



## Hugh "Mac" Gaines

June 17, 1938 - September 5, 2021

Hugh "Mac" Gaines, 83, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones in Loveland, CO on September 5, 2021. Mac was born June 17, 1938 in Caldwell, ID to Ivan "Hugh" and Roberta (Dayley) Gaines. Mac graduated from Marsing High School in Marsing, Idaho, in 1956. He then served 3 years in the Army stationed in Greenland where he was a Marksman. Upon his honorable discharge from the service, he returned to his parents' home in Pocatello, Idaho. Karen Ashby lived across the street on Randolph and "hung out" with the Gaines family, not yet knowing Mac. As they were all sitting in the living room, the 1958 Yellowstone earthquake shook, and changed their lives forever. Karen said that she knew then that Mac was the one for her. Mac and Karen were married nearly 61 years. They moved their life journey to California, where Mac was a supervisor of a large department store called Gemco. Ten years later, they moved to Laramie, Wyoming and owned and operated Westgate Ski and Sports for the next 11 years. He was beckoned to become an insurance agent for Allstate until his retirement in 1999. Mac and Karen traveled across the country in a 5th wheel camper, but they needed to be closer to family and have a place to hang their hat. They found their paradise in Thermopolis, Wyoming, where they had a ranch for 16 years, raising cattle and sheep. Mac had a love for horses and would bring cattle down from the mountains on a two-day journey with his favorite horse, Apache. Mac camped out on a bedroll under the stars with his horse close by. In 2019, they settled in Fort Collins, Colorado to spend time with their

grandchildren. Mac not only had a love for horses, but he loved to play pickleball, golf, and spent hours in his shop woodworking. Above all, Mac loved his family and loved his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mac is survived by his wife Karen of Fort Collins, CO, daughter Michelle (Damon) Landry of Wellington, Co, daughter Lauri (Tom) Olsen of Thermopolis, WY and son Todd (Katie) Gaines of San Antonio, TX.

Mac is also survived by his brother, Rick Gaines of Belgrade, MT, his grandchildren Lindsey (Jeff) Pyle, Nick Brown, Kaleb (Keisha) Olsen, Kylie Olsen, Katie Olsen, Kameron Olsen, Colin Gaines, Ayden Gaines, and Kelton Gaines. Mac was blessed with 3 great grand-children, Nick, Branson, and Reece Pyle.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hugh and Roberta, and his brother Steven Gaines.

A Celebration of Life will be held Monday September 13th at 10:00am at River of Life Church in Wellington, CO and in Thermopolis, WY at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to River of Life Church for their youth program, The Amp, (3712 Cleveland Avenue, Wellington, CO 80549). Please visit [goesfuneralcare.com](http://goesfuneralcare.com) to share condolences with his family.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **13**. 10:00 AM (MT)

River of Life  
3161 County Road 62E  
Wellington, CO 80549

# Tribute Wall



“ *Hugh "Mac" Gaines*

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October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Karen and family - Mac was very special to me and John through the years. I have such fond memories of him (and you Karen) playing tennis and then pickleball in Thermopolis. To us he was such a gentle and caring friend. Always had a wonderful attitude and warm smile. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. I want to imagine that he is playing tennis or pickleball with Frank, George or Kurt in heaven. God Bless You all!*

*Patty and John OBrien*

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**Patty and John OBrien** - September 17, 2021 at 05:59 PM



“ *Mac was a great golf buddy and friend. He never let you do a project alone and showed up just to help remove shingles off the roof because he knew I was doing it alone. Memories of the golf tournaments we played in are priceless. He was a great guy for sure!!! My prayers go out to Karen, Michelle, Lauri, Todd.*

*Kelly Cowper*

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**kelly cowper** - September 13, 2021 at 02:37 PM

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“ Mac changed my life forever- he taught me the love of golf, how to be a better insurance agent, and love my life at every stage. I once asked him if I was ever to receive a gift that was not related to golf and he said "no." He was right for about ten years. When it was time, he sold me his business, Allstate, which sustained me and my family for over 15 years.

The way he talked about Karen and the entire family was with great pride and love. I was proud to know him.

*Marian Showacre*

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**Marian Showacre** - September 08, 2021 at 11:10 PM