



## Larry Frank Popp "Rock"

July 23, 1943 - November 8, 2025

Larry Frank Popp "ROCK", 82, of El Campo, passed away November 8, 2025. He was born on July 23, 1943, in El Campo. Larry was a cowboy, farmer, county foreman, rancher and cattleman. First and Foremost, he being the IDEAL Husband, Dad, Granddad, Son, Brother, and Friend. To know him was to LOVE him and quickly acknowledge his "GOOD COWBOY" genuine qualities and authentic character as a LEADER, HERO, and LEGEND.

Larry was the baby boy of the family and learned early on from his father how to be a protector and provider for the family. He grew up in Nada in the family-built wood frame house (in the exact same spot where it stands today) instilled with the bond of strong family values and charitable virtues all the while combing the Colorado County countryside with his dad tracking and hunting the Colorado river bottom for wild game, fish, even turtle, to bring back home to his mom to prepare for supper. It's been stated many times that by the time his mom got all the fixings done – she could make anything from squirrel to rabbit taste like ribeye steak.

Larry attended St. Mary's Catholic School from 1st to 8th grade, where church nuns lived on site administering the facility and teaching the classes. He walked to school with his two sisters every day, during mass time serving as an altar boy, holding the proud role of church bell ringer (where swinging on the bell ropes was the greatest fun!)

Larry attended Garwood High School lettering as a Garwood Gar in FFA, Track, and Football. He began part-time cowboy work on ranches in the area, among them being Cedar Post Ranch, while still in high school and helped support the family. He loved the cowboy life of hard work, horses, and helping others. He was Rock Hard strong, so wise, and tough as nails. "If ever in need, you could call on ROCK to save the day!" He grew in wisdom and ingenuity leading many projects and tasks, conquering challenges, where his God-given talents and skills were optimized and shone brightly not to mention paired with his great strength, will, and might, thereby stated as being legendary and having no equal!

He married the Love of his life, Sandra Sue Stock on July 22nd, 1967, in the event of the season held at St. Mary's Church in Nada, Texas with Father E.J. Bily officiating the two-day joyous traditional affair. Larry continued ranching then merging into successfully farming rice (manually shoveling levees for miles and miles from sun-up to sun-down wearing out many a shovel), then corn, cotton, and soybeans also. He held the title of Arm-Wrestling Champion in three counties, member of NRA, and Ducks Unlimited. He served as Wharton County Precinct 4 Foreman for over 13 years. Larry had a special gift for connecting with and engaging people, diplomatic seeking harmony and resolution for all. He had an incredible sense of humor, quick wit, and inherent problem-solving ability. He was warm, welcoming, practicing what he preached, and a man of few words but a man of his word, saying what he meant and meaning what he said. Larry was an avid marksman and hunter, loving and looking forward to the yearly hunting seasons: deer, duck, goose, dove, and quail. He adored hunting trips, cherished living off the land, and spent much time which he dearly loved at the Bar Z Ranch in South Texas. He had many specially trained horses and hunting dogs. He was quite gifted working with animals-- it's like they could sense his goodness, purity, capabilities, and his care for them. He raised and trained English Pointers and

guided entertaining and textbook quail hunts with as many as eight pups all on a single point at the same time! His work ethic was impeccable, inherently loving raw unfiltered hard work, the kind of chore and challenge that requires grit, persistence, and purpose for which he knew no quit until the job was done and done right. He spread goodwill, aspired and strived to make people, situations, and the world a better place. His kindness, honesty, integrity and loyalty were immense, are to be emulated, and will never be forgotten. One thing is for sure, if you were with "THE ROCK", you were safe, protected, and appreciated. None, this world over could be so LUCKY and BLESSED as those held in his care.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sandra Popp of El Campo; daughters, Colette Popp, Colleen Popp McLean (Chuck), Kelly Lea Popp Drewett (Michael); grandson William Quinn Popp McManus; Mother, Adela Wied Popp of Nada; sisters, Joyce Marie Hajovsky of El Campo and Virginia Ann Zboril of Taiton.

Larry was preceded in death by his father, Otto Popp; brothers-in-law, Harry Zboril and C.J. Hajovsky; nephew, Charles Hajovsky and his beloved great-uncles and aunts and cousins.

Visitation will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday, November 14 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada with Rosary recited at 1:30 p.m. The funeral Mass will begin at 2 p.m. with burial following at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Russell Zboril, Reid Zboril, Chris Hajovsky, Jimmy Kainer, Lester Priesmeyer, Shawn Cerny, Brent Herzik and Bert Staff. Honorary pallbearers will be David Stock, Jere Jones, Curry Cerny, Jay Grahman, Doug Ondrias, James Sedlock, John Sedlock, Robert Blume, John Halamicek, Alan Halamicek, Cody Kahanek and Gary "Bodock" Cranek.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary Catholic Cemetery

Nada, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 14. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
1261 Old Nada Rd  
Nada, TX 77460  
(979) 758-3218

## Rosary

NOV 14. 1:30 PM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
1261 Old Nada Rd  
Nada, TX 77460  
(979) 758-3218

## Funeral Mass

NOV 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
1261 Old Nada Rd  
Nada, TX 77460  
(979) 758-3218



# Tribute Wall

TF

“ The Penny Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Frank Popp "Rock".

The Penny Family - November 16, 2025 at 02:22 PM

TF

“ The Penny Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Larry Frank Popp "Rock".



The Penny Family - November 16, 2025 at 02:22 PM

RJ

“ Ray And Linda Jaksch lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Ray and Linda Jaksch - November 14, 2025 at 04:25 PM

TP

“ Tony & Lulu Pinchback lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Tony & Lulu Pinchback - November 14, 2025 at 12:37 PM

PH

“ Peggy & Allen Halamicek lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



peggy & Allen Halamicek - November 13, 2025 at 09:55 PM

AA

Colette so sorry about the loss of your dad. He was such a wonderful friendly person. My prayers 🙏 and condolences for you and your mom and rest of the Popp family . May he rest in peace and pertual light shine upon him 🙌. Love you my friend ❤️👉

Angie Arismendez - November 15, 2025 at 11:26 AM

FG

“ I knew Frank ever since the come up with my work.  
If you could go into a dictionary and look up the word "cowboy" you would see a picture of my friend Frank.  
The more and more I got to know him, the more I was grateful to be his friend.  
May he rest in peace and my condolences to his family.

Mufflers Plus

Felix T. Garcia - November 13, 2025 at 08:52 PM

CC

“ Ms. Adela, Sandra & family,  
My sincere condolences to you all. May God bless you with His love, comfort and peace at this difficult time.

Love,  
Cathie Cerny



Cathie Cerny - November 13, 2025 at 07:04 PM

KK

“ Kathryn Krpec lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



kathryn krpec - November 13, 2025 at 04:58 PM

RE

“ Rhonda Edmonds lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Rhonda Edmonds - November 13, 2025 at 02:37 PM

DT

“ Sandra, girls & family,  
Prayers for you all as you grieve the loss of Rock. You are blessed to have had him in your life. My he rest in peace.

Donna Thornton - November 13, 2025 at 01:13 PM

SK

“ My condolences to the family!! Rock was a best friend to my husband, Billy Ray, and they worked many years together. I'm sure they have united in heaven.  
Sue Krenek

Sue Krenek - November 13, 2025 at 12:37 PM

TW

“ My sincere condolences

Trish Winkles - November 13, 2025 at 12:12 PM

LC

“ Colette, I'm sorry to hear about your daddy's passing. My daddy loved him a lot. My very deepest condolences to you and you mama and sisters.

Lori Zbranek Cordova - November 13, 2025 at 12:10 PM

BC

“ Becky Chomout lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Becky Chomout - November 13, 2025 at 12:07 PM

VQ

“ So sorry for your loss! Please know Joyce your family are in my thoughts & prayers! God bless your family & friends! RIP Rock ☐! He will be dearly missed by everyone who knew & loved him! Vicky Blair Ustynik Quijas



Vicky Quijas - November 13, 2025 at 11:09 AM

VQ

“ Vicky Quijas lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Vicky Quijas - November 13, 2025 at 11:03 AM

JV

“ Joseph V. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Frank Popp "Rock".

Joseph V. - November 13, 2025 at 10:56 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Larry Frank Popp "Rock".



November 13, 2025 at 10:56 AM

GC

“ Gerri Chandler lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"

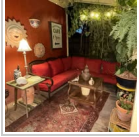


Gerri Chandler - November 13, 2025 at 09:47 AM

KW

“ rock was a good man and the best foreman precinct 4 ever had! my sympathy to his family. kathy woodruff

kathy woodruff - November 13, 2025 at 09:11 AM



“ I am sorry to hear this, my sympathy goes out to his family and friends.



Paul Weeks - November 13, 2025 at 03:04 AM

LM

“ Lu Matzke lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Lu Matzke - November 12, 2025 at 10:05 PM

PD

“ Pat Dybala lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Pat Dybala - November 12, 2025 at 08:43 PM

SP

“ Shirley Popp lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Shirley Popp - November 12, 2025 at 08:07 PM

LS

“ Liz Staff lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Liz Staff - November 12, 2025 at 07:47 PM

GA

“ GayLynn&RickyCerny



GayLynn&RickyCerny - November 12, 2025 at 07:11 PM

PM

“ Patrick Marek lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Patrick Marek - November 12, 2025 at 05:39 PM

JK

“ Julie A Kacal lit a candle in memory of Larry Frank Popp "Rock"



Julie A Kacal - November 12, 2025 at 05:37 PM

JS

“ *my sympathies to the family.*”



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**Jeraldine Socha** - November 12, 2025 at 05:20 PM