

"I'm Just a Farmer, Plain and Simple"

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.
Not of royal birth, but rather a worker of the earth.
I know not of riches, but rather
of patches on my britches.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.
I know of drought and rain, of pleasure and pain.
I know the good, the bad, the happy and the sad.

I'm a man of emotions.
A man who loves this land and the beauty of its sand.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

I know the spring's fresh flow
and autumn's golden glow.

Of a new born calf's hesitation
and an eagle's destination.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

I know of tall pines and long waiting lines.

I know the warmth of campfires and
the agony of flat tires.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

I'm a man who loves his job.

And the life that I live.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

And I'm a reaper of harvest.

I'm the sower of seeds and I'm the tender of stock.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

I know of planting corn and bailing hay
and animals going astray.

I live in a complex world, but my faith guides me.

I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

I am a man who works with God.

I cannot succeed without his help.

For you see, I'm just a farmer, plain and simple.

By Bobby Collier

**IN LOVING MEMORY
RAY MILES POWELL**

BORN TO LLOYD & DORIS POWELL
January 29, 1949 ~ Williston, North Dakota

RETURNED TO HIS HEAVENLY FATHER
October 7, 2020 ~ Fargo, North Dakota

FUNERAL LITURGY
Monday, October 12, 2020, 10:00 AM
Alexander Firehall
Alexander, North Dakota

OFFICIATING
Father Brian Gross

EULOGIST **READER**
Edwin Rettig James Jacobson

REMARKS
"So God Made A Farmer" ~ Paul Harvey

MUSIC
"How Great Thou Art" ~ "Old Rugged Cross"
"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

SPECIAL MUSICIANS
Rylann Olson & Addison Olson

PALLBEARERS
Jesse Olson Shay Olson
Nathan Soiseth Zane Soiseth
Porter Soiseth Case Powell
Edwin Rettig Kit James

HONORARY PALLBEARERS
Bob Dwyer, Alan Sims, Kevin Whittey,
Paul Serwa, Dan Ableman, Larry Novak
& All of his past teammates

FINAL RESTING PLACE
Riverview Cemetery ~ Williston, North Dakota

ARRANGEMENTS BY
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home
Williston, North Dakota



In Loving Memory Of

RAY MILES POWELL
JANUARY 29, 1949 - OCTOBER 7, 2020

Ray Miles Powell was born January 29, 1949 in Williston ND to Lloyd and Doris (Miller) Powell. He graduated from Alexander Public School in 1967 and then attended various colleges in North Dakota, one of which was NDSU. After a brief stint in Colorado working with dynamite, Ray then returned to Alexander to work on the family farm.

On August 4th, 1972 he was united in marriage to Fonda Jo Slagle. From this union they had 3 children and 10 grandchildren. He was very active in the Alexander Fire Department as the district president for more than 20 years. He was also active in the Lions Club, bowling league, softball, basketball, golf, tennis, racquetball, football, pickle-ball, pinochle, black-jack, hunting, fishing, camping, going to auction sales, and (believe it or not) served as a hunter's safety instructor and basketball referee. He also loved following his children and grandchildren's events and watching anything having to do with BISON FOOTBALL!

Along with his many athletic talents, Grandpa Ray is also famous for keeping his candy drawer well stocked, cookies readily available, ice cream as a regular night time snack, and was known as a fabulous malt maker. He enjoyed eating "Killer" hotdish as a snack in the middle of the night and always shared his secret stashes of candy with anyone.

Ray was always proud of the family farm. He was able to continue farming with the 5th and 6th generations, his son Lance and his children, who he loved being in the field with. Although he was technologically challenged, GPS on combines was a common topic of conversation. Much to the dismay of Lance, Ray was a firm believer that you can cover more ground if the line isn't straight, packer tires are just as good as a rock-picker, there's moisture under the rocks, and duct tape and baling twine can fix a fence.

Along with farming, Ray dabbled in being an entrepreneur. He partnered with Walter Link and together they established Best West Crop Insurance, a branch of Ihry Insurance Agency. He also established McKenzie Agri-Steel and 7P Feeds. His love for sports kept him busy on many successful teams, some of which included "OK Implement" softball, "Bitchin' Bob's Bar" basketball team, "Weber Construction" softball, and "7P Feeds" softball and basketball. He was fortunate to have shared his love for these sports with many lifelong friends.

One of Ray's favorite pastimes was playing 10 ½ and having a pop at the Café in Alexander with his friends, the loser having to foot the bill. Ray made everything a competition. Whether it be playing cards, shaking dice, or golfing, there was always a winner and money or a round was always involved!

Ray is survived by his wife, Fonda; children, Penny (Nate) Soiseth, Bobbie (Jesse) Olson, and Lance (Misty) Powell; his grandchildren, Addison, Rylann, and Shay Olson, Presley, Lainey, and Case Powell, and Zane and Porter Soiseth; his brother, Dennis (Gail) Powell; sisters, Susan Link and Barb (James) Jacobson. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Doris Powell; brother-in-law, Walter Link, and grandchildren, Carson Powell and baby Olson.



Grief
NEVER ENDS
BUT IT *changes.*
IT'S A *passage.*
NOT
A PLACE TO *stay.*
GRIEF IS NOT
A SIGN OF *weakness.*
NOR A LACK OF
faith. GRIEF IS THE
PRICE OF *love.*

