



## Ken Cheatham

In 1959, when I was 15 years old, I started riding bulls and bareback horses at local rodeos produced by Roland Reid, Logan Huffman, Lloyd Woodley and Jack Ratjen. After graduating high school, I started going full time



including A.J.R.A., college rodeos and RCA permit. Had lots of wild times and experienced all the “ups and downs” of going down the road. Many of my best memories are from this time. I got drafted into U.S.M.C. and rode a few water buffaloes in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967. Then I returned to California and rodeoed until discharged in 1968. “Gone to Texas”.

In December 1969, married the prettiest girl in Seymour, Texas “Miss Vicki Donnell” and at this writing she is still putting up with me. We have a daughter and son that we are very proud of. We have ranched, farmed, wildcatted, fenced and now we are in the dirt work and road construction business. We belong to the Cowboy Church of Ellis County.

For the last several years I have belonged to the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association working just the bareback event. I have finally figured it out! It’s not the money, stuff, etc. It’s having the kind of friends that don’t hesitate to “lay it on the line” and that feeling you get while standing over your horse with the national anthem winding down waiting for “pull’em up boys”.

