



## Larry "Rupe" Wager

November 25, 2023

Larry "Rupe" Wager, 86 of Fort Collins, CO, passed away Nov. 25, 2023, at Medical Center of the Rockies surrounded by his family. He was born February 1, 1937, in Wayland, NY to Rupert Wager and Irene Mehlenbacher Wager.

He enjoyed growing up on the family farms and using teams of horses to do the farming. He loved to dance and was considered the class clown.

He graduated from Wayland High School in 1954 and went into the Air Force for 3.5 years when he was honorably discharged. He then went back to NY and worked at Gunlock and eventually ended up at Kodak in Rochester. He married the love of his life Kathryn "Kate" Martin Malter August 12, 1961. He and Kathy built a home in Perkinsville where they started to raise Kim and Jill. In 1971 he packed up his family and moved to Colorado with Kodak and built a home in Fort Collins.

He left Kodak and worked at the Hauf Brau restaurant as a bartender and enjoyed chatting it up with all the patrons. He then worked at CSU in the maintenance division and took care of the Engineering Buildings. He enjoyed making friends of all walks of life and countries while working there.

Larry enjoyed taking his motorhome to the CSU football games and softball

adventures with his daughters and grandkids. He always enjoyed dancing, rodeos, concerts, and sports, girls fast pitched softball and football were his favorite to watch. People have fond memories of dancing and laughing with him. He liked practical jokes whether he played them on someone, or they were played on him.

He always claimed he stayed young because he hung out with his kids and grandkids and his love of garlic on anything. He enjoyed canning veggies and making different kinds of schnapps especially root beer schnapps and Coors Light.

As he got older he enjoyed going to the Legion or the VFW and bringing up politics and bantering with the patrons and his friends. He enjoyed living on Amy's farm and being with the animals. He also loved to spend time with his family and buy meals for all and big candy bars for the little kids. He was a generous, ornery, loving man with a huge heart.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Rupert Wager and his mom, Irene Wager, wife Kathryn Martin Malter Wager and granddaughter Christine Kelley. He leaves behind his brother Edward Wager (Nancy), sister Vada Holmes (Wayne), Daughters, Kim Kelley (Tim), Jill Wilkes (Mike), Amy Tjardes (Bill), brother in law Patrick Martin, 9 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC 4. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MT)

American Legion Hall  
624 Ash Street  
Windsor, CO 80550

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ To the entire Wager family,  
I'm very sorry to hear about Larry. I always enjoyed then time I got  
to spend with him watching Jill & Amy play softball and eating  
sunflower seeds. He always had a joke for me and would be off on  
his scooter after the game.  
My thoughts and prayers, and love to your family. Rest easy Larry.

Steve Serna

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**Steve Serna** - December 04, 2023 at 09:30 AM

AT

Thank you Steve!

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**Amy Tjardes** - February 04, 2024 at 06:06 PM

BD

“ We have great memories of your parents, Kathy and Larry!! We  
loved going to the Hauf Brau spending time with them and our  
parents, Barb and Bill. Thinking of you all with heartfelt  
memories....Love, The Davins

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**Beth Davin** - December 01, 2023 at 02:25 PM

AT

Thank you Beth we have the same memories of your folks:)

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**Amy Tjardes** - February 04, 2024 at 06:03 PM

HT

“ Sending all our love, thoughts and prayers to the ENTIRE family!  
Love you all so much!

*I remember him always coming to watch us play ball in Cheyenne at the 36 hr tourney. He took Ashley and I back to his house on evening between games and brewed up some of his delicious root beer schnapps! Just like that...it was amazing. He was a very special man and will be missed! 💜 RIP Grandpa Larry*

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**Heather Tegtmeier** - November 30, 2023 at 08:42 PM

MC

*Rupe and I were best pals in high school. What ever trouble we got into, he would get us out of it with his charm and wit. Everybody loved it when we were jitterbugging and he had to jump up in order to twirl me because of the difference in our height. Sending love and hugs to his wonderful family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers as we give Rupe a little boost toward heaven. RIP my friend.  
Mary Malter Canning*

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**Mary Canning** - December 02, 2023 at 07:52 AM

VH

*Larry was a man of faith, family, and fun! My big brother, 7 years older, left for the Air Force when I was 10. When he was stationed in Korea, I wrote letters to him; he sent me real silk scarves and beautiful dolls in native dress. Imagine my delight! And he was so handsome in uniform. When he was back home after his service he often took me to Loon Lake for a swim and as a teenager let me use his car whenever and he bought the gas!  
Larry was always generous and shared what he had. He never missed wishing me a happy birthday or holiday greetings all through the years. Larry loved his family and enjoyed others.  
I will miss him, but will carry him in my heart til we meet again.*

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**Vada Holmes** - December 03, 2023 at 04:26 PM

SB

*Rupe was a sweet, fun guy...r.i.p. Sharon Kennedy Burr*

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**Sharon Burr** - December 22, 2023 at 06:52 PM

AT

*Thank you Heather!!*

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**Amy Tjardes** - February 04, 2024 at 06:08 PM