



If these walls could talk,  
 They would speak of a man  
 Who has worked with *great heart*  
 To accomplish his plan.  
 They'd speak of the times  
 That he's prayed in the night  
 For the strength to go on  
 And to **DO WHAT IS RIGHT**  
 They'd speak of sweet moments,  
 Of laughter and fun,  
 The times with his children,  
 His *love* for each one.  
 Oh, if they could talk,  
 It would be just the start  
 Of a story of love,  
**A GREAT MAN & HIS HEART**

## *In Loving Memory* **Willie Olson**

Born to Nels & Ragna Olson  
 September 22, 1923 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Returned to His Heavenly Father  
 November 4, 2017 ~ Williston, North Dakota

**Funeral Service**  
 2 pm, Friday, November 10, 2017  
 Ray Lutheran Church ~ Ray, North Dakota



Officiating  
 Pastor Steve Anderson

Readers  
 Kylee Geer ~ Janna McKechnie ~ Andy Olson  
 Ryan Olson ~ Angela Wetzel

Music  
 McKenna Hodenfield ~ Vocalist  
 Michelle Dolan ~ Pianist  
 "Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone"

Pallbearers  
 Casey Olson ~ Steven Schmidt ~ Ryan Olson  
 Andy Olson ~ Darin Wendt ~ Cody Hodenfield  
 Braden Hodenfield

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds"  
 Willie's Loving Grandsons are  
 Wearing One of Grandpa Willie's Ties

Honorary Pallbearers  
 Willie's Granddaughters & Great Grandchildren

Final Resting Place  
 Sunset Rest Cemetery ~ Ray, North Dakota

*The Olson family feels the love and prayers being sent  
 their way and would like to thank you all from the  
 bottom of their hearts.*

Arrangements By  
 Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home of Tioga, ND



*In Loving Memory Of*

**Willie Olson**

September 22, 1923 - November 4, 2017



M. Willard "Willie" Olson, 94, of Ray, ND went to be with his Lord in heaven on Saturday, November 4, 2017, at the CHI St. Alexis Hospital in Williston, ND surrounded by his loving family, those that were by his side and those that were there in their hearts.

Willie was born September 22, 1923 to Nels and Ragna (Nelson) Olson in Williston, North Dakota.



He began his education in a country school and graduated from Ray High School. While in high school, he was very active in sports, including football, basketball and baseball. He continued to play baseball into his adult life. After high school he was a mechanic in Ray and helped his dad on the family farm, eventually taking it over. He was also an agent for Farmer's Union Insurance for many years.

He married the love of his life, Violette Hauge on March 29, 1950. They were blessed with 5



children Dick, Kay, Randy, Bobbi, and Colleen, 14 grandchildren, and 24 1/2 great grandchildren. They recently celebrated 67 years of wedded bliss. In their younger years you could find them "do-sido"ing around the square dance floor most weekends.

Willie also was a square dance caller for many years. He loved music and sang his entire life.



In their later years they were snowbirds, driving their motor home every winter to Las Vegas for a much deserved time to relax in the sun. The family farm was his favorite place to be. His love of the land was also made evident while he worked for the soil

conservation district, planting over a million trees in northwest North Dakota. He was a talented woodworker and inventor, fabricating several pieces of equipment that were used for many years on the farm. Willie was very community minded, belonging to many service clubs and serving on many boards including the Ray School Board and Bethel Nursing Home.

His love of sports continued his entire life. He was an avid Vikings and Twins fan and attended many games with his family. He loved to fish and golf and got a



hole in one at the age of 80. Willie's strong faith was an important part of his life. Every evening meal was started with devotions at the supper table. His well worn bible made every move that he and Violette made in the past several years. He taught all of us the importance of family and unconditional love.

Willie's sense of humor never left him. He put a smile on most everyone's face he met. He was known for his many one liners, including "you are as handy as a pocket on a shirt". His grandchildren will also remember his funny way of saying peek a boo and bouncing on his knee. He loved Christmas time at the farm with his family. His grandkids will always remember the many crazy sled rides he gave them behind the pickup or snowmobile, piling on as many grandkids as he could on his homemade sled.



He is survived by his soulmate and wife, Violette, his son Randy (Debbie) Olson, daughter-in-law



Diana Olson, and daughters Kay (Doug) Schmidt, Bobbi (Dick) Wendt, and Colleen (Scott) Hodenfield. His grandchildren Janna (Aaron), Casey (MacKenzie), Kylee (Josh), Angela (Shane), Sara (Kevin), Steven (Sara), Ryan (Lisa), Jodie (Adam), Andy (Kaycee), Stephanie (Jeremy), Darin,



Cody (Zoe), Braden, McKenna, and 24 1/2 great grandchildren, a sister-in-law Betty Weyrauch along with many nieces and nephews.

Loved ones waiting to greet him in heaven include his son Dick, his parents and his siblings Floyd, Lester, Elvera, Evelyn, Vivian, and Doreen.