

Christopher Roy Mathis

September 6, 1978 - July 19, 2009

A funeral service for Christopher Roy Mathis, 30, was conducted at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 22, 2009 at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, Wyoming. Interment was at 2 p.m. at the Mathis Ranch Cemetery west of Wheatland.

He died Sunday, July 19, 2009 in a one-vehicle accident near Wheatland.

Christ was born September 6, 1978 in Denver, CO, the son of Roy and Gloria (Goodmay) Mathis. Christ attended Wheatland schools where he graduated in 1997. While in high school, Christ played football and basketball and wrestled where he twice placed in the top 5 in the state wrestling tournament. Later, he attended Northwest Community College where he walked on, earned a scholarship and a spot on their varsity wrestling team.

Chris recently worked for DHS Drilling as a derrick hand. He previously worked with his father and brother, Clint, in the family business (Patterned Concrete of Wyoming) and later managed it. He also broke wild horses and his most recent venture was raising and training bucking stock. Christ had a natural connection and love for animals and he definitely loved the ranching life.

Chris had a contagious laugh, a genuine smile, and a sparkle in his eyes. He liked to tease family and friends and never meant any harm. He had a strong sense of justice and fairness. When Christ saw someone being taken advantage of, he would step up in their defense.

Chris was a gentle man with a big heart and the truest friend. He was generous and always there to lend a helping hand whenever heeded. He frequents was first to pick up the dinner tab.

Chris was courageous and daring. He would try just about anything include bungee jumping and cliff diving. Christ loved the rodeo and participated in bull riding and later bull fighting which is another example of his sacrificial and protective nature.

Chris was an avid outdoorsman. He spent a summer guiding river rafting trips in Casper. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was proud of his trophy elk which he had mounted and is having at the ranch. He was all successful on his adventurous fishing trip to Alaska last year with his large halibut catch. He participated for a number of years in the Single Action Shooting Society (Cowboy Action Shooting).

Christ was very competitive. He enjoyed playing a good game of [pool and participated in a pool league for a number of years. He grew up playing games with his family, especially card games like spades. Perhaps this gave him the card sense which helped develop his great poker-playing abilities.

Survivors include his parents, Roy and Gloria Mathis of Wheatland; brothers Chad (Estelle) Mathis of Castle Rock, CO, Clint (Christa) Matos of Collbran, CO; sister Vicki (Mark) Keil of Casper, nieces and nephews, Sarah, Benjamin, Beeanna, Dalas,estiny and Micah; and grandmothers Elna Cole of Littleton, CO and Dorothy Goodmay of Sheridan, WY.

Serving as pallbearers were John Keil, Luke Keil, Cody Teel, Josh Cundall, Jeremy Evans, Joe Buffington, Kyle McIntosh and Billy Evans.

Memorials were to the Christ Mathis Memorial Fund in care of Platte Valley Bank.

Chris will be greatly missed by his family and friends and will live in our hearts forever.

