

God's Garden

God looked around His garden
And found an empty place,
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
And whispered, 'Peace be thine.'
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.

by Melissa Shreve



Born to Howard "Pop" & Olga Ross
November 9, 1942 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Returned to His Heavenly Father
August 18, 2022 ~ Billings, Montana

Funeral Service
Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 11:00 AM
St. Olaf Lutheran Church
Grenora, North Dakota

Officiating
Pastor Josh Parris

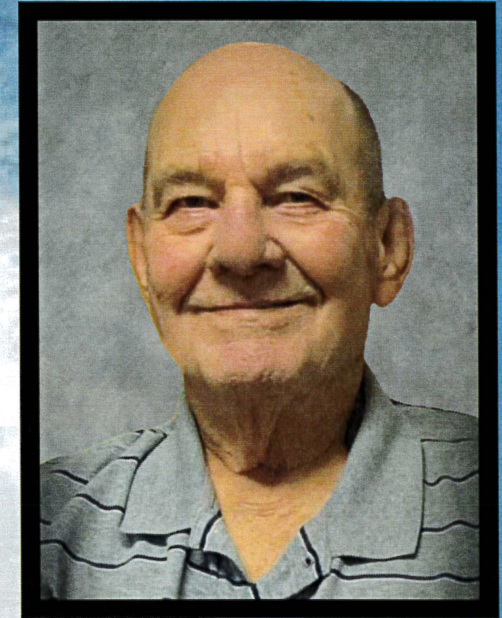
Music
"How Great Thou Art"
"Old Rugged Cross" "It Is Well With My Soul"
"Amazing Grace"
Pat Lund ~ Accompanist

Pallbearers
Ryan Ross J.T. Ross Brayden Ross
Cody Ross Laura Ross Charli Ross
Carsen Ross Cale Ross
Corban Hekkel Prestan Hekkel

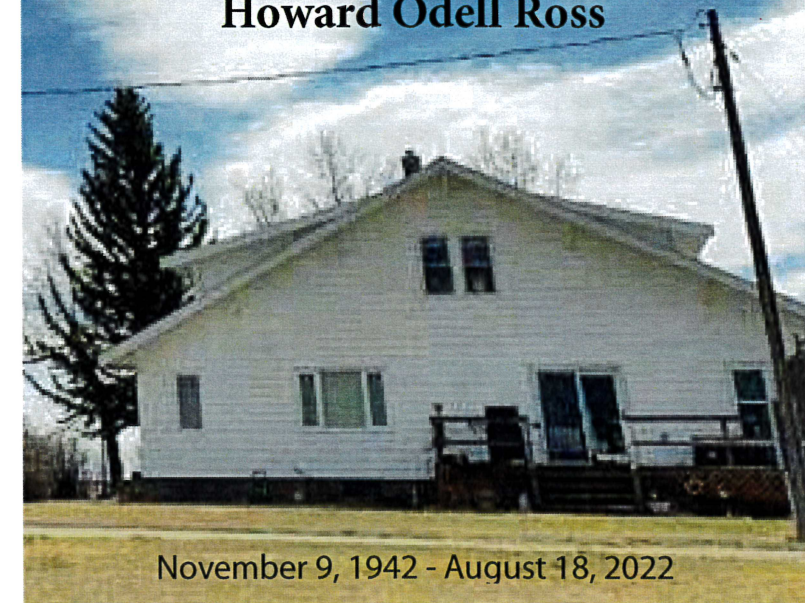
Honorary Pallbearers
Howard's Great-Grandson, Royce Howard Ross
Howard's Cousins, Nieces, Nephews
& Family Friends

Final Resting Place
Grenora Cemetery ~ Grenora, North Dakota

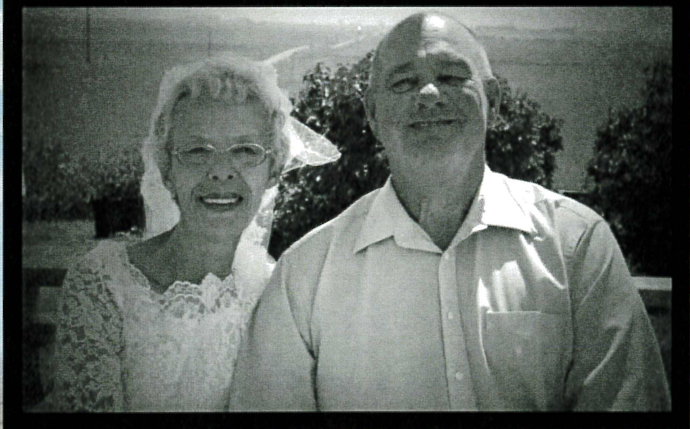
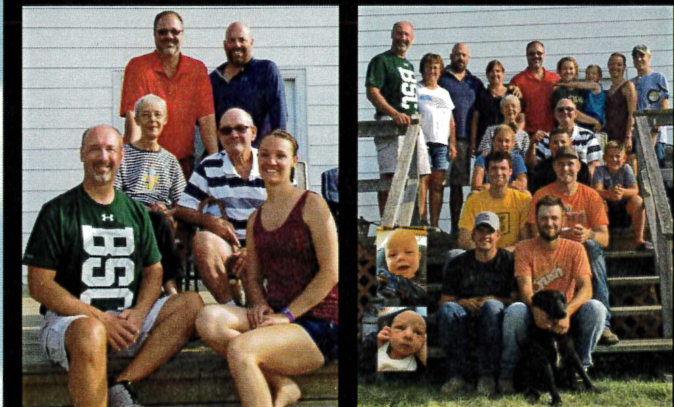
Arrangements By
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home ~ Williston, ND



In Loving Memory Of
Howard Odell Ross



November 9, 1942 - August 18, 2022



"Howard Ross has passed away. Pickup for sale." With his ever-present humor and honesty, Howard half-jokingly made this statement after reading what he thought was a rather lengthy obituary in the paper. Although they rarely, if ever, got the last word in when he included a family member in one of his funny stories, this time Howard's family is writing the final words, because his life story cannot be told in just two short sentences.

Howard Odell Ross was born November 9, 1942, to Howard "Pop" and Olga (Haugen) Ross in Williston, ND, the second of their four children. He grew up on the family farm southeast of Grenora and graduated from Grenora High School in 1960. At the age of 18, Howard was asked to fill in for Pastor Don Gaarder, of St. Olaf, at a Sunday service, which led to a life-long vocation in lay ministry. He also attended Minot State College, where he was a member of the 1960-62 football teams. Both of these experiences, along with his time spent playing baseball and softball, driving school bus, refereeing and umpiring ball games, and emceeing a multitude of area events, allowed Howard to touch the lives of thousands of people and form many life-long acquaintances.

Howard married Sandra Badger in Williston, ND, on July 18, 1964. They lived in four different locations in Grenora while their family grew to include three sons born in '66, '69, and '72. During these years, Howard worked for Dick and Myrna Lundby at the Grenora Hardware and he and Sandy purchased the "Ross Lanes" bowling alley. In 1976, after his parents built a house in Grenora, Howard moved his family to the place he cherished the most, purchasing the Ross family farm to continue his love of farming and ranching. Over the next several years, Howard and Sandy devoted the majority of their time to supporting their boys in their many school and extra-curricular activities. In the midst of this busy life, they were surprised and overjoyed when in '87, a baby girl was born and made their family complete.

As the years flew by, the memories and stories continued to be written as grandkids joined the family and provided hours of fun and entertainment on the farm. Four-wheeler, motorcycle, and tractor rides, feeding the cows, hunting gophers and rabbits, hitting golf balls and baseballs, and playing cards were some of Howard's favorite things to share with his family.

Howard is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sandra; sons Troy (Tracy) of Berthold, ND; Curt of Glasgow, MT; and Neil (Lori) of Belgrade, MT; daughter Lana (Christian) Hekkel of Sidney, MT; grandchildren Ryan (Rachel) Ross and J.T. Ross of Grenora, ND; Brayden Ross, Cody Ross, and Laura Ross, all of Glasgow, MT; Charli Ross, Carsen Ross, and Cale Ross of Belgrade, MT; Corban Hekkel and Prestan Hekkel of Sidney, MT; great-grandchild Royce Ross of Grenora, ND; sisters Vera Raaum of Casselton, ND; and Louise Ross of Salem, OR; sister-in-law Bonnie Ross of Dickinson, ND; and several special nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents; brother Richard (Dick) Ross; brother-in-law Jim Raaum, sister-in-law Judy Ross; and many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins.

On the 8th day
God looked down on his
PARADISE
and decided **HE** needed a
caretaker so he made a
FARMER