

2007 Guide of the Year! Ken Decker



Ken Decker was born and raised in North Dakota. His dream started when he was about 10 years old and ordered his first subscription to *Outdoor Life*. The dream was to move to Wyoming, hunt and fish and some day become a hunting guide.

Ken graduated from High School in 1966. Later he went to the army for 2 years and after returning went to college at LCCC in Cheyenne, Wyoming and graduated in 1974.

The 2 years in the army (1969-1971) included 1 year in Viet Nam with the 1st Calvary Division (airmobile). He was honored with numerous medals to include an Air Medal, two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, Army Commendation Medal with V Device, Combat Infantrymen's Badge, Expert Rifle, (M-14 & M-16).

Ken and Tina have been together for 11 years and have 5 children between them. Ryan, Rachelle, Abbey, Chris and Brian. He is also a proud grandfather of 4 Grandchildren. Tyler, Kacey, Rhiannon and Ayla.

Ken went on a hunting trip with Randy Haecker in Yellowstone in 1981 and started guiding for R.R. Haecker in the Yellowstone/Thorofare area the next year. Ken continued guiding there for 14 years and shared many great experiences with hunters and fellow guides. He met Sy Gilliland through Randy and started guiding with S-N-S Outfitters in 1995 and has been with them ever since.

There are many things about guiding that means a lot to Ken. The friendships that are born, the excitement of the hunters, but above all the opportunity to enjoy his passion with the outdoors for 2 months of the year.

When Ken is not guiding he enjoys hunting for himself which includes a caribou hunt to Alaska, sheep hunt out of Cody, Wyoming, fly-fishing the Big Horn River, artifact and horn hunting.

Ken has been selling real estate in Sheridan, Wyoming for Carroll Real Estate for 25 years. He appreciates that his job allows him the freedom to get away to guide every fall.