



THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION  
proudly confers the  
**Spirit of the Pioneers Award**  
upon  
**Ed Coryell**

The Spirit of the Pioneers Award was created for the purpose of honoring those hardy and determined individuals and families who exemplify long-term servant leadership representative of the early day pioneers who travelled in challenging, trying adversity to ultimately settle in the White River Valley . Their proud legacy lives on in the pioneer descendants; some of whose families have remained continuously throughout many generations in Rio Blanco County.

In 1973, Ed was working for Bart and Mary Strang at their ranch in Carbondale. When they moved to Meeker, he relocated as well. He brought his wife Bonnie and their two daughters. He immediately became very active in the Meeker Community. He officiated football, basketball and baseball games for Meeker youth teams for 35 years. He still enjoys helping the officials, but now it is from the sidelines or his designated bleacher seat. He served as a Rio blanco County Commissioner, and as a member of the school board for many years. He is still an active member of the Fair Board.

Ed enjoyed watching his five children participate in athletics and 4-H activities. He is his 13 grandkid's biggest fan no matter what they are participating in. His grandkids are happy to share him with the many other kids in Meeker who also refer to him as Grandpa Ed.

Ed was a State brand inspector for over 30 Years. He thoroughly enjoyed his time traveling to ranches all around the area (sometimes very quickly from one to the next while trying to avoid traffic citations until after shipping season when he would have more time). He was very proud of his computational skills in the corral and the fact that he could keep his records on a matchbook cover. He always loved the visits with ranchers and the coffee and treats that were prepared for him. He even went home with a thank-you jar full of homemade whiskey from time to time.

Ed believes that the sun will come up tomorrow no matter what happens today and when things seem to be out of control! It's always best to take a minute, have a smoke and regroup. As oldtimers go, he's one of the best!

The RBCPA is honored to recognize Ed Coryell for his distinguished service to youth as an educator, historian, and community servant leader, and for special contributions to the citizens of Rio Blanco County, State of Colorado and Nation. He is a humble, significant member of our Rio Blanco County community and will forever remain an icon and a legacy of its history.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Twentieth Day of August 2022

Sam Love  
Sam Love, President, RBCPA