



Craig Louis Vejraska

December 4, 1947 - October 23, 2024

Craig L. Vejraska passed away unexpectedly October 23, 2024 while doing one of his favorite chores of watering his Black Angus cows. Craig was born in a blizzard by flashlight in Pawnee City Nebraska, December 4, 1947. He spent his early years between Nebraska and Texas then to Omak where he attended Saint Mary's Mission Catholic School and the Omak public school, graduating from Omak High in 1966. He graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1970 with a degree in Government and was a member of ROTC. While attending EWU, he was initiated into the 1967 class of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity Brothers as the 54th member of the ZetaNu Chapter in Cheney.

Craig grew up farming and ranching in Okanogan County, starting with Angus cattle in 1960 having purchased an Angus heifer for his 4-H project. He liked to say the ranch was his "run away 4-H project". He was an entrepreneur even in college selling life insurance while attending EWU. His first official job after college was as a salesman for International Harvester and he continued selling insurance. The move to the Royal Slope in 1971 was made after a long talk while selling an International Harvester Tractor to Mike Brown. Craig and his family spent years farming the ground on the slope and ranching. Craig married Mary K in 1986 and they moved to Omak in the Fall of 1988. Craig continued with the insurance business, purchasing North Valley Insurance in 1987. In the Fall of 1989 Craig became an owner in the Okanogan Livestock Market, and continued to be very involved in the cattle industry. Craig enjoyed

serving on many boards of various cattle associations and other boards over the years. He was most proud of being a member of the Washington State Beef Commission representing the Cow Calf Industry, a past Okanogan County Commissioner and a Graduate of the Washington Ag Forestry Leadership Program.

Left to cherish his memory are his lovely wife Mary K; Sons- Jason (Jennifer), Todd (Katlenia), Scott and Ryan (Carlan). Grandchildren- Cameron, Jaxson, Kelsey, Caleb, Kacie, Arlee, Kady, Vance, Henry and Jase. Great Grandchildren Ideya and Dali.

Viewing will be at River Valley Funeral Home on Elmway in Okanogan, Saturday November 23rd 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. A Memorial Service and dinner will be Sunday November 24th at 2:00 PM at the Okanogan County Fair Grounds Agriplex, bring your branding iron for Craig's memorial bench and art work. Interment will be at the Omak City Cemetery Monday November 25th at 11:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Market Stock Fund with "Craig Vejraska" as a memo: PO Box 1774, Okanogan, WA 98840

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **23**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

River Valley Funeral
2547 ELMWAY
OKANOGAN, 98840-9629

Celebration of Life

NOV **24**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Okanogan Agriplex
175 Rodeo Trail
Okanogan, WA 98840

Graveside Service

NOV **25**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (PT)

Omak Memorial Cemetery
2517 Elmway
Okanogan, WA 98840

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Craig Louis Vejraska.



November 22, 2024 at 12:43 PM



“ Cassie & Peter Shove purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Craig Louis Vejraska.



Cassie & Peter Shove - November 21, 2024 at 02:41 PM



“ Cassie & Peter Shove planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Craig Louis Vejraska.

Cassie & Peter Shove - November 21, 2024 at 02:41 PM



“ 168 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



River Valley Funeral & Cremation - November 20, 2024 at 03:43 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of *Craig Louis Vejraska*.



November 19, 2024 at 04:08 PM



“ *Ranchers Insurance, Ryan Smith* purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of *Craig Louis Vejraska*.



Ranchers Insurance, Ryan Smith - November 13, 2024 at 01:31 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Craig Louis Vejraska.*



November 12, 2024 at 02:09 PM



Danielle Weitman

“ *Danielle Weitman lit a candle in memory of Craig Louis Vejraska*



Danielle Weitman - November 08, 2024 at 11:27 PM



“ *The Okanogan and Angus community lost a wonderful man with Craig’s passing. Honest, fun to be around and truly caring about people and improving the Angus breed he will not be forgotten. But his legacy will be his family. Craig and Mary Kay raised wonderful children who in turn have raised exceptional kids, all involved with the ranch. There is not a cull among them and Craig was the paterfamilias. It was my good fortune to have Craig for a friend.*

*Tib Plughoff
Omak, Wash*

tib plughoff - November 03, 2024 at 07:23 PM

KG

“ KAREN GRANT lit a candle in memory of
Craig Louis Vejraska



KAREN GRANT - November 01, 2024 at 12:36 AM

RF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



River Valley Funeral - October 30, 2024 at 04:45 PM

JM

Pappa craig 💕

Jennifer marsden - October 30, 2024 at 05:27 PM

JM

Miss you love you

Jennifer marsden - October 30, 2024 at 05:28 PM

BR

Our heartfelt sympathy to the Vejraska's. Sending prayers of peace at
this sad time. May your memories give you comfort.

Bob & Deb Reinhardt
Wayne, NE

Bob & Deb Reinhardt - October 31, 2024 at 08:49 AM

AV

*I am so sorry to hear this. May your memories comfort you. We will remember y'all at the Angus convention this weekend. Love and hugs
Annie*

Annie Landry Viator - October 31, 2024 at 12:38 PM

DR

Sad to hear the news of Craig's passing. Sending heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family. May you be comforted knowing he is in the eternal embrace of our almighty Lord and Savior. Love the photo - big smile to match his big personality and big heart!

Dennis Reed - October 31, 2024 at 06:21 PM

BW

knew craig 66 years--had a well lived life

Boyd walton - October 31, 2024 at 08:40 PM

MP

*I met Craig 70 years ago as classmates at Christ the King Elementary school. As the years past our friendship would ebb and flow as life took us in different directions, but along the way he would be my best man at my wedding. I would be in his wedding. He would be with me when my son John was born and at his celebration of life. He was the God Father to John. We would befriend each other through divorce and remarriage and discover that marrying someone with whom we had something in common pays off. We were roommates through most of our college years and celebrated the birth of two of his children Todd and Scotty and my daughter Erika. At 76 years of age to have a friend with such common and shared experiences is truly uncommon. Rest well old friend, even though we haven't seen much of each other the last several years I have lost a part of myself with your passing.
My sincere condolences to his family.
Pete*

Mike Petersen - November 12, 2024 at 10:36 AM