

Donald A. Rider was born on June 29, 1921 in a tar-papered shack on the Tony Dietrich farm at Sioux Crossing, North Dakota. He was the 7th child out of 13 children born to John and Goldie (Johnson) Rider.

He was raised in the Fairview and Cartwright area and attended the Dean School until the 8th grade. In his memoirs he wrote, "When I was seven I went out to the beet field where the rest were thinning beets dad said, 'Can you tell the beets from the weeds?' I made the mistake and said yes, and dad said get to work. From then on I helped in the beets."

In the spring on 1938, he joined the CCCs and was stationed south of Watford City where he worked on the development of the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. On July 24, 1943 he joined the Navy Seabees as a Machinists Mate Second Class and was stationed in Hawaii. He was discharged on February 24, 1946 and received the Asiatic Area Campaign Medal One Star, the American Campaign Medal and the World War Victory Medal. He returned to Kalama, Washington area and worked different jobs until he ended back in North Dakota.

In the fall of 1947, Don met Ruth Dow. They went together until August 22, 1948 when they were married. This was the start of their amazing love and life together. They moved to the Buford area and began farming and raising their three children, Byron, Barb and Donald H.

Don was also involved in a variety of community organizations: he was a member of the Odd Fellows where he enjoyed playing cards; he was elected to the Buford - Trenton Irrigation District board in 1959 where he served 17 years, the last ten years was as chairman; and he was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church until recently when he became a member of Concordia Lutheran Church.

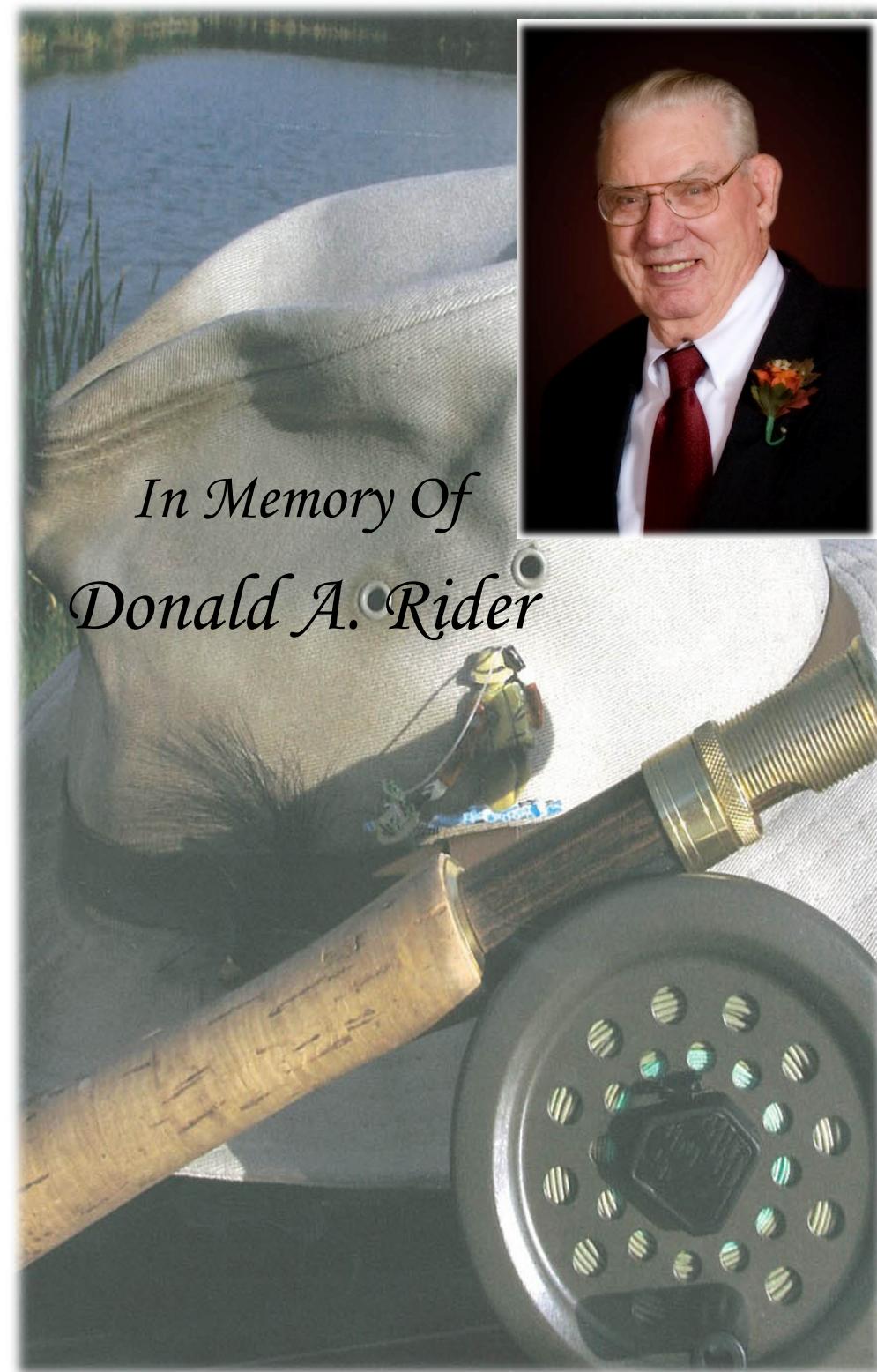
To say that Don enjoyed hunting and fishing in the Buford area and the mountains of Montana would be an understatement. His love for fly fishing began in the mid 60s with his friend, Harvey Selby, who taught Don to fly fish and tie flies. Don taught his children, grandchildren and many friends this art. His grandchildren will forever cherish the fly rods their grandpa made them.

Don retired from farming in 1979 and traded his irrigation tubes for a set of golf clubs. He loved this sport, especially when the grandkids could learn how to golf right along with him.

In 1999, Don and Ruth moved to Williston where they spent many more years together. In town, Don enjoyed his Friday night card games and the many visits from his extensive, loving family.

Don is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ruth; and their three children, Byron (Terri) Rider of rural Williston, Barb (Dean) Kummer of Williston, and Donald H. Rider of rural Williston; his brother, Gary Rider of Kalama, WA; and his sisters, Beverly Johnson of Longview, WA and Jean Neuman of Kalama, WA; his grandchildren, Jed (Melissa) Rider, Adam (Jenny) Rider, Jonie (Jamie) Slater, Kalie Rider, Robyn Kummer, Wade (Katie) Kummer, Tanya (Kyle) Taylor, Cory Kummer, Lacey (Travis) Cote, Levi Rider and Logan Rider; and 11 great grandchildren. He will also be missed by his tie-fishing buddy, Randy Pitzer.

He was preceded in death by his parents; six brothers and three sisters; one granddaughter, Dorothy; and one great grandson, Gabriel.





Precious Lord

*Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, Let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn*

*Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light*

Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.

*When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand, Lest I fall*

Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.

*When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand;*

Guide my feet, hold my hand

Take my hand, precious Lord; Lead me home.

In Memory Of Donald A. Rider

Date And Place Of Birth
June 29, 1921

Sioux Crossing, McKenzie County, North Dakota

Date And Place of Death
March 20, 2010

Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Service

11:00 AM, Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Concordia Lutheran Church
Williston, North Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Jay Reinke

Musicians

Rosemary Sullivan ~ Organist

Casketbearers

Jed Rider

Adam Rider

Wade Kummer

Levi Rider

Cory Kummer

Logan Rider

Honorary Bearers

Robyn Kummer

Jonie & Jamie Slater

Lacey & Travis Cote

Tanya & Kyle Taylor

Kalie Rider

Melissa Rider

Jenny Rider

Katie Kummer

Military Honors

Williston Veteran's Honor Guard
North Dakota Veteran's Honor Guard

Interment

Hillside Cemetery
Williston, North Dakota



*You may share your remembrances and condolences
with the family at the Fulkerson Funeral Home website
www.fulkersons.com*