



Chester " Lantz

January 18, 1928 - June 29, 2010

Chester "Chet" Clyde Lantz was born to Andrew and Lydia (Savage) on January 18, 1928, in Sidney, MT. He passed away on June 29, 2010, at Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena, MN. He spent his early years tending the family cows, keeping them off the railroad tracks and enjoying being the youngest of 16 children. At the age of 14 Chester's parents moved to Portland, OR, where he attended high school and later joined the United States Army. After his single enlistment he attended and graduated from the Holiness Methodist School of Theology in Minneapolis, and was ordained as a pastor in the Holiness Methodist Church. He began his ministry in Greenwood, SD and served at Clackamas Heights, OR; Watson, MN; Ebro, MN; and Ardoch, ND. On June 25, 1953 he married Rachel Robinson. In 1961 he left the pastorate, and he, his wife, and their five children moved to Gladstone, OR. Chester held many jobs to support his family, which included sawmill worker, and taxi driver, until he was hired to drive bus for the Blue Lines of Portland, OR. The Blue Line became Tri-Met and he continued driving bus for 32 years. Even though he had left the ministry, he never left the church. He was very instrumental in the starting of his home church in Oregon, doing whatever was necessary to assist the many pastors who served and helped in whatever capacity was needed to minister to his local church, investing in the lives of many families, widows, and orphans. He was a faithful supporter of Evangelical Church Missions in financial and prayer support. He will be remembered as a disciple of Jesus Christ, a patient and loving husband and a godly father. After

retirement he enjoyed traveling and spending time with family and friends. He will also be remembered for his smile and his unique sense of humor. Chet is survived by his wife Rachel; his children, Lorrie (Armond) Swanson of Wadena, Larry (Lisa) Lanz of Milwaukie, OR, Lee (Sharon) Lanz of Pine River, Lynette (Steve) Stowell of Dallas, OR, Lloyd (Cindy) Lanz of Wadena, and Leslie (David) Bond of Milwaukie, OR. He is also survived by his grandchildren Brian (Sara) Trosen, Troy (Briana) Trosen, Nathaniel (Stacy) Lanz, Rebecca (Scott) Johnson, Skyler (Erin) Lanz, Douglas (Haylee) Bond, Summer Lanz, J.D. Lanz, Logan Lanz, Brandon Morgan, Benjamin Lanz, Andrew Lanz, Elizabeth Lanz, Steven Stowell, Levi Lanz, and Josiah Lanz; great-grandchildren Tatum, Elliott, Tobias, Paige, Adam and Nicholas; and sisters-in-law Ida Lanz of Montana, Mary Lanz of Florida, and Dorothy Lanz of Indiana. He was preceded in death by his parents Andrew and Lydia Lanz; brothers and sisters Caroline, Lloyd, Gladys, Francis, Florabelle, Ralph, Stanley, Lawrence, Paul, Ruth, Grace, Dorothy, Robert, and James. Funeral services were held on July 2, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. in the Wadena Evangelical Church, with Pastor Carl Jon Duhrkoop officiating. Pallbearers were Brian Trosen, Troy Trosen, Brandon Morgan, Ben Lanz, Andrew Lanz, Skyler Lanz, Summer Lanz, and Scott Johnson. Interment was in the Wadena Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

“ I have had the privilege of having Grandpa close by for most of my life. It was not until he moved to Wadena that I began to realize how much he really meant to me. I never knew my maternal grandfather--he had passed away long before I was born-- so Grandpa was even more special to me. Now attending college in Winona, MN, I have the opportunity to stay in Wadena with Lorrie and Armond. I have gotten to reconnect with both Grandpa and Grandma Lanz over the last few months.

In December 2008, my dad (Larry) and I visited Minnesota to see my college and visit family we hadn't seen in a while. When we visited Grandpa for the first time in Fair Oaks (he had gone downhill a lot since the last I had seen him), he saw my dad and got the biggest smile on his face. Then my dad turned so that Grandpa could see me, and his face got even brighter and his smile got even wider. I always remembered how tall Grandpa was, and when I hugged him for the first time there, I had to lean over because he was sitting, making me twice as tall as he was.

I have had the opportunity of being near Grandpa for the last few months. And the last time I saw him was a few weeks ago when Lorrie and I took Grandma shopping. He was really enjoying his chocolate chip cookie as the residents were all outside enjoying the warm summer sun.

That Sunday I left for a short vacation to Sunnyvale, California, and had a feeling that something was going to happen while I was gone. I never expected Grandpa to go home while I was gone. But, as someone very wise once said, "The pain and sadness are for us left here..."

I would like to leave with a quoted portion of a new song entitled, "Open Arms":

"... Looked up and smiled
Because he knew
One day soon I'll see you too,
Though you're far away.
One day soon I'll see you too,
Up in Heav'n above.
When you get there

*And pass through those gates,
I'll be there with open arms."
I love you Grandpa, and I hope to see you soon.*

Logan Lanz - June 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ *I have always appreciated that Chet contacted me and helped me become acquainted with my Lanz relatives. Living on the East Coast for many years had resulted in loss of contacts, and I was not sure how to locate anyone in that side of my family. Chet, Rachel, and their children made sure I felt a part of the Lanz', and welcomed me whenever I visited in the Portland area. I always appreciated Chet's good humor, and his abiding concern for the well-being of others. His efforts to help children in unfortunate situations were typical of his efforts to improve all of our lives.*

Arnold Petersen - June 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ *What a great chuckle he had. I will always remember his great sense of humor. Uncle Chet was a part of my life since before I can remember. We had great times!
My sister and I greatly appreciated the love and care he showed our mother over the years, especially after Dad died when we couldn't be near her. He was always a big part of getting family together for reunions and we couldn't have done it without him.
He will be missed. Gods-speed to a lovely man.
Love, Wanda*

Wanda Brewster - June 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ We are praying for you. As a family we enjoyed many good times with Chet, Rachel and family. I also send thoughts and prayers from Dick and Helen Brakefield.
In Sympathy, Nancy, Ralph,
Dick & Helen

Ralph & Nancy (Brakefield) Fifer - June 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM