



Harland Skalisky

March 2, 1927 - May 7, 2011

Harland J. Skalisky, age 84, of Menahga, Minn., formerly of Sebeka, Minn., and Wadena, Minn., passed away on May 7, 2011. Harland was born on March 2, 1927, on a farm in Verndale, Minn., to Pearl and Jerry Skalisky. He married Rosella A. Rach on October 1, 1949, in Bertha, Minn. In 1955, he took over the family farm in rural Wadena, Minn., and lived there until Rosella's death in 1985. He later married and lost both Mary J. Shea of Staples, Minn., and Alma L. Hillig of Sebeka, Minn. After farming, Harland was employed in maintenance for the Wadena School District from where he retired. Harland served as President and Clerk of the Public School District 1483 School Board in Ottertail County, trustee for St. John's Lutheran Church in Wadena, member of the building maintenance committee of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sebeka, and member of the board of the DAC (Development Achievement Center) in Sebeka. His favorite pastimes were playing, coaching, and watching baseball and softball. For many years, he held the season home run record in the High 10 League. Another activity that he enjoyed was deer hunting, and did so every fall until his early 80's. His son, Steve, recalled this about his dad: "When it came to hunting, Harland was able to blend into the woods like a ghost in pursuit of his prey. He loved to track and chase deer. He would often go for many miles into the woods alone with only a compass, not to return until dark, causing everyone to wonder if we were ever going to see him again." Harland was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Edna Neuschwander. He his survived by his children,

Sheryl (Allan) Vandenberghe of Brainerd, Minn., Steve of Hermantown, Minn., Sally (Kim) Wood of Woodbridge, Virginia, Scott (Diane) of Gardner, Kansas, Susan of Brainerd, brother Dale (Wanda) of Wenatchee, Washington, sisters Viola Hanson of Fergus Falls, Lorraine Kniefel of Owatonna, Geraldine Bailey of Knoxville, Tennessee, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The funeral service will be at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11 at First English Lutheran Church, 17 Main St., Menahga with Rev. Steve Bruer officiating. Burial will take place in the Wadena Cemetery. The family would like to express their appreciation to Dr. John Pate at Tri County Hospital and to the staff of Green Pine Acres for their excellent care of Harland.

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Dear all,
We're so sorry to hear of Uncle Harland's passing. The good thing is we know he's in good hands now for eternity!
I tried to find my favorite picture of him , me & Brownie, but can't see to locate it today.
I also remember your folk's wedding as I was the minature bride, as Rosella's dress and mine were almost alike and we both had red roses. Your parents were so happy that day!
I'll miss my Uncle Harland!
Love & prayers to all,
Sharon

Sharon & Dennis Johnson - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I have so many things that i still to this day that i think about. He would come over to grandma Edna and Ray's. He always pulled my blonde pig tails ang hug me so hard i thought i wouldn't breath again. He took me for ice cream and would make me laugh so hard when i was and my grandparents house. He even would brush my long hair. Because he always seen to show up after bathtime when i was there for the summer. I will miss him. I hpoe he is up in heaven with everyone that has gone and is talking about hunting and smiling down on all of all of us. I geuss we won't know untill we get to heaven. But All are in my thoughts and prayers. He will be missed. Hope they are maybe playing some cards with His parents also. God Bless.

Jennifer jJohnson Berg - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *May your dad rest in peace.
Sending sympathy to the Skalisky family. Especially to you, Steve-to let you know you are thought about. May the many memories you made with your dad sustain you. Judy*

Judy Vierkant Ament - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *I remember like it was yesterday when us kids we "banded" to the upstairs when your mom and dad had a card party. We used to sit and listen to them through the vent in the floor. I can still hear Harlands' laugh!!
I also enjoyed the many talks we would have when I moved to Sebeka. He always had a story to tell me.
Those were good times. He will surely be missed.*

Lynne M. Piepkorn - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *The Skalisky's are one of the families I most remember visiting during my childhood. Our farms were a few miles apart on the same roadway. With the passage of time, people change, they come and go, but what remains are the memories. Most recently, I took Mom to Menahga to visit Harland and I could see how they, as friends, held pieces of each other's heart, how they shared a smile and brightened up each other's day. How lucky for them to have a friendship that was honest and frank. They were kind to one another - like bestest friends. A friend is someone who fills our lives with beauty, joy, and grace, and makes our world a better place to live in. Thank you Harland, for being such a good friend to Clarice Schwartz, my Mom. And I extend that to Steve and his family. May you, Harland, Rest in Peace.*

Ken and Mimi Bergstedt - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ I heard about Harland's death from my brother Bob and sister Pat. I almost made it to the wake in Wadena. I drove up from KS to attend a relative's funeral in Inver Grove Heights that same day and was going to try to make it to both but it was just too many miles. I wish I could have seen you kids once more. My thoughts and prayers were with all of you. Harland was a good man and was very good to my mother. Take care, I would love to hear from you if you want to e-mail.

Rosann Lucas - May 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM