



Gordon Lee Kostman

January 13, 1928 – March 8, 2012

Gordon Kostman, 84, longtime Arthur County resident, died Thursday, March 8, 2012 in the Ogallala Community Hospital.

Gordon Lee Kostman was born January 13, 1928 to Rankie and Hazel (Lassen) Kostman at Farnum, Nebr. At age two he moved with his family east of Arthur to what is known as the Quarter, living there several years.

The family later moved to the Imond Place, south of Arthur and later to Brule where they farmed and ranched, milking cows and raising draft horses. He attended Brule Public School. In 1941 Gordon was confirmed in the Brule Lutheran Church. In 1942 the family moved to the Haney Place north of Arthur. Gordon attended Arthur area schools and graduated from Arthur County High School in 1947. Gordon helped his father with the ranch work.



On July 10, 1949 Gordon married Margaret Finn at St. Pauls Lutheran Church in Ogallala. To this union two children were born. The couple resided and ranched on the Mannon Place north of Keystone. Later they worked at the George McGinley Ranch near Keystone and the Lute and Kramer ranches, Meyer's Land and Cattle Co., and the Haythorn Ranch, all in Arthur County. Gordon also managed Moon Lake Cattle Co., south of Johnstown. He was also employed by the Arthur County Roads Department for 14 years.

Gordon rodeoed most of his life starting at age sixteen, calf roping at first, then team roping as a header. He competed at rodeos in 26 counties in Nebr. and in 12 states. He gained the title of Nebr. State Rodeo Assoc. Champion Team Roping Header in 1972 and 1977. Gordon worked as a pick-up man for the O'Connor Rodeo Co. He was the second person to receive the NSRA Gold Card. In 1978 he joined the Senior Pro Rodeo Association.

He helped organize the Arthur County High School Rodeo Club. Gordon received appreciation awards from the Arthur Agricultural Society, the Arthur Roping Club and the high school Rodeo Club. Gordon and Margaret were honored as the Grand Marshalls at the Arthur County Fair Parade.

Gordon always had a love for animals, having had dogs, coyote hounds, horses and cattle. He loved the hills and country side and one of his favorite pastimes was riding horseback gathering or working cattle. Once while caking cattle at the Lane Place he made the statement "This is God's Country." He enjoyed his children and grandchildren's participation in rodeos, 4-H show, and all sports activities. Their accomplishments were pleasing to him.

Preceding him in death were his parents, brother Norman, brother-in-law and sister-in-law Glenn and Iris Finn; and brother-in-law Wilson McCarty.

Survivors include his wife Margaret Kostman of Arthur; his daughter Karma Kramer of Sidney; his son Kevin (Wendy) Kostman of Bingham; one sister Francis (Dick) Geisert of Greeley, Colo.; Two sisters-in-law Atta McCarty of Lexington and Joan Scully of Brighton, Colo; and five grandchildren: Tara Ramnath of Denver, Tandi (Scott) Porter of Blue Hill; Reed (Micki) Kramer of Oshkosh; Cody Kostman of Bingham; and Kryn Kostman of Lincoln. Nine great-grandchildren: Bailee, Shaye and Karstyn Porter, Kayden, Kamry and Kyan Kramer; Liam and Max Kostman, Josiea Ramnath and one step-granddaughter Kealy Kociemba and many nieces and nephews; and his faithful companion dog Oscar.

Visitation will be Friday, March 9, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Draucker Funeral Home.

The funeral service will be Saturday, March 10, at 2 p.m. in St. Pauls Lutheran Church in Ogallala. Rev. John Stubenrouch will officiate.

Interment is in the Arthur Cemetery. A memorial has been established in his memory.

Online condolences may be sent to webmaster@drauckerfh.com.

Draucker Funeral Home of Ogallala is in charge of arrangements.