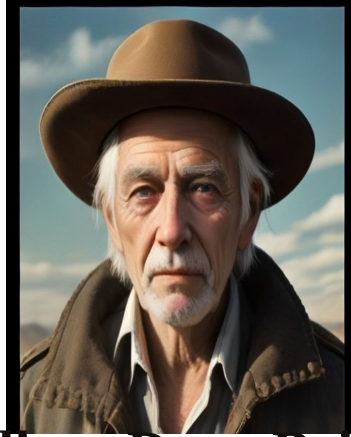




Wallace Dean Brisbin

November 5, 1938 - August 20, 2026

Newcastle, Wyoming

Wallace Dean Brisbin died in Newcastle on August 20, 2026. He was eighty-seven. Born there on November 5, 1938, he grew up knowing coal as a rumor that paid and a pickup as a set of honest problems. He learned engines the way other boys learned baseball statistics. A car, he believed, was a set of honest problems. People were harder, but he liked them anyway.

He ran a one-bay shop off the highway for most of his adult life. He did not advertise. He did not need to. Word moved along the rail: Wally will tell you if you do not need the part. He kept a handwritten ledger and a jar of extra fuses. He hired a neighbor's kid every summer and taught him that a torque wrench is not a suggestion. When the big chains arrived with televisions in the waiting rooms, he kept the radio on an AM station and a pot of coffee that was never quite fresh and never empty.

He married Denise Brisbin in 1961. They raised two sons in a house with a garage that was cleaner than the living room. Denise worked at the clinic. Wally grilled on Sundays and considered a Saturday at the hills a civic duty. After the mine slowed he still came out when a neighbor's well pump died, moving slower, charging less.

Customers remember a man who wiped his hands before he shook yours, who would jump a battery at dusk without calling it a favor, and who could diagnose a knock from the curb. He liked the Black Hills at evening, a green-chile cheeseburger on a rare trip to town, and a church he stood through in the back because his knees had opinions. He died in Newcastle, the high dry town that had always been home. The shop sign is down. A lot of cars in the county still run because he was stubborn about a job.

Services

A memorial in Newcastle. The family welcomes stories in the hall, and a contribution to a youth trades program if you insist on doing something extra.

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