



DONALD ALBERT ASHCRAFT

FEBRUARY 21, 1936 ~ AUGUST 21, 2020

A Cowboy's Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, we pause at this time,
mindful of the many blessings you have
bestowed upon us. We ask, Lord,
that you will be with us in the arena of life.

We as cowboys do not ask for special favors.
We don't ask to draw around the chute
fighting horse, the steer that won't lay,
or to never break the barrier.

We don't even ask for all daylight runs.

We do ask Lord, that you will help us live our lives here on
earth as cowboys, in such a manner, that when we make that
last inevitable ride, to the country up there, where the grass
grows lush, green, and stirrup high, and the water runs cool,
clear, and deep, that you'll take us by the hand and say:

"Welcome to Heaven cowboy,
your entry fees are paid."

Donald Albert Ashcraft passed away on August 21, 2020 after losing a tumultuous battle to cancer. He was born on February 21, 1936 in Opello, AR to the late George Herman and Ailene Hallett Ashcraft. He is survived by his wife, Rachael Green Ashcraft; brother Ted Ashcraft of Perryville; son Randy Ashcraft (Kathy) of Redfield; two daughters Donna Kubitz (Bubba) of Little Rock, and Tina Ashcraft of Little Rock; seven granddaughters, Amanda Ashcraft, Amy Kennedy, Jessica Schueck, Rachael Bolt, Jackie Ackley. Randi Ashcraft and Kaylee Kubitz; eight great grandchildren and a host of other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and his grandson Keith Kennedy.

After graduating high school, he served five years in the US Air Force. It was during this time, he met the love of his life, Rachel Green to whom he was married for 63 years.

Don joined Bill Short Motors in 1964. Bill Short Motors became Riverside Motors and he devoted 40 years to the only place he would work. He started in the Parts Department and worked his way up quickly to General Manager, Vice President and Owner. He obviously loved the automobile industry and served on many different committees and the Arkansas Automobile Dealers Association Board of Directors.

Don found a greater love than cars when he bought his first horse in 1965. He was hooked from day one and spent over 50 years competing in horse shows. He competed in the 1989 World Quarter Horse Show and placed 2nd. He represented the horse industry well and served as past President of the Arkansas State Horse Show Association, Arkansas National Director To American Quarter Horse Association, and serving on the AQHA Board – Judges Committee.

He loved his family, his animals, driving his tractors, shooting the breeze with anyone. But everyone would agree his biggest and best known role was Poppy. He took the role seriously and no one knew just how serious until he painted his horse trailer purple because that was what his great-grandkids wanted.