



## Ray Quilici

July 5, 1931 - September 13, 2015

Ray Erwin Quilici, 84, went back to the open range on September 13, 2015. Ray was born to Gilbert & Maude (Maddox) Quilici on July 5, 1931 in Dillon, MT. Ray attended school in Twin Bridges for a few years, he went to work at a very young age, working cattle, which is what he would end up doing for most of his life. He was called away for a little over 3 years in 1949; he was enlisted in the Army and fought in the Korean War. Upon his return he had encountered a woman, that he had met years prior, the first meeting didn't go so great. The second meeting, he was able to convince her that he was a pretty good guy. She later became his wife and remained to be the love of his life. Ray and Nellie (McClaren) Quilici, were married in Dillon, MT on August 22, 1956 at her parent's home, John and Gladys McClaren. Ray had worked for various ranches throughout most of his life; he did stray away for a short time and worked as a guard for the prison in Deer Lodge, MT. He was on duty during the prison riot that occurred in 1959. Ray and other guards were taken hostage for approximately 36 hours. Afterwards, he decided that was enough excitement and returned to doing what he loved, and that was being a cowboy. He knew that life better than anything else and he was good at it. In 1966, Ray and Nellie moved their family to Odessa, WA where they remained for 47 years. Ray was involved with the local VFW and American Legion for most of his residency in Odessa.

Ray was a simple man. He loved deeply and patiently. He was strong and firm, was selfless and always greeted you with a smile. Ray leaves behind, his

loving wife of 59 years, Nellie Quilici. He is survived by their children Rita (Stan Butler), Ray (Tina) Quilici, Nanette (Jason) Flowers, Arlee Riley, Janet Tapia, Tony Quilici and Roger McQuiston, his brother Byrl Quilici and sister Cedillia, along with numerous nephews and nieces. As well as 17 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 10 step great grandchildren. Memorial Services will be held at the Odessa Christ Lutheran Church, 602 Amende Dr, Odessa, WA. 99159 on Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 2:00 PM. Please sign the online guestbook at [www.kayserschapel.com](http://www.kayserschapel.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

OCT 3. 2:00 PM (PT)

Odessa Christ Lutheran Church  
602 Amende Dr  
Odessa, WA 99159

# Tribute Wall

DM

“ I learned about Ray's passing on the Herald's web page. It came as quite a shock. I always enjoyed talking with him when I would pick up Nellie for or bring her home from her dialysis appointments. He was good man and will be missed. Nellie, you are in my prayers.

*Dale Miller (Medstar)*

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**Dale Miller** - October 06, 2015 at 05:28 PM

FK

“ For my dear friend  
Nan. Sorry for your loss. Luv ya.



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**Francie King** - September 23, 2015 at 12:57 PM

MS

“ Dear Aunt Nellie, Rita, Ray, Nanette, Arley Jo, Janet , Tony and your families,

*So sorry to hear about Uncle Ray. What a great man he was!! He always made me feel so special when we met...always had a big smile and a great big bear hug. He was always fascinated by Betty and I working on the farm and doing all the haying. His laughter was either a little chuckle or a loud intense laugh. He kept to the cowboy way of life. Just think of the greetings he got from all the families when he arrived in heaven. The stories will go on for weeks.*

*God Bless to all of you and know you are in my thoughts and prayers!!*

*Love you,*

*Mary Sporich*

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**MARY SPORICH** - September 22, 2015 at 08:29 PM

DQ

“ *Best memories I will have of my grandpa is getting to go sit outside on the weekends and helping him do the yard work and fixing mower before we could do the yard work good times!!*

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**Daniel Quilici** - September 21, 2015 at 08:19 PM

EK

“ Words cannot describe how much my Grandpa meant to me, especially growing up. I looked up to him so much and admired so much about him and the stories he use to tell. I loved spending time with him and Grandma. He always gave the best hugs, and had the best jokes. I'll always miss watching Polka dancing and Hee Haw with him. He was always so loving and caring to my Grandma. He was a true gentleman and loved his family and friends so much. Family meant more than the world to him. I learned what true love was from seeing him and Grandma. I will always have so many amazing memories of him. He'll forever be in my heart and in my prayers. I love you and will miss you so very much Grandpa forever and ever amen.



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**Emily Knaebel** - September 19, 2015 at 06:50 PM



Love you Emily <3 <3 <3

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**Janet Tapia** - September 22, 2015 at 05:43 PM

BS

“ Ray always had a smile and a hug for me. He was a very special man and will be missed. You are all in my prayers as you go through this difficult loss.

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**Barbara Schlimmer** - September 17, 2015 at 10:04 PM

CK

“ My favorite memory of my grandpa.. well there are a few that stand out the first him teaching me how to ride a bike, my sisters and i got bikes for Easter when i was about 5 years old. To my disapointment my bike had no training wheels, as i sat and watched my sisters race up and down the street, out walked my grandpa asking me why i wasn't riding my bike? I quietly said i dont know how without training wheels as my eyes filled with tears.. He said lets go... i was terrified as he made me get on that bike and pushed me off.. but none the less i did it and he was right next to me.. my second favorite memory is when ever any of us grandkids would walk through the door and if we looked up set he would say im gonna tune u up.. meaning he was going to tickle us until we no longer had a frown... as we got older we told him that we were gonna tune him up and he would just laugh... the third memory is pulling his ear hair out of his ears.. let me tell u i look back and think GROSS but at the time I would laugh and laugh with every flinch or ouch i would get outta him... I love you Grandpa thank you for always just being you..

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**Christina Krumbah/Riley** - September 17, 2015 at 09:01 PM

NL

“ One of my memories of my dad he showed me and my sisters to drive with the hay truck while he was feeding the cows. And you better make sure you went in a straight line.

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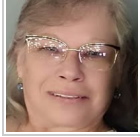
**nanette Quilici Lamberton** - September 17, 2015 at 05:23 PM

DW

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers. The Don Weisser Family

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**Don Weisser** - September 17, 2015 at 04:50 PM



“ One of my favorite memories of my dad. Is him teaching me how to ride and saddle a horse at the age of four. The horses name was Ringo.

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**Arlee Jo Quilici Riley** - September 17, 2015 at 04:09 PM



“ I will always remember how he was making jokes to make everyone smile or laugh, how he wore his cowboy hat and his boots, a true cowboy. Will miss you uncle, you had the stories mom talked about. Will always love you...

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**Doreita Perez** - September 17, 2015 at 01:55 PM



“ One of the greatest memories of my grandpa is dancing. He loved a good two step.

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**Vicci Prentice** - September 17, 2015 at 11:53 AM



“ My Dad, Ray Quilici, was a great man. He always had a warm smile for everyone, never meet a stranger, and always had a story. He will be greatly missed.

*What I am going to miss about him the most are his hugs. Dad gave awesome hugs.*

*Dad,  
I love and miss you.*

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**Rita(Quilici)Butler** - September 17, 2015 at 11:07 AM

R(

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Rita (Quilici)Butler** - September 17, 2015 at 08:11 AM

RK

*I didn't know him well but I remember his great smile. Our family sends our sympathy and prayers. Rose*

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**Rose Keller** - October 04, 2015 at 02:35 PM

LA

*Sorry for Ray's passing. I remember visiting out to the ranch and my brother tried riding a calf and broke his collarbone. My dad Kenny and Ray were good friends.  
Laurie Paige Darlow*

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**Laurie** - November 14, 2015 at 10:29 AM