



## George L. "Junior" Adams

May 12, 1940 - June 21, 2012

On June 21, 2012 George L. Adams Jr. died at age 72 after a long battle of congestive heart failure at his home in White Swan, WA surrounded by his family and friends. Jr. was born on May 12, 1940 to Annie Belle (Hoptowit) and George L. Adams Sr. Jr. lived most of his life in Yakima, WA (Ahtanum ) before retiring to White Swan, WA where he built a roping arena and retired to ranching raising cattle and horses.

Jr. attended John O'Connell Vocational School in San Francisco, CA where he received his welding certification. He worked many years as an Ironworker welder in San Francisco, Seattle, Tri-Cities and the Yakima area. He was an proud enrolled member of the Yakama Nation that held his traditional beliefs close to his heart. He also was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles 2229 of Toppenish where he made new friends & enjoyed visiting.

Jr. loved all sports and was a natural athlete and participated in basketball, football but rodeo was his favorite. A true cowboy, Jr. traveled the rodeo circuit throughout the western states & Canada and won many all-around cowboy buckles and saddles competing in calf roping, wild cow milking, and team roping. He also was one of the top muggers & steer wrestling hazers. His horses were well trained and mounted by many cowboys throughout the rodeo circuit. He served stints as president of the White Swan Rodeo Association and the Western States Indian Rodeo Association. He was also

an avid boxing and horse racing fan and loved watching his children and grandchildren play basketball, rodeo, football and various other sports. He rarely missed a family birthday and loved spending party time with his family where he taught us how to play nickel ante poker. He also enjoyed long drives in the closed area of the Yakama Nation to go camping, fishing and huckleberry picking. He was most proud of the fact that all of his children graduated from high school.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, of Yakima, WA and five children, June Adams (Yakima, WA), Alice Adams (Yakima, WA), Tim (Leonette) Adams (Harrah, WA), Shannon Adams (Harrah, WA) and Andrea (James) Matheny (Yakima, WA); twelve grandchildren Robert Jr., Mariah, Jay Walter, Sabrina, Latisha, Jeremy, Liz, Aryell, Drea, Ally, James Jr., and Alexa; and three great grandchildren Tayah, Addisyn & Amera and two sisters Velma Swan (Wapato, WA) and Donna Lallashute (Toppenish, WA).

He was preceded in death by his parents Annie and George Adams and one son Ryan George Adams, one grandson, Ethan Adams, two sisters, Bernadine Sampson and Emily June Adams, and a brother who died at birth.

Junior lived and enjoyed life fully and did it his way, always a fighter 'til the end. He was such a proud father and grandfather and leaves behind his family and numerous friends and relatives who will know a world without Jr. living in it, will never be quite the same. We will miss his smile, laughter and coy sense of humor dearly. We will "See you later Cowboy".

Rosary services will be at Colonial Funeral Home, Toppenish, WA Monday, June 25th at 6:30pm. Funeral services will be Tuesday, June 26th 10:00am, St Mary's Catholic Church, White Swan, WA and burial at Yemowat Cemetery, Yakima, WA near his family home in Ahtanum, WA.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **25**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Colonial Funeral Home  
228 S. Alder  
Toppenish, WA

## Service

JUN **26**. 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
40 W. White Swan Road  
White Swan, WA

# Tribute Wall



“ George L. "Junior" Adams

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October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ Junior,  
I guess the rodeos in Heaven can finally get started! May you have a wonderful journey. Always, Louie##imported-begin##Louie##imported-end##

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June 29, 2012 at 02:24 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to the family. He carried a great legacy and a wonderful family as each and everyone of you became an important part of my life. He never turned anyone away and he always encouraged my son, Blake to continue in the sport of rodeo. Always asking for them to come out and ride. I know their Aunt Shannon will always be there for my boys.

*My prayers will always be with you and know I will do what I can help you and the family.*

*It is always hard to lose a loved one especially a parent but we have many more generations to carry forward in life.*

*Please take care and know I am here.##imported-begin##Armetha Smiskin, Dylan, Blake and Kirk Houle##imported-end##*

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June 25, 2012 at 07:24 PM



“ Dear Family Members:  
Junior was a wonderful friend from grade school through high school, a team mate and buddy! I share in your sorrow , but many memoirs I will always keep of a White Swan hero of all sports!##imported-begin##Whitford E. Johnson##imported-end##

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June 23, 2012 at 11:43 AM