

## Former Buff All-American Bryant dies

Camera staff, wire reports  
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COLORADO SPRINGS -- Former Colorado All-American defensive back Cullen Bryant, a standout player for Eddie Crowder's early 1970s teams, died Tuesday in his Colorado Springs home.

The Gazette of Colorado Springs reported that his sister-in-law, Wanda E. Bryant, said that Bryant died of natural causes. She said that he had been in a doctor's care. He was 58. Services have not been set.

Bryant was a consensus All-American in 1972, a year in which he led CU with seven interceptions while also recording 43 tackles. He was also a starter on the 1971 team that finished ranked No. 3 in the nation, and was an honorable-mention selection on CU's All-Century team, selected in 1989. His mark of seven interceptions in 1972 is still tied with Dick Anderson (1967) for the most ever in a single season by a Buff.

Former Buff quarterback Ken Johnson fondly remembered Bryant.

"We came in together in '69 and he was an amazing athlete and person," Johnson said. "Pretty quiet, real smart, determined, very tough. He was the one guy I actually dodged during one vs. one scrimmages. ... He was absolutely as good as they come."

Bryant was second-round draft pick of the Los Angeles Rams in 1973 (31st overall). He played 13 seasons in the NFL, 11 with the Rams and two with the Seattle Seahawks.

Bryant's sister said he was divorced and had two sons and a daughter.

"He was a loving father and loved his kids and spent as much time with them as he could," Wanda said. "He was a good and loving brother-in-law."

While a standout defensive back in college, Bryant eventually switched to running back in the NFL, finishing his career with 3,264 yards and 20 touchdowns on 849 carries. He also caught 148 passes for 1,176 yards.

He was born in Fort Sill, Okla., on May 20, 1951.

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