

Gene Ray Marker

May 4, 1941 – April 10, 2007

A service of Christian burial for Gene Ray Marker, 65, was conducted at 10 a.m., Monday, April 16 at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, with the Reverends Joel Dingman and Bill Walker officiating. Interment with military and Masonic rites accorded will follow in the Wheatland Cemetery.

He died Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at the VA Medical Center in Denver, Colo.

Gene was born May 4, 1941, in Wheatland, the son of Carl Edward and Georgia Barbara (Kassik) Marker. He was reared and educated in Wheatland, graduating from Wheatland High School in 1959. He attended the University of Wyoming for two years and returned to Wheatland to join in the family automotive business. On Feb. 25, 1961, he married Laurell L. Brasher in Laramie. He served in the United States Army during Korea and the Vietnam Era. Gene and his cousin, Ron Marker, were business partners for several years and then Gene continued with his wife to operate Marker's Inc., a GMC and Pontiac dealership as well as a NAPA Auto Parts and Auto Care business for 40 years. He was a member of Wheatland Masonic Lodge No. 16 A.F. & A.M. and was very active throughout the years serving in various capacities including, Past Master; Mason of the Year in the Southeast Quadrant; Lodge Secretary; Secretary of the Masonic Secretaries Association; became a Scottish Rite Mason in November 1981 and a 33rd Degree Honorary Scottish Rite Mason in 2005; at the time of his death he was the Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Wyoming; an active member of the Korein Shrine; secretary of the Laramie Peak Shrine Club; active member and three time Worthy Patron of Chapter 11 Order of Eastern Star; served as an Associate Guardian

of Jobs Daughters; an active member of the Alvada No. 43 Chapter Order of Eastern Star; past commander of the American Legion; and was Senior Vice Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3558; and a member of All Saints' Episcopal Church. He was active in many community organizations such as the Lions Club, Jaycees, Wheatland Country Club, and was past president of the Platte County Chamber of Commerce. He loved working with cars and restored several antique cars. Gene had a genuine concern for his community and mankind; this was acknowledged when he was the recipient of the Community Service Award from the Platte County Chamber of Commerce.

Survivors include his wife Laurell of 46 years of Wheatland; two children, LaVonna M. Rasberry of Durham, North Carolina and James E. Marker and wife, Jodi of Douglas; a sister, Barbara and husband, Earl Call of Wheatland; and four grandchildren, Allison Nicole Rasberry and Michael Thomas Rasberry both of Durham and Cohner Gene Marker and Jordan James Marker both of Douglas.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Serving as pallbearers will be Ray Bremer, Jerry Orr, Alden Prosser, Cleve Artery, George Branscom and Earl Call. Honorary pallbearers will be Elmer Brasher, Dale Call, Jerry Call, Jack Nixson and Blackie Budd.

Memorials to the Laramie Peak Shrine Club Travel Fund for Shriner's Children's Hospital, P.O. Box 1018, Wheatland, WY 82201 or the Gene Marker Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 713, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201 would be appreciated by the family.

Gorman Funeral Homes - Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.