

**Marval Crall Harrison**  
1931 – 2015



Ray and Marval

Marval Crall Harrison was born on June 17, 1931 in Wichita, Kansas, to Fern and Donald Crall.

The family moved to Oklahoma and Texas, but Marval's heart was always in the Hyattville and Ten Sleep valley area of Wyoming where she spent her summers with relatives, riding horses and playing on the farm with her cousin Diane. Marval reminisced to her children years later, "I have many great memories of riding Teddy the Shetland pony, sailing homemade boats in the irrigation ditches, screaming at the turkey to make him gobble, and eating strawberries with fresh cream by lamplight." Marval told herself that if she ever got married, the man better want to move to Wyoming.

In December of 1950, at the age of nineteen and a freshman at Texas State College for Women in Denton, Marval went on a blind date with a handsome young man named Raymond Harrison. After only four dates, they became engaged and were united in marriage on September 2nd, 1951 at the Little Chapel in the Woods on the college campus.

During their first years of marriage, the young couple lived in Ft. Worth and Amarillo, as well as Santa Fe, while Marval worked on her Bachelor's degree through TSCW, TCU, and West Texas State. In the summer of 1955, they visited Marval's grandparents, Dora and Thurston Doyle at their ranch in Ten Sleep Canyon, now known as Circle J Ranch. Ray fell in love with the area and agreed with Marval that they must return there to live. So in January of 1956, they loaded their furniture on a U-Haul trailer and moved to Wyoming.

They landed in Laramie for a short while to finish out some teaching coursework. That fall they moved to Worland, where they were both hired to teach (only 27 miles from Ten Sleep!). Marval taught elementary school for 21 years, mostly 4th grade, and was named Wyoming History Teacher of the Year. In 1960, Ray and Marval bought a ranch 10

miles north of Worland on West River Road. They quickly learned about growing crops, gardening, canning, and how to raise cows, horses, dogs, cats and kids.

During those years, Marval would balance her love of teaching with being a wife, parenting 3 children, ranching, and staying active in their church. In her younger years, Marval was interested in radio broadcasting and drama, acting in several plays over the years.

She also worked for the telephone company and joined the Civil Air Patrol. In her free time, Marval loved to ride horses, go camping, cook Mexican food, and write stories.

These are a few of her favorite things: yellow roses, books, carousel horses, mint chocolate ice cream, big band music, the color blue, and summer in Wyoming. And one of her most favorite things to do, especially later in life, was to read, study and discuss the Bible with people.

After retiring in 1985, Marval supported Ray while he was in the Wyoming State House of Representatives for eight years. They moved to Ten Sleep in 1998, finally realizing their long held dream. They built a home that overlooked the valley and this is where they lived until May 6th, 2009, when Daddy Ray went Home to be with his Lord.

Marval moved to Casper shortly after that, to be nearer her children and her five grandchildren. And there she lived out her final 6 years on this earth, a brave woman who courageously faced the steep and losing battle with Alzheimer's disease, and joined her Lord in heaven on July 6th, 2015 at the age of 84.