



Gerald Curtis Peterson, 85, of Williston, ND, formerly of Powers Lake, ND passed away peacefully on Monday, January 26, 2026 at CHI St. Alexius Hospital in Williston, ND.

He was born on November 29, 1940 to Clara and George Peterson in Powers Lake, ND. He graduated from Wildrose, ND in 1958.

On June 3, 1961, he married June (Dahl) Peterson. They began their married life on the Dahl farm south of Wildrose. After a few years, they moved to Tioga where they raised their three children.

Gerald had a few careers during his life. He began early on working at the Williston airport. He loved airplanes and even had an app on his phone to follow the flight patterns in the sky! He also worked at the gas plant in McGregor, was a truck driver for Northern Tanklines, and then worked for Amerada Hess until he "retired".

His last job was his true love. After helping his entire life on both his father's and uncle's farm, he took over full-time farming on the Peterson Homestead south of Wildrose. He farmed for many years and he loved the land.

During this time, he was blessed with many grandchildren who loved going to the farm. They especially loved riding with Grandpa Pete on the tractor, combine, mower, four-wheeler, and golf cart.

In 2008 June, sadly, passed away, which was so hard on him. In 2015 Gerald met a wonderful gal, Mary Herber, from Spearfish, South Dakota. After some long distance "dating", she moved to the farm with Gerald. They lived on the farm until 2023 before moving to the Arbor House in Williston.

Gerald is survived by Mary; his children, Dawn (Cary) Hawkinson of Green Valley, AZ, Cheri Peterson of Parker, CO, (Myles Rosencrans of Tioga, ND), Curt (Megan) Peterson of Velva, ND; grandchildren, Jaden (Noelle Wallwork) and Ashlyn Hawkinson, Ally Nelson, Quintin (Gabby Hummel) and Kinley Peterson, Lexton Smith; sister, Louann Peterson of Anchorage, AK; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife, June Peterson; parents, George and Clara (Netmanger) Peterson.

In Loving Memory



Gerald Peterson

November 29, 1940 ~ January 26, 2026



And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "I need a caretaker"-- so God made a **F**armer.

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

-- so God made a **F**armer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon -- and mean it"

-- so God made a **F**armer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps; who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain'n from tractor back, put in another seventy-two hours"

-- so God made a **F**armer.

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 in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place

-- so God made a **F**armer.

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

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

-- so God made a **F**armer.

Celebrating A Life Well Lived Gerald Curtis Peterson

Born to George and Clara Peterson

November 29, 1940 ~ Powers Lake, North Dakota

Returned to His Heavenly Father

January 26, 2026 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Service

Monday, February 2, 2026 ~ 1:00 PM

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home Chapel

Tioga, North Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Steve Anderson

Music

Daddy's Hands ~ Holly Dunn

Scars In Heaven ~ Casting Crowns

Honorary Pallbearers

Cary Hawkinson Tom Dahl

Brian Dahl Jaden Hawkinson

Quintin Peterson Lexton Smith

Final Resting Place

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 11:00 AM

Grong Cemetery

Hamlet, North Dakota

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home

Tioga, North Dakota



I believe a person's greatest possession is their dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.