presence on the lines. The work he did helped keep the rest of us safe and we are all very grateful for his time. Thanks John. T. Keebler / JTM Fire Redmond Oregon.

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**Tracy Keebler / JTM Enterprises** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ When I think of John, this quote from Lonesome Dove comes to mind Cheerful in all weathers, never shirked at task, splendid behavior Happy trails friend. You will be missed. You were a damn good man! Sending strength to your family and friends. Rob Cravens and family

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**Rob Cravens** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ So very sorry for your loss. Its very hard to lose someone like John who is always larger than life. Enjoy your memories and remember when you are missing him, take the time to stop and think about what he would say to you if he were there. Weve found that helps when you lose such a old soul whos wise words will always stay with you. We sure miss our Dad and know that the heartache will eventually get better. It takes a long time, but if you think about what he would do, youll find comfort in that. I sure will miss Big John calling me Gunnysack. You never grow out of a childhood nickname.It always made me feel like a dirty faced, rodeo kid again, playing under the grandstands at the rodeos. Everyone around was part of your extended family and was treated as such. Long live cowboys. Maura, we were so happy to get to know you that summer at the ranch in Roberts. The two of you were a great pair. I was so happy John found his soul mate. Our thoughts are with you always. Johnny and Kelly Jo, remember your dads wise words to you. They will help you through the future. Honor him by remembering the lessons he taught you. You are in our thoughts and prayers. To the entire Hammack family, remember all the good times and know that everyone is thinking of you at this time. Happy Trails Dear Friend!

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**Travis and Shawna Daly-Williams** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ My thoughts and prayers with you Maura and family!!!!

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**Roxanne Grier** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BU

“ Give him his head John someday I will see u up there. Bill

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**Bill Urbach** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ I knew John when he was a young man in Sisters. We are sorry for your loss! Praying for Gods peace and comfort for his family at this time. You will see him again one fine day.. Sincerely, Claudine

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**Claudine & Chuck Day** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ Donna, Patty, Denise, and the family, Ours hearts go out to you. We have a lot of good memories. May God Bless all of you. Wayne and Sindi Short

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**Wayne and Sindi Short** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Words dont express our sorrow or broken hearts. But We are glad God blessed us by having him as a friend and family by rodeo. We will always cherish our memories and pictures of Big John and all the fun we had rodeoing those many summers. Our wedding, watching you kids grow up and have his grandchildren. You were his pride and joy. Maura, we were glad when John found you. You gave him focus and a place he could call home. You loved him and he you and that made his world complete. John may be gone, but will live in our hearts for-ever. We love you guys and if you need anything at all, all you need to do is ask Bill,Janet and Tyler Beeman

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**Janet and Bill Beeman** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ Dona Im so sorry. As a child hood friend of Justine you always treated me like one of your grandchildren, I feel fortunate to have known the love and generosity of your family. With sincere love and sympathy to all your family, you all will always be in my heart. With all my love Heather

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**Heather Wilson Gibb** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Especially to Kelli and Johnny I was saddened to hear about your Dad. The first thing I thought of was the two of you. You were two of the cutest kids I had the pleasure of watching grow up while I worked in the offices of Sisters Schools. Kellis letter to The Nugget was so well written and heart felt. It made me reflect on memories of my own Dad who was also a timber faller. Like your Dad, he was often called to handle extremely dangerous situations as if the everyday job wasnt dangerous enough! Worry became a part of everyday life for us just like the job that they love becomes a part of who they are. Their skill and attention to safety make you start to believe that the worst thinkable wont happen to them. Though my Dad had lots of dents in his hard hat, we were lucky not to have to go through what you are right now. We couldnt get him to hang up his chain saw until he was almost 80 years old! It seems you can take the guy out of the woods but you cant take the woods out of the guy! Im praying that your memories and your faith will help you and your family through this difficult time. My heart goes out to you. With Sympathy and Love, Connie Holly

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**Connie Holly** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Your Texas friends will always remember you. Heaven welcomed another good cowboy. Billie Ruth Hankins Mike Waters

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**Billie Ruth Waters Hankins** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ May you forever run with the mustangs and shoot arrows of water at the flames. ..You will not be forgotten. Love and prayers are with your family.

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**Donna Redden/Redmond** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *The best gifts are tied with heart strings. You are a true treasure. Thank you for being one of the good guys.*

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**Teddie Bussey** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *So sorry to hear about Johns accident and passing. I havent seen John since about 1986, when I moved from Sisters. We had a lot of fun and I remember the guys going off to Florida to start the Rodeo Season. I saw a picture of him on a bronc at the Pendleton Roundup it was hanging in the Hamleys restaurant in Pendleton.*

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**Devon Talley** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *A life well lived.*

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**Kathleen Hammack** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *You and Dick are looking at us with your beautiful eyes. A life well lived. Your sister-in-law.*

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**Kathleen Hammack** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ *RIP Cowboy..Thoughts and prayers to all the family. John was one awesome cowboy..*

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**Loran and Penni Law** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *always enjoy john*

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**Jim de Sully** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ So shocked and sorry to hear of Johns accident. May special memories of happy times with John help his family as they deal with his loss. John touched so many peoples lives and he will be missed. Please know you are all in our thoughts.

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**Ed and Terry Arnold** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ John was a friend of my childrens father that past away last June his name was Anthony Chaz Mitchell Sr. so now he can see John again.

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**Robin Smith** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ To Johns Family: We are so very sorry for your loss. You and your entire family are in our thoughts. From:: Your friends at Scappoose Fire District

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**Cheryl Engstrom/Scappoose Fire District** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ So sorry for your loss,I did not know John well, but knew his father and mother, and his sister Patty for over 60 years. **GENE GOFF AND FAMILY.**

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**GENE GOFF** - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM