



Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke

June 9, 1925 - September 10, 2015

The funeral service for Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke, of Wadena will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 18, at the St. John Lutheran Church in Wadena, with Pastor Stephen Meltzer presiding. Visitation will be at the church on Friday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service. With family at his side, Junior, age 90, passed away on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at the Minnesota Veterans Nursing Home in Fergus Falls, MN.

Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke was born to Gottfried and Cora (Higgenbotham) Kleinke on June 9, 1925, in North Germany Township, Wadena County, MN. He attended District 48 Country School through the eighth grade. In 1945, he entered the US Army during WWII and served as a Corporal until his honorable discharge in 1947. Junior and Vera Neels were united in marriage on October 25, 1947, in Wadena, MN. It was where they made their home before moving to rural Verndale in 1977. They returned to Wadena in 2009. After years of Vera's dedicated and loving care, it became apparent in 2013 that Junior needed to be at the Veterans Home in Fergus Falls.

Over the years Junior was employed at the Co-op Creamery, Goetz-Everson Motors, and NAPA. He will also be remembered as a well known worker at the Wadena Municipal Liquor Store for over 18 years, until his retirement in 1987. His spare time was spent enjoying the outdoors, whether it was hunting, fishing or snowmobiling. Junior was a member of the American Legion in

Sebeka.

Junior was preceded in death by his parents Gottfried and Cora; sister Mary Steinkraus; and brother-in-law Henry Steinkraus.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Vera; son David (Linda) Kleinke all of Wadena; grandchildren Michael (Rhonda) Kleinke of Wadena, Amy Kleinke, Kimberly (Peter) Erickson, and Jonathan (Elizabeth) Kleinke all of Sidney, MT; great-grandchildren Brittani (Tyler) Schwartz, Brayden and Bryanna Kleinke, Caleb Kleinke, Erin, Ethan, and Evan Erickson, Ciana Murphy, Ryleigh, Max and Toby Kleinke; sister, Lois (Robert) Poyzer of Crosby, MN; along with many nieces and nephews.

Burial will be in Wadena Cemetery, Wadena, MN.

Cemetery Details

Wadena Cemetery

Franklin Drive & 5th St. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 18. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church
710 Franklin Ave. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Service

SEP 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church
710 Franklin Ave. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Tribute Wall

BP

“ *Barry & Sandi Pratt lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Barry & Sandi Pratt - October 17, 2015 at 10:27 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke.*



September 16, 2015 at 08:00 PM

AD

“ *Audrey Davis lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



audrey davis - September 16, 2015 at 06:53 PM

JD

“ *Jerry/Janice Denny lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Jerry/Janice Denny - September 16, 2015 at 03:05 PM

TT

“ *Tim Tigges lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Tim Tigges - September 15, 2015 at 04:21 PM

TO

“ *Tom&JoanBrauch lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Tom&JoanBrauch - September 14, 2015 at 09:01 PM

JB

“ *My deepest sympathy in your loss. Jan Breuer*

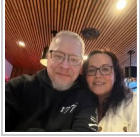
Jan Breuer - September 14, 2015 at 08:11 AM

CN

“ *Cindy Nelson lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Cindy Nelson - September 13, 2015 at 08:21 AM



“ Jessica Rust lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Jessica Rust - September 12, 2015 at 04:54 PM



“ Mike And Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Mike and Lea Snyder - September 11, 2015 at 02:28 PM



“ Myron & Karen Winkelman lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Myron & Karen Winkelman - September 11, 2015 at 07:38 AM



So many wonderful memories, what a great guy. Love Dick and Jane (Kopp) Dillon

jane (kopp)dillon - September 11, 2015 at 07:07 PM

RY

“ Rick And Linda Youngbauer lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Rick and Linda Youngbauer - September 10, 2015 at 04:24 PM

GD

“ George&Julie Deiss lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



George&Julie Deiss - September 10, 2015 at 01:56 PM

AM

“ Amber lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Amber - September 10, 2015 at 01:44 PM

DL

“ Dennis & Linda Loween lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke



Dennis & Linda Loween - September 10, 2015 at 01:16 PM

DE

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Dennis - September 10, 2015 at 01:16 PM

KE

Thank you! We greatly appreciate it!

Kim Erickson - September 10, 2015 at 01:58 PM

AK

Thank you!

Amy Kleinke - September 10, 2015 at 03:25 PM

JS

“ *Jim Stoneman lit a candle in memory of Godfrey "Junior" Kleinke*



Jim stoneman - September 10, 2015 at 12:20 PM