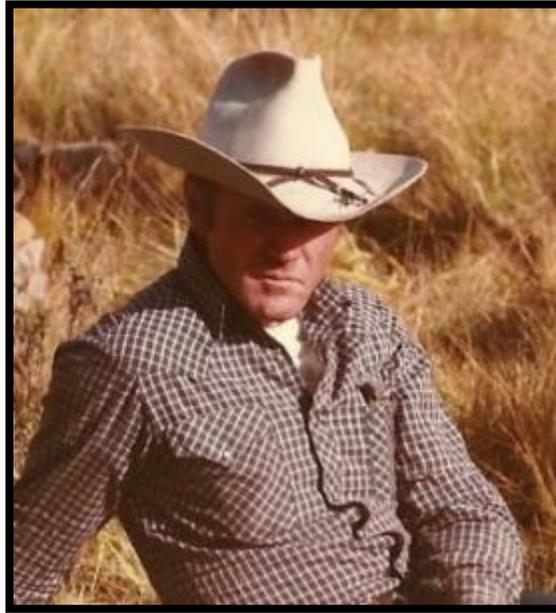


**Jim Eldridge Quinn**  
**Jan 04, 1938 - Jun 06, 2020**



Jim Quinn passed away at the Banff Mineral Springs Hospital at the age of 82 years after a long battle with cancer and congestive heart failure. Due to the hospital policies in place to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus, sadly Jim's wife Ruth and sister Irene could not be there with him when he passed. Jim was well known in the Bow Valley horse community, being an active member of the Banff Light Horse Association for many years. Jim still owns the farm where he and his sister grew up in the White Creek district, west of Bowden, AB. When growing up they rode horseback to the White Creek one room school which taught grades one to eight. As a farm boy he learned to be a jack of all trades. With a love for horses and animals, Jim's first employment at age 13, started when a neighbor brought him young colts to start.

As a young farm boy at the age of 16, he left the farm to hitch hike to the mountains which were calling him. Norman Luxton & Red Cathcart picked him up and he found work at Bill Martin's summer riding stables. In the fall he went to DeWinton worked for two thrashing crews until harvest finished. After, he drove truck all winter working on the twinning of highway # 2 from Calgary to High River, (without a driver's license as he was too young to obtain one). The next Spring he went back working for Martin stable and in the fall & winter he worked at the Douglas Lake Cattle Company, B.C. Next year worked for Claude Brewster who was the horse outfitter for the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies which he did for many years, also worked starting colts with Bill Bagley at Brewster guest ranch at Seebe. Some winters carried on at their Company ranch in the Ghost forestry where the horses wintered. Jim thought of Bill as the greatest horseman that he had ever known, and it was a privilege to be his friend.

Other winters Jim travelled to Santa Barbara, California at the Polo fields to work with polo horses. In spring 1963 Jim lived at Calgary Polo Grounds as manager, also, worked part time at JB Cross's Bar Pipe Hereford farm at DeWinton. That was the beginning when Jim met Ruth Ann Denbury, they were married in December before leaving for Santa Barbra with Jim Cross's polo ponies for the winter. They were back in spring and lived at the Polo Fields. Jim missed the mountains, and in the fall 1964 moved to the Ya Ha Tinda, Banff National Park horse ranch starting and training colts for Warden Service. In spring of 1966 he partnered into Bill Martin dude Stables and in the fall, when the season was over, Jim went to work at the Banff Centre, in Physical Facilities Department. After training at SAIT, on July 27, 1973 Jim received his journeyman carpenter ticket. Eventually Jim was promoted to Trades Supervisor, a position he maintained until retirement in 2000.

In 1967, Jim leased from Parks Canada a horse corral, where he and Ruth became Banff Light Horse Association members and remained active members for the rest of his life. Over the years, he was a mentor to many riders who owe much to his experience and help. Jim shod horses for people, and took a one year contract shoeing warden horses, in Banff, Yoho, and Kootenay Parks. Holidays were touring in the backcountry with pack horses in National Parks, Kananaskis country, and the Forestry. Jim also really enjoyed fishing, especially Salmon fishing in Terrace & Kitimat, BC.

Jim is survived by his wife Ruth, sister Irene Martin, nieces Jennifer and Cheryl, nephew Kyle Martin, and cousins Denny & Barry Aldrich & Duane Quinn. Jim always said that he was privileged to enjoy the beauty of Banff Park and the opportunity to travel where every place had its own special beauty. Jim made long time friends in all his travels.

*“ It is with great sadness we say goodbye to Jim Quinn of corral #44. A long standing member of BLHA since 1967, Jim was an integral part of the club as well as sharing his extensive knowledge of horses to help other club members. Always lending a hand he will be greatly missed especially sitting at his corner, keeping watch.”*

The family would like to extend their gratitude and appreciation to Jim's Doctor Pinilla and all the assistants at the Holy Cross Clinic in Calgary; to Banff 's Dr. Dino Smiljic and the Bear Street Clinic and the Banff Mineral Springs Hospital nurses and staff.

Depending on COVID-19, a Celebration of life will hopefully be held late summer at Brewster Kananaskis Ranch at Seebe. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to STARS Air Ambulance Service or a charity of your choice, in memory of Jim.