



*In Loving Memory Of*

**Eugene Larsen**

March 12, 1927 - July 4, 2017

### **So God Made a Farmer...**

And on the 8th day God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "I need a caretaker!" and so,

#### **God Made a Farmer...**

God said "I need somebody to get up before dawn and milk cows and work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper and then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board."

#### **So God Made a Farmer...**

"I need somebody with strong arms. Strong enough to rustle a calf, yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry and have to wait for lunch until his wife is done feeding and visiting with the ladies and telling them to be sure to come back real soon...and mean it."

#### **So God Made a Farmer...**

God said "I need somebody that can shape an ax handle, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire make a harness out of hay wire, feed sacks and shoe scraps. And...who, at planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty hour week by Tuesday noon. Then, pain'n from "tractor back", put in another seventy two hours."

#### **So God Made a Farmer...**

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet stop on mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place.

#### **So God Made a Farmer...**

God said, "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees, heave bails and yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink combed pullets... and who will stop his mower for an hour to mend the broken leg of a meadow lark."

#### **So God Made a Farmer....**

It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight...and not cut corners. Somebody to seed and weed, feed and breed...and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk. Somebody to replenish the self feeder and then finish a hard days work with a five mile drive to church. Somebody who'd bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who'd laugh and then sigh... and then respond with smiling eyes, when his son says he wants to spend his life "doing what dad does".

#### **So God Made a Farmer...**

## *In Loving Memory* **Eugene Larsen**

### **Born to Willie & Elvina Larsen**

March 12, 1927 ~ rural Culbertson, Montana

### **Date & Place of Passing**

July 4, 2017 ~ Culbertson, Montana

### **Funeral Service**

2 o'clock, Saturday, July 15, 2017

Ebenezer Lutheran Church ~ Culbertson, Montana

### **Officiating**

Pastor Alvina Olstead

### **Music**

Beth Hekkel ~ Accompanist

"Old Rugged Cross" & "Lead Me, Guide Me"

### **Soloists**

Darla Card ~ The Lords Prayer

Darcia Larsen ~ Borning Cry

### **Urn Bearers**

Steve Larsen      Tim Larsen

### **Honorary Urn Bearers**

Kevin Card      Michael Card

Shawn Larsen      Garth Larsen

Justin Larsen      Madison Larsen

### **Final Resting Place**

Ebenezer Lutheran Cemetery ~ Culbertson, Montana

Memorials may be made to the flooring project at  
Roosevelt Memorial Hospital or Ebenezer Lutheran Church.

### **Arrangements By**

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home - Williston

Eugene Larsen was born March 12, 1927 to Willie and Elvina Larsen on their farm in Dane Valley. He attended Dane Valley School for eight years then on to Culbertson High School. He enlisted in the Navy just before graduating but had sufficient credits to graduate and receive his diploma. Gene served his country as a photographer in the Navy from 3-9-45 to 8-2-46 on the USS Sims in the Philippines.

Upon returning home to Culbertson, he purchased his grandfather Soren Larsen's homestead, where he remained his entire life. He married his lifelong love, Lila Olson on October 1, 1950 in Cartwright, ND and they shared over 66 years together on the farm.

He worked for Gordon Peterson as a mechanic for a short time, but found his true passion in farming and raising cattle. Along with that, he managed to work for the ASCS inspecting grain bins for many years. He was a member of the Soil Conservation District Board for more than 50 years where he held many officer roles. He also served on the Roosevelt County Weed Board for many years, managing the weed crews. He was President of the Roosevelt Memorial Hospital Board and played a key role in getting the new hospital built.

Gene was a lifelong member of Ebenezer Lutheran Church and also served on the Church Council.

In his "spare" time, he was a huge fan of his children and grandchildren and rarely missed a game or school event. Many extended family fishing trips were made to Canada with bountiful results of walleye and northern pike making it home to the freezer.

His most treasured memory was a family cruise with all the kids and grandkids to Alaska to celebrate he and Lila's 50th Anniversary. His love and devotion to his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren was never ending. As he slowly worked towards retirement, he began his love of woodworking, creating many beautiful pieces for friends and family.

Gene and Lila spent more than 31 years as snowbirds, traveling every winter to Apache Junction, AZ. They made many new, now dear friends, from all over the U.S. and Canada, that shared their new love of shuffleboarding, playing sand golf and many games of cards and fast track.

Gene is survived by his wife Lila, sons Steve (Darcia) and Tim, daughter Darla (Dana), grandchildren Kevin (Amy), Michael (Raven), Shawn, Garth, Justin and Madison, great-grandchildren Bailey, Bruce and Huey, step-grandson Jason and his two boys, Trevor and Kyle, siblings Glen, Robert, Della and Gloria. He was preceded in death by his parents, Willie and Elvina, and siblings Pearl, Rueben, Dorothy, Leroy and Arlie.