



Billy Ernest Seale

2023 ACACHOF Founders Inductee



70+ Years in Rodeo

Billy Ernest Seale (Bill) was born in Rocksprings Texas on March 30, 1930 to Ernest and Hadie Henderson Seale.

He began his ranching career at the age of 5 when he drove the family's livestock by horse back from Kinney County to the Edwards County fairgrounds. At a young age Bill enjoyed roping anything that moved including goats, sheep, steers, calves, Miss Molly's chickens and even his sister on

occasion.

Bill competed in the State High School Rodeo Finals in 1948 in calf roping. He has been ranching since he graduated in 1948. Over the years he has raised cattle, sheep and goats.

After serving his country in the army he returned to ranching, calf and team roping. He decided somewhere along the way that calf roping required too much practice, so he focused on team roping. In 1973 he competed in the TFR Finals in team roping. Bill belonged to every team roping club in the area which meant he roped almost every night of the week much to his wife Jackie's dismay. In his later roping career, he participated in the "Old Man's" roping. Throughout his roping career he has won numerous buckles, saddles and breast collars.

Bill enjoys helping the younger generation at the Edward County Horse Club. He has helped many kids learn to rope, ride and weld over the years.

During his years in the Rocksprings community, he has been an



active member of the Chamber of Commerce, Volunteer Fire Department and the Edwards County Fair Association for more than 50 years.

During his time with the Fair Association, he has served in each of the board member positions. During the 4th of July rodeos the work on the arena would start weeks before the big show. The association members were out there night and day. Plowing and watering the arena, painting the grandstands and chutes. And anything else that needed to be done. During his years helping to produce the rodeo he has been flagman, gate operator, timer and jack of all trades.

To honor his country Bill has carried the American and Texas flags during the 4th of July parade and rodeo for over 60 years. There have been a few years during this time period that others carried the flag, but not in the last 25 years. He has also carried the American flag in the Country Boys Flag Raising Salute to Veterans since 2006.

Bill was married to Jackie Lee Eagle for over 50 years, and they raised 6 children. He now has 15 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren.

He loves his God, family, country and rodeo!