**Grand Marshall and Silver Queen 2022, 112th Annual Trinidad Round-Up Association Labor Day Rodeo and Events. This year's Grand Marshall and Silver Queen are Jim and Gail Hamilton of Hoehne and Jim and Gail have been married 51 years. They have three daughters and one son; Charlotte Hamilton-Viola of Hoehne, Rhonda and Arlen Yoder of Thomas, OK, Stepahnie and Leon Plank of Montezuma, GA and Bill and Becky Hamilton of Marble Falls, TX. They have 20 grandchildren, Meghan Salameno, Cheyenne Arnhold, Shawndra Viola, Taylor Viola, JPaul Yoder, Dallas Yoder, Miranda Yoder, Olivia Yoder, Elizabeth Yoder, Cherokee Yoder, Amanda Gail Yoder, Ira Plank, Michal Plank, Destanie Oku, Jade Flanangan, Jolie Hamilton, Abby Hamilton, Josh Young, Nathan Young, James Hamilton. 12 great grandchildren Dominic and Keegan Bachman; Lakynn, Charlotte, Alivia and Kylie Arnhold; Hunter Young, Aiden Oku, Zayden Yarbrough, Jensen and Aurora Flanagan; and their newest great granddaughter James Laveau Yoder. James “Jim” E. Hamilton was born February 29, 1947 at the family home in Indianola, Oklahoma, to William “Bill” E. Hamilton and Lillie Ann Hamilton. Jim was the oldest of four children, which included one brother and two sisters. Jim was raised on the family's cow calf operation. He was very active in 4-H and FFA with projects in crops and livestock. He graduated from Indianola High School and went on to Eastern Oklahoma State where he earned his associates degree in Agricultural Education. He was active in the Student Council and was elected President of the Aggie Club. While at Eastern he began summer internships with what was then the Soil Conservation Service working in Beaver and Durant Oklahoma. The next fall he enrolled at Oklahoma State University where he went on to receive his Bachelors in Agricultural Education, as well as continuing his internship with the SCS in Ardmore and Wilburton Oklahoma. Upon graduation he completed a stint with the Oklahoma National Guard. In the Fall after his discharge from the OKNG he met Gail Armstrong who was visiting at her grandparents home. Her mother’s family ranch neighbored the Hamilton’s and Jim had helped the Murrin family working stock and building fences. Gail Armstrong was born September 6, 1949 in Phillips, Texas to Marcus “Clytee” and Elizabeth Armstrong. Gail was the oldest of three children, which included a brother and sister. They were all raised in the refinery town of Phillips, Texas, where her father worked as a crewman for the Phillips 66 refinery. Gail attended Phillips schools until her graduation where she was involved in Home Economics, sewing, school clubs and band where she played the saxophone. Upon graduation she went on to attend Draughons Business School obtaining her degree. She began working at the Blank pharmacy in Amarillo. That October of 70 she went to visit her grandparents in Oklahoma. As the story goes Jim was headed home to his parents house in late October and drove by the Murrin home spotting a vehicle with out of state plates, put the car in reverse and just happened to stop in and say hello. This led to him asking Gail to go to the movies. This chance meeting led to a wedding the following February. On February 14, 1971 Jim and Gail were married in Phillips, Texas at the First Baptist Church of Phillips. Jim and Gail moved to Southeastern Oklahoma where Jim continued his career with the Soil Conservation Service which is now known as the NRCS (USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service) as Gail tended the home and their children. The job eventually took the family to Colorado in the early 80’s first to Longmont then on to Trinidad. Once in Trinidad they found a home in the Hoehne area where their children were active in 4-H. Projects of chickens, sheep, pigs and shooting sports as well as school sports kept everyone busy and Jim and Gail were sure to attend all events and games. As the kids grew older Gail began working at Trinidad State Junior College where she was the administration assistant for the physical plant. She ensured that all the maintenance and custodial departments had what they needed to complete jobs and projects as well as paperwork was completed to meet State standards. After 20 years she retired to the home to be able to spend time with her family. Jim eventually became involved in 4-H Shooting Sports, which became a long 4-H volunteer career. During this time Jim and Gail both became Colorado Hunter Education Instructors thanks to the encouragement of Bob Holder. Over the years they have taught thousands of students in Las Animas, Baca and Huerfano counties. At one time it was noted that they were the only Hunter Education instructors from the top of the Sangre de Cristo’s to the Kansas state line. After 37 plus years Jim retired from the NRCS as the District Conservationist in Springfield, Colorado. During those years he assisted farmers, ranchers, and other land users as they addressed conservation issues for their operations. Whether it was rangeland, farmland, irrigation, forestry, habitat management, or erosion control. His goal was to help folks meet their goals, and always leaving things better than they found them. After Jim retired from the NRCS he was employed by Colorado State University to manage the State 4-H Shooting Sports Program. For the next 10 years he oversaw the training of the 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders around the state, the ever popular Victor 4-H Shooting Sports Family Camp, as well as served on the National 4-H Shooting Sports training team. Since Jim can’t get the retirement thing down, he is now an adjunct instructor at Trinidad State. As an NRA Training counselor, he teaches the NRA Firearms Safety Instructor classes at TS NRA Certified Instructor Training Center. Jim continues to teach Hunter Safety as well as Concealed Carry and Personal protection classes. Gail now has her sewing shed where she keeps busy with quilting and making baby blankets. She also works on the family genealogy, this was her mother’s hobby and now that she has passed on she is continuing what her mother started. They both enjoy traveling and are often off on one adventure or another with the travel trailer visiting one of their children and their families along the way. They are both honored and look forward to reigning over the parade as this year's Grand Marshall and Silver Queen for the 2022 Trinidad Round-Up Association celebration.**