

# *Remembering Ben*

Benjamin James Raver, 68, of Custer, SD, passed away March 11, 2023, in Custer, SD.

Ben was born October 22, 1954, in Hot Springs, SD, to Lloyd and Gladys (Brown) Raver. He was raised on the family ranch that his grandparents, Benjamin and Daisy Di Raver, homesteaded on Ruby Creek west of Custer.

Ben attended school in Custer where he was an avid wrestler. He graduated in 1972 and went on to college at Black Hills State in Spearfish. There he received a scholarship in drama to attend an acting school in Mankato, MN. After college, he went to work for Burlington Northern Railroad. He rode the rails from Edgemont to Gillette as well at the "Highline" from Edgemont to Deadwood for many years. After an accident working for the railroad he was forced to retire. At that time, he returned to the family ranch. He frequently volunteered and donated to the Store House and served those in Custer who were in need. Ben truly loved the Lord. Ben was very artistic and enjoyed anything outdoors including hunting, fishing and walking in the woods, enjoying his Lord's creation, as well as cutting firewood. He was a generous man and enjoyed helping others. Many loved ones were blessed with a beautiful walking stick or some other keepsake handcrafted by Ben.

Ben is survived by his son, Michael Raver and Michael's children, Liam, Tristan and Aeris; his daughter, Amanda Raver and Amanda's children, Romee and Aden; his daughter, Danielle Butts and Danielle's children, Jonas, Ronan and Quinn; his son, Jake Harris-Raver; his brother, Joe Raver and his sister, Kathy (Chuck) Wright.

Ben is preceded in death by his son, Joshua; his parents and sisters, Jeanette and Mary.

Arrangements have been placed in the care of  
**Chamberlain McColley's Funeral Home**  
Custer, South Dakota



*In Loving  
Remembrance*

MAY THE FAITHFULLY DEPARTED SOUL OF

# *Benjamin Raver*

REST IN PEACE

October 22, 1954—March 11, 2023

Hot Springs, South Dakota Custer, South Dakota



*God saw he was  
getting tired,  
And a cure was not to be;  
So he put his  
arms around him,  
And whispered,  
“Come with me.”*

*With tearful eyes we  
watched him suffer,  
And weary hours of woe and pain  
And saw him fade away;  
Although we loved him dearly,  
We could not make him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hard working hands to rest;  
God broke our heart to prove to us  
He only takes the best.*

## CHRISTIAN FUNERAL VIGIL

7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 16, 2023

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
Custer, South Dakota

Deacon Pat Coy

## CHRISTIAN FUNERAL MASS

10:00 a.m., Friday, March 17, 2023

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
Custer, South Dakota

## CELEBRANT

Father Collins Igwilo

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Provided by St. John the Baptist Catholic  
Church Music Ministry

## HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Loren Larson, Dan Larson, Bob Hartman,  
Joe Doak, Mike Lang & Scott Lang

## MEMORIALS

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations may be  
made to The Storehouse in Custer, South Dakota

## LUNCHEON

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Parish Hall