

JoDale Russell

June 8, 1939 - August 23, 2017

JoDale Russell, 78, of Wheatland, Wyoming, passed away in the early hours of August 23, 2017. Her death followed a brief battle with metastatic cancer. She is survived by her husband, Bill Russell, of Wheatland, Wyoming; three children; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents and her four brothers: Charles, Henry "Hank", George, and Herschell Yeadon.

JoDale was born Helena JoDale Yeadon on June 8, 1939, to Henry Yeadon and Anna Lyberger Yeadon in Salina, Kansas. She came to the Chugwater/Slater area as a young girl and spent the rest of her life as an esteemed member of the Platte County Community.

On August 1, 1959, she married William "Bill" Russell in Casper, Wyoming. Together they farmed, ranched, and raised three children in the Slater Flats: Gayle (Valiant) Russell-Mueller of Pipe Creek, Texas; Newton (Wendy) Russell of Slater, Wyoming; and Jack (Vicki Pittman) Russell of Torrington, Wyoming. She was also a beloved aunt to many nieces and nephews, and became a second mom to many of her children's friends.

As a young girl, JoDale worked as an aide in "Doctor Allison's old hospital", and often spoke of this period with affectionate nostalgia, even in the later years of her life. Throughout her varied career, she drove a school bus for Platte County School district for more than two decades, worked for the



Platte County Sanitarian's Office, Chugwater Chili and the Chugwater Soda Fountain. One of her favorite jobs was working for the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service; she enjoyed traveling around SE Wyoming, visiting with the farmers and ranchers.

She was also an active member of the Slater Women's Club, the Chugwater Historical Society, First Christian Church, and the Cowbelle's organization for much of her life.

Her hobbies included spoiling her 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She was also an avid collector, and was often seen browsing local estate sales for antiques, frog figurines, and buttons; she amassed a stunning collection of each.

JoDale Russell had an unconquerable spirit and an open heart with no understanding of the word quit. Her memory will be cherished by all who knew her.

The family will hold a memorial service and spreading of her ashes on September 8, 2017 at 11 am at the Chugwater Cemetery. Friends are welcome to attend.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to:

Slater Community Hall
c/o Peggy Bise
3 North Goertz Rd
Wheatland, Wyoming 82201.