

Russell William "Bill" Byers

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Russell William "Bill" Byers, 60, of Wheatland, Wyo., died on Sept. 19, 2003, at his home.

He was born on July 2, 1943, in Aurora, Colo., to William and Elizabeth (Nolen) Byers. As the child of a career military man, he was reared and educated all over the world, and graduated from George Washington High School in Denver, Colo.

He joined the U.S. Navy at age 17, and was a veteran of Vietnam. After serving almost four years, he was honorable discharged. He then attended Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colo., for two years.

Bill began working in ranch management in Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota in the 1970s. In the late '70s, he started his own business of buying and selling horses. In his younger days, he enjoyed bull riding.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, past member of Torrington Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, and a member of the Moose Lodge. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Bill is survived by his fiancée, Maxine Stephenson of Surfer's Paradise, Queensland, Australia; his mother, Elizabeth Byers of Wheatland; and a son, Jason Byers of Wheatland. He is also survived by one sister, Denice and husband Bill Travis of Moorpark, Calif.; brother David Byers of Wheatland; numerous nieces and nephews, and many, many friends.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Services were held on Sept. 22 in Wheatland with interment at Wheatland Cemetery. Military honors were performed at the cemetery by the Laramie Peak Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3558.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Hospice of Platte County, P.O. Box 1025, Wheatland, Wyo. 82201. ❖