

OBITUARY
M. L. "Marty" Martin
July 13, 1940 - June 5, 2007

PAONIA, Colo.

M.L. "Marty" Martin passed away at his home in Paonia, June 5, 2007, after losing his battle with COPD. (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term referring to two lung diseases, chronic bronchitis and emphysema, that are characterized by obstruction to airflow that interferes with normal breathing.)

Marty was born in Paonia, July 13, 1940. His younger days were spent ranching, fishing, hunting and getting into mischief of some sort or another. He went to work for Montgomery Ward in Grand Junction for a short time before beginning a career with Frontier Airlines. While in Grand Junction, he enlisted in the Army National Guard.

Frontier Airlines took Marty to Denver, then to Montana where he met and married his former wife, Linda Shaw. He rose in rank with Frontier becoming Regional Manager of the Las Vegas office in the early '70s.

He moved to Red Lodge, Mont., and bought the B&P Hardware store that he operated for many years. Later endeavors included managing Sundance Supper Club and Best of the Past Antique Store. Marty met his current wife, Sherrie (Stewart), in Red Lodge. They moved to Denver in 1991. In 2005, they retired to Paonia full time.

Marty was full of love, laughter and friendly mischief; you never knew what was coming when around him, which is why everyone that met him loved him and had a funny story to tell. His goal in life was to make someone laugh each day and he always met his goal; he was the life of every party. He loved Bronco games, junking and collecting, trains, camping, fishing and later on, enjoyed taking drives to enjoy the deer, elk, trains and time with his grandkids. "Pappa" taught each of us the proper way to stir cookies, make peanut brittle, hang clothes, hammer a nail and so much more; his guidance will be forever missed.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sherrie Martin of Paonia; daughter, Tracy (Buzz) Thiel of Red Lodge; son, Greg (Julie) Martin of Brighton; two stepdaughters, Lisa (Jim) Day of Utah and Wende (Dan) Howes of Florida; and eight step-grandchildren; two granddaughters, Nicole Owen and Sarah Thiel; grandson, William Martin; great-granddaughter, Isabell Owen; two brothers, Wayne (Barb) Martin, Lakewood, Bill (Doris) Martin, Otego, N.Y.; and five cousins, John Talarico, Stretch Bohnet, MaryJo (Bohnet) Reese, Jeanne (Martin) Weber and Jim Martin.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Paonia. A memorial service will be held in Red Lodge in early August. Marty was preceded in death by his son, James (Scotty) Martin; and his parents, Marion "Keggy" and Florence Martin.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Marty's memory to Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado, PO Box 24, Delta, CO 81416. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Taylor Funeral Service and Crematory.

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