

WHS REMEMBERS STELZ ... Josh & Olson

Ken Stelzmiller...gosh... What can one say About a man who seeks out Thirteen laughs every day?

Ken was a navy man During the War. He stayed home at stateside, Keeping foes from our door.

Although no <u>real</u> enemy
Did Ken ever meet,
He fought <u>some fierce</u> battles...
...On South Bourbon Street.

So some people tease him For defending 'Orleans, But Ken's quick to remind 'em That no submarines...

...Ever made it past him, To fill up their quota Of captured Norwegians From the farms of Dakota

"If it wasn't for me," Ken will staunchly avow, "Our Missouri would be A big rice paddy, now."

Yes, Ken likes to tease With a wit that is drying. One never quite knows If he's truthful or lying.

'Cause there's never a clue In that twinkling eye... Like a riverboat gambler When the stakes get real high.

There's certainly no question Of Ken's knowledge of history, And the question of how Is, by no means, a mystery: Though Ken's proud of this knowledge And likes to <u>boast</u> of it, The truth of the fact is... He's lived through <u>most</u> of it.

Well...I guess, now, the question To pose, here, is this: "What things about Ken Will we most likely miss?"

Ken's known for his gentleness And known for his caring; And known, among students, For his "left-handed" swearing...

...And his room filled with demons Sent from below To explain old-age frailties And to cause constant woe.

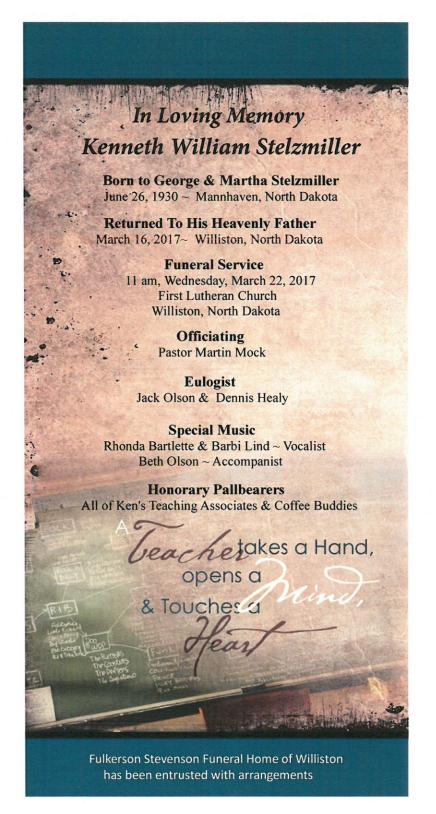
But mostly protesting... The students, en masse, Mourn the loss of their nap times During Ken's Econ. class.

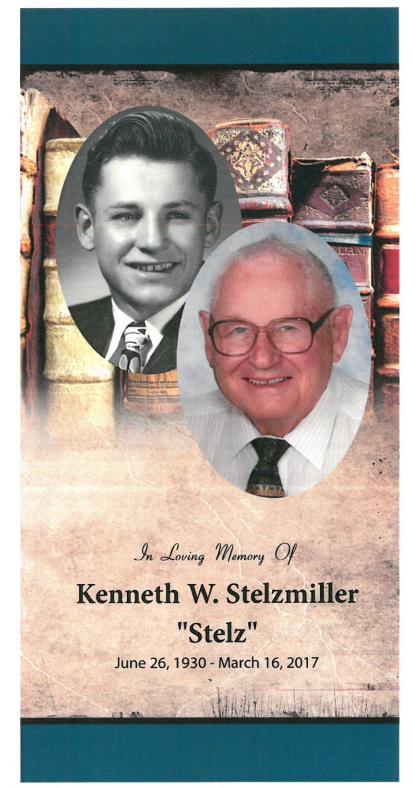
The teachers will miss Ken's sage-like advice, But their lounge, without snoring, Will also be nice.

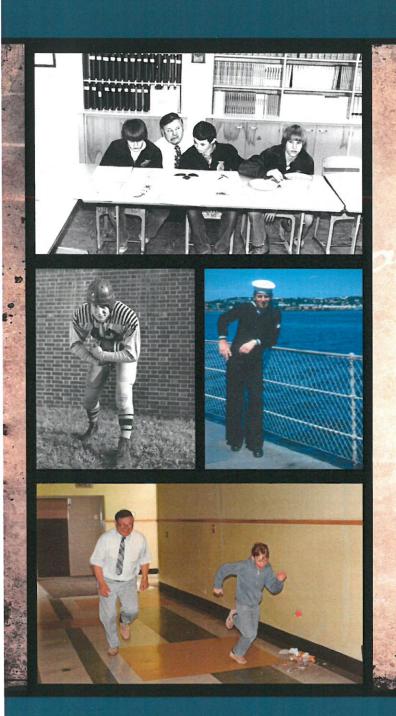
John will miss all Ken's help, With the clerical staff... Making change, answering phones, And supplying a laugh.

And why Easton's quitting We all know quite well: With Ken gone, there's no one Left older than Del!

Though the whole school will miss Ken, Let there be no mistaking; What we'll miss even more Is his wife's constant baking.







Kenneth William Stelzmiller, "Stelz" was born June 26, 1930 on the family farm in Mannhaven ND, the son of George and Martha (Ellwein) Stelzmiller. He was the oldest of four children. He was raised on a farm near Pick City, ND and attended country school before attending and graduating from Hazen High School in 1949.

Ken attended Dickinson State College and played football for one year before entering the US Navy in January 1951. He served at the Navel Receiving Station in New Orleans from 1951-1952. In 1952 he transferred to the Brooklyn Naval Receiving Station and served on the USS Bennington for two years. After being honorably discharged he continued his education at the University of North Dakota where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. In later years he furthered his education with graduate studies.

Ken's first teaching and coaching position was in Leeds ND. He was there for eight years before moving to Williston, ND in 1967 where he taught for 25 years before retiring in 1992.

Ken was united in marriage to Barbara Ann Andrews on August 11, 1968. He recently entered the Roosevelt Medical Center in Culbertson, where he enjoyed the wonderful care he received.

Ken was a member of First Lutheran Church and the Williston Moose Lodge # 239. He was also a member of the Elite Fitness Center, where he did more socializing then working out.

In retirement and when able, Stelz loved to read, play golf, watch his son and grandsons activities and generally gave everyone a bad time in his own unique way; especially at several coffee groups he attended.

He is survived by wife Barbara; son Keith; grandchildren: Drew Baldry, Katelyn (Tom) (Neuville) Odenheimer and Mackenzie Montague; sister Marion (Robert) Spears; brother George (Marti); half sister Nikki (Norlyn) Schulz; "special brother" Ivan Ellwein along with several cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father George; mother Martha Fiergola, brother-in-Law Robert Spears, daughter-in-law Shannon Montague; and many aunts and uncles.

