



Pete McKee

Pete McKee was born November 10, 1931 in Vealmoor, Texas. He graduated from high school in Ackery, Texas and worked in the oil field for several years. In 1960 he moved to Lubbock, Texas and began working at the S-Ranch at Slaton, Texas. Pete started his rodeo career early in life and continued rodeoing while he held down other jobs. He was a very determined person, loving the outdoors and hard work.

After he had worked at the ranch several years he moved closer to Lubbock to work in feedlot management. Pete was rodeoing during all of those years and rode bulls really well (He was a top bullrider). Pete was a member of the PRCA and took a lot of pride in the origin of PRCA and its members.

In 1978 he moved to Friona, Texas where he ran a number of feedlots. As Pete grew older he stopped riding bulls, as happens to every bullrider, and started spending more time roping. He won several Senior Association steer roping championships through the years. He also enjoyed training and selling horses. Pete retired in 2002 after spending most of his life in rodeo, horses and the cattle business. His retirement enabled him to travel, enjoy life and spend time with his family. Pete died in 2007 and is survived by three children - Kenneth McKee, Kay Holtzclaw, Shae MCCAuley, sister Geneva Higgins, seven grandchildren and three great grand children.



Footnote by Dean Anderson:

Pete was also a hero who saved this Ole Deano's life: Anderson had ridden bulls for several years and entered Aufill's rodeo, in the winter during off season, held every Saturday night at Lubbock.

In 1963, at one of the Saturday's rodeo, Anderson drew Aufills #64, a big 1,500-1700 pound black good bucking-hooking bull. For some reason Anderson put the bullrope tail under his right-riding hand thus forming a 1/2 hitch. #64 jerked Deano forward into his hand over the left shoulder of 64 and it turned Anderson's hand under the rope causing a hopeless hangup - opposite and over his hand, with hand turned under. The bull either stepped on or hit Deano's left shoulder pulling it out of joint and Anderson was still helplessly attached! Pete McKee saw what was happening, ran in, grabbed Dean's right hand and drug him to safety. The bull was still hooking and fighting when all of this happened. Later when Anderson got out of the hospital, about a week, he looked Pete up and thanked him immensely and asked him why. He said he felt like I would have been dead if he had not have done it. Anderson believes Pete was right as his thoughts McKee!