



Fritz Lewis Hughes was born July 24, 1937, to John and Rachel (Brown) Hughes. He attended Cottrel School through 8th grade. He began working for Chick and Darlene Simons and took a correspondence course through American School and obtained his high school diploma on May 2, 1958.

Fritz farmed and ranched in partnership with his dad and uncle, Charlie Hughes. He married Verla Pickerd on July 11, 1960. They had seven children and 50 years together. He ranched, but loved farming the best. To bring in extra income, he sheared sheep and custom combined. Due to many years of

drought, he decided to lease out his land and get a job to support his family, eventually selling the land years later. He moved his family to Hot Springs, SD, in 1977 and worked for Kurtz Construction rebuilding the Evans Motel. When this job ended, he changed jobs to work with Gustafsen Construction and moved to Sturgis in 1981 for a shorter commute and to be closer to family. In 1992, he started having heart trouble and was unable to work. He and Verla moved to Nisland and loved having the grandkids come to visit and help out with the goats and bum lambs.

In 2006, they sold the land and moved to Box Elder. In 2017, he moved to Sturgis. His love of music was renewed when he met his special girlfriend, Edna Smith, who brought a smile and zing back into his life.

He began playing the piano and accordion by ear at an early age and played for many country dances, senior citizen centers, assisted living and nursing homes with groups, Men on The Town, The Country Pickers, and Old timers, for several years.

Fritz would accompany his children at talent shows and church or whenever there was a piano nearby. He was so proud of the music CD that he and Edna made and one of his last wishes was to make one more CD. His good friend, Terry Schiesser, made this happen and he was able to play 17 songs for the second CD and Edna finished the rest.

He was a man of numerous talents. He did beautiful embroidery, learning from his mother. He was always willing to help his neighbors, friends, and family.

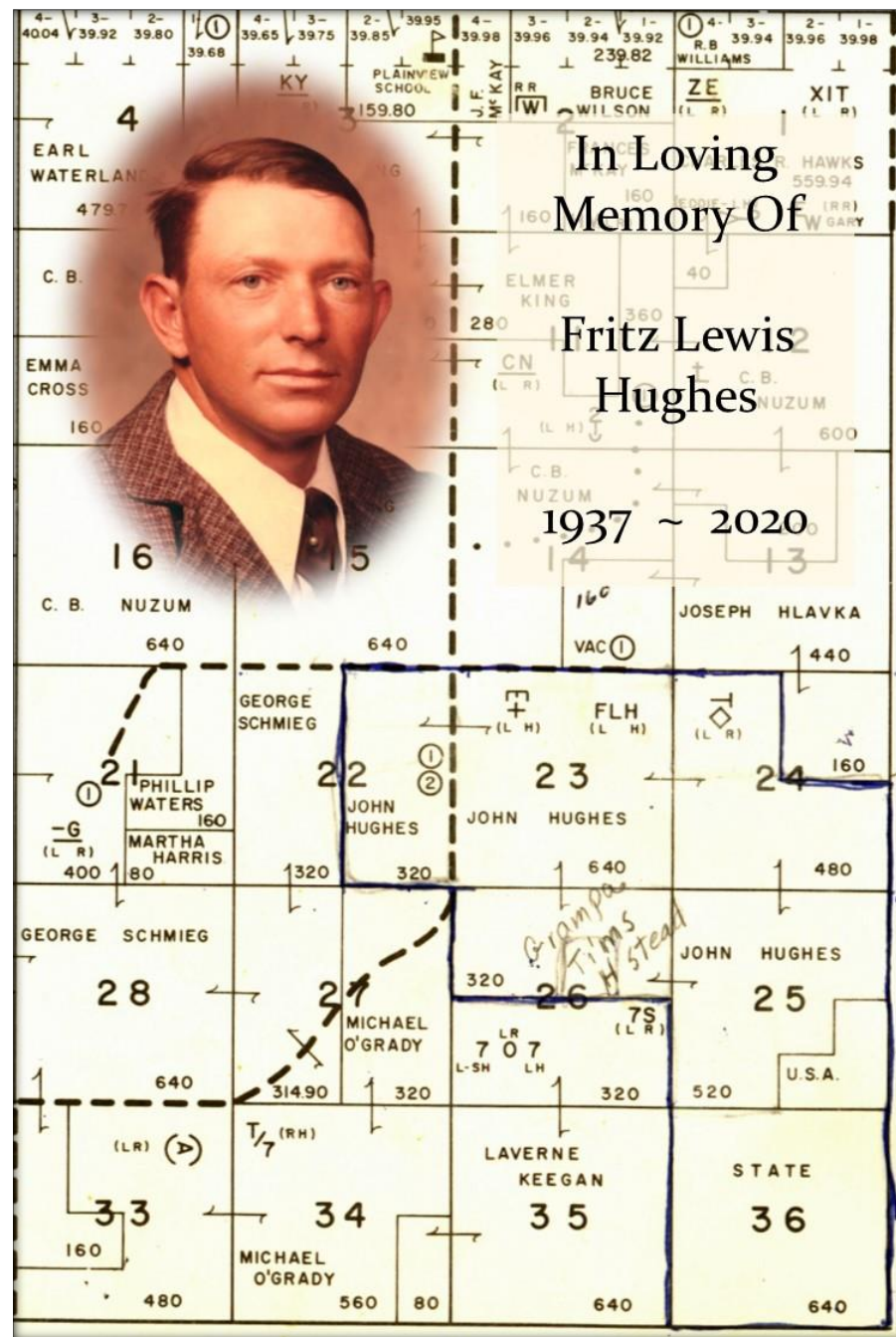
Fritz, 82, Sturgis, died Monday, March 2, 2020, at his home after a short battle with cancer.

He is survived by his children, Melodie (Clyde) Petersen, Centralia, WA, Doreen Hughes (James Roma) Box Elder, Tim (Kathy) Hughes, Sturgis, Tom Hughes, St. Onge, John (Shauna) Hughes, Box Elder, and Marty Hughes, Whitewood; sixteen grandchildren, Jeremi Hughes, Jerid Zila, Jake Hughes, Austin Hughes, Samantha Hughes, Tanner Hughes, Kyle Hughes, Britny Koeke, Mariah Queen, Dusty Hughes, Mariah Hughes, Nicole Hughes, Teaha Hughes, Dawson Hughes, Dewey O'Dea, Amanda Kelly, and Joshua O'Dea; seven great-grandchildren, Maisie Carbullido, Chord Hughes, Lillian Hughes, Devin Hughes, Koyer Kelly, Quintin Kelly, and Harper O'Dea; and three sisters, Connie Clark, Durango, CO, Peggy Schaefer, Sturgis, and Sheila Schiesser, Billings, MT.



He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Verla; son, Brian; sister, Marsha; and great-granddaughter, Tynslee.

A memorial has been established to Monument Health Hospice. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.



Isaiah 44:13 *The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass, and maketh it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house.*



For Dad....

*To be heard, without saying a word,
To be hugged when I'm feeling blue,
To be understood, when I'm confused,
So rare was a Dad like you.
Your loving smile, and gentle laugh,
Made all the difference in my day.
Your endless wisdom, and timeless advice
Always helped me find my way.
In you there was no equal,
You were in a class all your own.*

*And because of all, the love you gave me,
I'll never be alone.*

*It's an honor to have known you,
To have shared stories and dreams.
I'll always think of you smiling,
No matter how tough life seems.
You're still special beyond compare,
Your heart so kind and true,
I wish that everyone on earth,
Could have such a Dad like you!*



In Loving Memory Of

Fritz Lewis Hughes

Born

July 24, 1937
Faith, South Dakota

Died

March 2, 2020
Sturgis, South Dakota

Memorial Service

Saturday, March 7, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Rev. Paul Henschen

Pianist

Edna Smith

Soloist

Janeen Walker

Musical Selections

"Amazing Grace"
"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"
"In The Garden"
"The Old Rugged Cross" ~ Congregational Hymn

Honorary Pallbearers

All Grandchildren

Inurnment

White Owl Cemetery
White Owl, South Dakota

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the White Owl Hall following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.