



## Obituary

**Born:** Sunday, June 4, 1933

**Died:** Saturday, August 10, 2019

Pendleton Oregon- On Saturday August 10th, 2019, Marty Wood passed away at the age of 86. Marty Wood was born June 4, 1933 in Carstairs, AB Canada, the son of Harry and Dorothy Wood, was one of the most consistent saddle bronc riders in the history of rodeo.

Marty's kinship with horses began at an early age. His father had a pony for him when he was three years old, and Harry later operated a riding academy and traded horses where Marty schooled colts and green jumpers for his dad who recalls, "Even at 12 he was a natural." It was only a matter of time before the teenager, with the uncanny knack of riding, would turn toward rodeo. The legendary Pete Knight, a friend of his father's was no doubt an inspiration to Marty.

In 1951, Marty rode his first contest horse at Olds, AB, and two years later took out his pro card. Occasionally riding bareback horses and bulls, Marty soon dropped these events and specialized in Saddle Bronc riding. His first venture into the United States was Omaha, Nebraska, in 1953 when the 20-year-old unknown made six near-perfect rides and left with all the prize money.

Having made some of the rodeo sport's most sensational rides on the rankest horses, coupled with consistency, earned Marty three World Championships in 1958, '64 and '66. In 1963 he was \$244 short of repeating the feat. From 1958 to 1967 Marty was never less than fifth in the World standings. He won the Canadian saddle bronc championships in 1954, '55 and '63 and the Calgary Stampede championship in 1954, '57, '61, '64, and 65.

For more than two decades Marty dominated the Saddle Bronc event and had won almost every major rodeo in North America! He qualified for the National Finals Rodeo in the United States every year from 1959 to 1974, with the exception of 1971. Marty is honored in the PRCA Hall of Fame, CPRCA Hall of Fame, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, Calgary Stampede Hall of Fame among others.

Marty is survived by his son Chip Wood and Chip's wife Shierine Wood, as well as Marty's partner of 35 years Kelly McCormach, and Kelly's family including Kara & Luke Simpson, Cooper Simpson, Collyn Simpson and Chip's daughter Devan.

Funeral service will be held at a later date.

We love you very much, you will be missed.

## Service Summary

**Family to do services at later date**

Location: - *Not available* -

Donations in Marty's memory can be made to  
[www.justincowboycrisisfund.org/](http://www.justincowboycrisisfund.org/)