



James "Larry" Conner, known to most everyone as Larry passed away on Wednesday, November 28, 2007. He was born on October 10, 1946 in Bozeman and grew up in Three Forks, MT graduating from the Three Forks High School in 1966. Larry attended the Links School of Business for accounting for two years, before enlisting in the Marine Corp. After his service in the Marine Corp., he returned to the Links school of Business in Boise, ID to finish his accounting degree. While he was there he met his wife to be Karyn Hartnett. Larry and Karyn married in Emmett, Idaho in August of 1972.

In 1972 Larry Conner returned to the Bozeman Montana area, as it was where he had always wanted to live. After two days of pounding the pavement looking for a job, all he had to show for his troubles was a parking ticket. While Larry was in the police department paying for his parking ticket he saw a man in a white uniform and asked if they had any job openings. Larry's visit to the police department to pay for his parking ticket was the start of his very successful career that took him from dog catcher to Chief of Police.

During Larry's career he was instrumental in making the Montana State Police Officer's retirement fund what it is today. Larry was the Treasurer, Vice President and President of the Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA). Larry was instrumental in starting the DARE program in the department and in getting the first K9 unit into the department.

After 25 years of service to the police department, Larry retired at the rank of Chief of Police in 1997 and moved out to their ranch located west of Three Forks, MT to pursue another of his passions, raising Fox Trotter horses.

Throughout Larry's life he enjoyed hunting and fishing with his two sons JJ and Michael. He coached little league baseball and soccer for several years while his sons played sports.

Larry and Karyn enjoyed riding horses on the ranch, on trips to nearby mountains, and participated in equine events. Along with working with his horses he also enjoyed making rustic furniture.

Larry Conner died November 28, 2007 and is survived by his wife Karyn of Three Forks, MT sons JJ of Townsend, MT & Michael of Denver, CO, mother Betty of Three Forks, MT and brothers Lynn of Three Forks, MT and Joe of John Day, OR.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 pm Monday at Grace Bible Church, 3625 S. 19th in Bozeman. Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.