

Glendale Oliver Cochran
January 24, 193 - February 19, 2022

Glendal Oliver Cochran passed away on Saturday, February 19, 2022, in Yuma, Arizona.

Glendal Cochran was born on Thursday, January 24, 1935, to Glen and Helen (Moon) Cochran. Glendal was the eldest of three boys. He and his brothers started school in a country school in rural Platte County before attending school in Wheatland. Glendal lettered in all four sports throughout high school as a bulldog at Wheatland High.

Upon graduating in 1953, Glendal remained in the Wheatland area, working various jobs while courting a fellow classmate, Betty Wright. The couple eventually wed on November 14, 1954, and soon after happily welcomed three children – two girls, Marilyn and Susan, and one boy, Steven – only finally finding their family complete with the adoption of their youngest son, Michael. The family moved from Wheatland to Torrington, Wyoming in 1968, where Glendal began his nearly thirty-year career with the Wyoming Highway Department. In 1973, Glendal and Betty purchased land near Harris Park on Laramie Peak where they went on to build a summer home, working weekends over several years. This second home became a family hub, where most summers and weekends were spent, and is still being enjoyed as the family cabin and a treasure it is.

Glendal enjoyed being active, playing softball, bowling, and hunting as a young adult, and remained active well into his later years. He could often be found tinkering in his shop, doing tasks around the cabin and surrounding property, and finding endless projects to keep himself moving. Glendal also enjoyed healthy competition in any form, keeping up with activities in Senior Olympics well into his seventies, and never missed an opportunity to play a friendly card game, especially pinochle. He was an Odd Fellow, a member of the Wheatland Jaycees, and was a devoted congregant of the First Christian Church in Wheatland for many years, and the Bethel Baptist Church and Lighthouse Ministries while living in Torrington. Glendal was also a member of the Laramie Peak Fire Zone.

Upon becoming snowbirds in Yuma, in their retirement, Glendal and Betty enjoyed being active in their local community and church in Yuma, and visiting friends from across the country, spending much of their early retirement years traveling to such places as Alaska, Missouri, Texas, and Washington, DC.

As the family handyman and jack-of-all-trades, Glendal enjoyed learning new skills and hobbies. Always with sincere generosity and a good dose of humor, he also enjoyed and excelled at imparting his long-earned knowledge and wisdom of many facets of life, homeownership, vehicle maintenance, and so much more to his children, grandchildren, and any young, moldable minds he encountered along the way.

Still here to pass along his wisdom and carry on his legacy are Glendal's two younger brothers, Denzil (Dorothy) of Wheatland and Levon (Charlene) of Lingle, Wyoming; his four children, Marilyn Shoemaker (Bob) of Wheatland, Susan Cochran of Phoenix, Arizona, Steven Cochran of Cokeville, Wyoming, and Michael Cochran of Riverton, Wyoming; as well as six grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and dear friends made along the way.

Glendal was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Betty (Wright) Cochran and his parents.

A private burial was held Monday, February 28, 2022, with final interment at the Wheatland Cemetery in Wheatland.