



James Wallace "Cowboy" Garretson

April 22, 1951 - July 26, 2025

James Wallace "Cowboy" Garretson, 74, of Marquette, NE died with loved ones at his side, on Saturday, July 26, 2025 at Country House Memory Care in Grand Island. A visitation and time of sharing will be held on Friday, August 1, 2025 from 5-7 p.m. at Solt-Wagner Community Room in Central City. Burial of ashes will be held at a later date.

James was born on April 22, 1951 in Grand Island to Wallace and Mardella (Sauter) Garretson. He attended District 50 one-room country grade school, and graduated from Central City High School in 1969. He spent his entire life in the Central City, Grand Island, and Marquette area. In 1970 he began working for Southern Public Power District, and enjoyed working with them as a lineman and maintenance supervisor for 43 years, until his retirement in 2013.

Always willing to lend a hand to friends & loved ones, James loved building, & created so many beautiful things & places throughout his years. He loved a good cup of coffee, a good BBQ Party, & any place where there was good company. He loved in equal measure the peace and beauty of nature and the laughter and fun of life. And of course, he loved horses. At Country House, Dad had many rough times, but he also danced. He danced a lot, and laughed, and continued to be the best he could be at all times. It was an incredible thing to witness. He was an amazing, kind, and giving man. The

best father, son, & friend you could ask for. Loyal & True. Anyone who walked a part of life with Dad knows that he was a gift of pure love. Let us be grateful, and bless all who grieve him.

Those left to cherish his memory are his mother, Mardella Ann (Sauter) Garretson; his daughter, Jenee Garretson; his siblings, Shirley (Tim) Spaargaren & Bruce (Maria) Garretson, and many loving friends and extended family. He was preceded in death by his father, Wallace Orra Garretson.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, whose incredible 24/7 support hotline team helped guide his daughter Jenee' so many times. They offer support and guidance for those with Alzheimer's, Lewy Body, and all other dementias. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.soltwagnerfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

At a Later Date

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Solt-Wagner Community Room
1507 17th St
Central City, NE 68826

Tribute Wall

SK

“ Jenee; I had thought of you and your Dad many times after leaving Country House since my sister died. You were a good friend and I will always remember "Cowboy Jim". He was a blessing to get to know. I'm sorry for your loss . Hope our path may meet again.
Susan Koch, Glendas sister.

Susan Koch - July 31, 2025 at 07:15 PM

SS

I will always remember and love my older brother and consider it a privilege to have been able to spend my whole life knowing him. I attend alzheimers meetings regularly to help share thoughts and feelings for the families and friends who are affected in many ways by this horrible disease.

Shirley (Garretson) Spaargaren - August 06, 2025 at 09:53 AM

MF

“ Michelle Power & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Wallace "Cowboy" Garretson.

Michelle Power & Family - July 30, 2025 at 12:39 PM

MF

“ Michelle Power & Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James Wallace "Cowboy" Garretson.



Michelle Power & Family - July 30, 2025 at 12:39 PM

VC

“ Myself, my children and grandchildren loved him dearly. We will hold on to the memories of vacations, holidays, barbecues and the grandchildren's events which was MANY

Violet Crouch - July 30, 2025 at 10:38 AM

AH

“ Alfred H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Wallace "Cowboy" Garretson.

Alfred H. - July 29, 2025 at 06:44 PM

TB

“ I began working with Jim in 1990 and he was my foreman on many different jobs in the Central City Area. He taught a lot of us young pups to become lineman. He was always the first to the job with a plan and wore his cowboy boots to climb in. Not to many farmers in our area that didn't know who the cowboy was. The Cowboy will be missed. Todd Barger

Todd Barger - July 29, 2025 at 05:29 PM

DG

“ Jim was an early customer..most every morning for many years...Donna'Prairie cafe....I have many good memories...my son Zeb worked with Jim at southern power for many years also...he was a kind hearted man...miss u Jim...Donna Graham

Donna Graham - July 29, 2025 at 03:46 PM

BW

“ *He was a great friend and had one of the kindest hearts known!! He hardly ever complained!!! I'm going to miss him and his screwball laugh!!! HEEHEE HEE!!!*

Bill Wilcox - July 29, 2025 at 10:23 AM