



## Jason "Cody" Zinser

September 17, 1971 - March 26, 2021

Jason "Cody" Zinser, age 49, of Clare, MI passed away unexpectedly in Tonopah, Arizona on Friday, March 26, 2021 and passed from this life into eternal life. Cody was born the son of James "Jim" M. and Margaret "Maggie" A. (White) Zinser on September 23, 1971, in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Cody was a graduate of the class of 1990 at Clare High School. His high school friends were still some of his best friends.

Most of his life he worked alongside his family that owned, J-Bar-J Rodeo. He was a member of the International Pro Rodeo Association and then moved on to the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. He was honored to be selected to work the Great Lakes Circuit Finals in Louisville, KY as a pick-up man and he also reached the pinnacle of his career by making the Great Lakes Circuit Finals in the steer wrestling in 2000. He was known as one of the best pickup men around, someone you could count on to have your back in and out of the arena. He loved his horses he rode. His lifelong rodeo horse, Hero, at age 31 is still on the ranch. After rodeo, he worked as a Heavy Equipment Operator with Operating Engineers Local 324. He also worked for Central Michigan Contracting, the Dunkle family.

Cody was a member of the NRA, and enjoyed fishing, hunting and water sports including Air Chair. Although childless he loved children and they loved him. His niece, Jayce, was his pride and joy. Cody spoiled his friend's kids and was just like one of the kids anytime he was around them. He cherished them all and shared his favorite candy, Jolly Ranchers, with them. Cody dedicated

his life to Jesus Christ in 2018 and showed a true desire to change his life. Those that knew Cody know that he lived life to the fullest.

Cody is survived by his parents, Jim and Maggie Zinser; his sister Shannon Zinser and her fiancé Jack Taylor, favorite niece Jayce Jordan and nephew Cody Jack Taylor. Cody was predeceased in death by his brother Michael Fred Zinser in 1970, and his grandparents Joe and Leona White, and Fred (Dutch) and Ellen Zinser. A Celebration of Cody's life will be held at the J Bar J Ranch, 6731 E. Coleman Road, Clare, Michigan 48617 on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 1:00 pm. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, <https://www.justincowboycrisisfund.org/> or Western Days Ministry, <https://westerndaysministries.org/donate>. Arrangements were handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line condolences may be left at [www.stephenson-wyman.com](http://www.stephenson-wyman.com)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **19**. 1:00 PM (ET)

J Bar J Ranch  
6731 E. Coleman Road  
Clare, MI 48617

# Tribute Wall

DJ

“ I found out just recently that Cody has passed away. I've been out of the rodeo life for quite some years. When we yall attended and rode the J-Bar-J bulls, Cody always had a positive attitude. We all cracked some great jokes together. Myself, including Chris Bastein, Brian "Pee-Wee" Tucker, Kryn Graham, Stevie Lee and the rest of the crew we all traveled with. It was the best of times. I remember a short time after my divorce from Cheryl (which everyone knew), he called me up, and we talked for a couple of hours. We shed some tears and memories, while on the phone. He said "Davey, it will be alright, hang in there, life is short and move forward ". I send my deepest condolences and respect to the Zinser family. I'm so sorry for your loss and for thus very late posting to his memory. Y'all have my prayers.

*From a old IPRA Bullrider David James*

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**David James** - November 23, 2022 at 01:34 PM

SW

“ My condolences to the entire Zinser family. Scott Walton

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**Scott Walton** - April 13, 2021 at 10:47 AM

HR

“ My sincere sympathy to the Zinser Family. So many wonderful memories of the J bar J rodeo and wonderful country neighbors as I grew up around the corner on Shepherd Rd in Clare. Sending my thoughts and prayers. Heather Horden Reed

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**Heather Horden Reed** - April 05, 2021 at 03:21 PM

TJ

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Cody,he was a great guy and pick up man on that big paint! So sorry for the whole family he will be missed. R.I.P Cowboy!

Tami Johnson - April 03, 2021 at 12:18 PM

LL

“ My Sincere Condolences to the Zinser Family & All of Cody's Friends! Life is very precious & too short. Be comforted that Cody knew The Lord!  
Les Lanzo-Fusee

Les Lanzo-Fusee - April 03, 2021 at 02:42 AM

HO

“ I was introduced to Cody through the Russell family. When ever I would come to visit from Mn I loved to see Cody and he always welcomed me with open arms. I was also lucky enough to watch him ride the air chair Cody style many times. He was pretty amazing to watch. Sending love from Mn to the entire family and all of you who were touched by Cody. He was a one of a kind guy with a gigantic kid heart who the Russell kids adored. I will miss him, Oz

Heather “Oz” Osborne - March 31, 2021 at 08:30 PM

CK

“ Kilby rodeo family sadden to the passing of Cody, a great cowboy and cow hand for sure

chris kilby - March 31, 2021 at 06:45 PM

KP

“ Jim & Maggie Zinser-I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your son Cody. Though I didn't know Cody, I do know Maggie and Jim. It is always heartbreaking when we lose a child no matter their age. They hold a very special place in our hearts forever and we never stop loving or missing them. I hope you can find some peace and comfort in your lives knowing he is in a better place. Karen (Branstrom) Prince.

Karen Prince - March 31, 2021 at 06:28 PM

SW

“ We were friends for 30+ years Reminiscing old rodeo times..I remember us watching Bob climb the hill at East Sparta in the old water truck the truck sputtering and us laughing. Until we meet again Cody. Heaven gained a great Cowboy. My deepest sympathy to Jim, Maggie and Shannon.

Susan Wesley - March 30, 2021 at 11:42 PM

DB

“ We are saddened to hear the passing of Cody. Sending our condolences and prayers. Blessing to the family.



Dan & Joyce Bump - March 30, 2021 at 11:25 PM

KK

“ Jim & Maggie- I am incredibly sorry for your loss! I will be thinking about you and your family! -Kelsey Kulpinski

Kelsey Kulpinski - March 30, 2021 at 10:31 PM

HE

“ I really liked that boy. Stace would send him to our Cattle Pens to pick up Roping Calves. He would be melting from The Texas Heat. Ringing wet in a Tee Shirt with the sleeves cut off. Smiling and laughing the whole time. He was a good one.  
R I P, Big Boy

Hardy Evans - March 30, 2021 at 08:56 PM

DI

“ I am sorry and deeply saddened by your family's tremendous loss. Please know each of you is being held close in thought and prayer during this painfully difficult time. Sending my heartfelt condolences and many hugs for all. 🥺



Debra Jo Endres-Ard | Lizton, IN - March 30, 2021 at 08:12 PM

DO

“ Rip Cody you will be miss. Cecil and Doug Davis, sorry for your loss

doug - March 30, 2021 at 07:26 PM

RS

“ Ride'em high in the sky Cody... The Ultimate Rodeo... with your great big smile I sure can see!

💜 Peace be with you friend. 💜



Rebecca Shear - March 30, 2021 at 07:05 PM

KI

“ So very sorry to hear of Cody's passing. There's nothing that can be said at the loss of a child. Your all in my thoughts Jim, Maggie and Shannon. RIP Cody 💙💙💙🙏🙏🙏😭😭😭

Kathy Ink - March 30, 2021 at 06:20 PM

KC

“ I flew out to Arizona early Dec Myron picked me up The car was in a dark tunnel at the airport when I crawled in the back seat looking to my left was someone setting there I stuck my hand out & said how ya doing I'm Todd Cummings this person stuck his hand out & said how ya doing I'm Cody ZINZER LOL I was thrilled with joy to see my other brother ❤️ had no idea he was going to be there Loved the time I got to spend with him So very thankful & blessed for that

Kendy Cummings - March 30, 2021 at 06:08 PM

SW

We have been friends for 30+ years. Reminiscing over our Rodeo days watching Bob drive the water truck up the hill at East Sparta and it sputtering the entire climb us laughing. So many good times. Until we meet again Cody. My deepest sympathy to Jim Maggie and Shannon.

Susan Wesley - March 30, 2021 at 07:57 PM

AS

I am praying for the entire crew, it's the least and the most I can do! Love ya Odie!

Andy Sharp - March 30, 2021 at 09:00 PM

ST

Cody was a great pick-up man, and guy to be around. He saved my ass(life) a few times and proly still owe him a beer or two. Miss the old days, hopefully we will all be sitting around a horse trailer shading up telling stories someday up above. My deepest sympathy to Jim, Maggie, Shannon and Family.

Steve Thorburn - March 30, 2021 at 11:15 PM

MM

“ So very sorry Jim, Maggie and Shannon. So unfair to lose a child and there is so little comfort to offer. Know we are thinking of your family.

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**Marla Morehead** - March 30, 2021 at 04:47 PM

KE

“ Not only were you the greatest pick up man around, you were also my best friend who had my back. Even on my darkest days, you never ran. You just sat there with me in the dark and helped me find the light. Cody, you were my light. Love ya bubba.

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**Kami Evola** - March 30, 2021 at 03:11 PM

BH

“ That smile will be missed by many. I am truly saddened by the loss of this young man. Your families will be in my heart during g this time. Rest assured that when people hear Cody's name and think of him it'll be with a smile on their face.

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**BRUCE HALES** - March 30, 2021 at 09:51 AM

RH

“ My best Memories are of you all as a family. Cody always Handy with a hug. Always the great neighbor as the rest of you. I have always envisioned seeing Michael Fred thru Cody. Now your boys will play together.. I know God will Rest your Soul's. I am so sorry you all have not been spared the loss of another beautiful son. Friends, and Neighbor's Forever Beside You all. Love, Dan & Roni Dell Howard

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**Roni Howard** - March 29, 2021 at 05:25 PM

BS

*I send you many Hugs and lots of Love at this time and always.  
Maggie, Jim, Shannon & Jayce.*

**Barb Smock** - March 30, 2021 at 09:28 AM



*My heart goes out to the Zinser  
Families, I feel your loss I know your pain... Prayers for all.. Hugs*

**Janet Huntoon** - March 30, 2021 at 10:48 AM

RM

*Cody always brought a smile to us when we saw him , it was infectious  
to all.. our hearts ache for your dear family. God wrap your loving arms  
around Cody..*

**Rhonda McGuire** - March 30, 2021 at 02:03 PM

JM

*Thoughts and prayers for for all  
at this difficult time  
Sincerely Sharon and Jeff*

**jeff michels** - March 30, 2021 at 04:13 PM

SK

*We are so very, very sorry for your loss. The Zinser family became our  
family when we were traveling to rodeos together. Cody was such a  
nice young man that went out of his way to talk, smile, laugh and be  
friendly. Ride high cowboy!*

**Susan King** - March 30, 2021 at 07:11 PM