



## Jerome Hiltner

September 6, 1949 - September 27, 2009

Jerome Joseph Hiltner was born September 6, 1949 to Edwin and Clara (Wolbeck) in St. Rose, MN. He passed away on September 27, 2009, at age 60, in Wadena. Jerome was united in marriage to Anna VanderBeek on January 11, 1969 in the Church of God in Eden Valley. He will be remembered in the community as the local turkey farm manager from west of town. He took time to go hunting, fishing and bowling. He especially enjoyed playing with his grandchildren and spending time with friends and family. He was one to play pranks on anyone he knew!! Jerome was preceded in death by his parents, Edwin and Clara; an infant son; an infant daughter; and brother Linus. He is survived by his wife, Anna; sons, Jerry Joe (Missy) of Brainerd, and Darrell (Becky) of Richmond; daughters, Sherri Hiltner (special friend, Joel), and Anna (Mike) Almer, both of Big Lake; grandchildren, Justin Hiltner, Lacy Hiltner, Cole Hiltner, Peyton Hiltner, Braylon Hiltner, and Blake Hiltner; brothers, Sylvester (Linda) of Belgrade, David (Alice) of Hawick, Jim (Norma Jean), and Gary (Sara) both of Eden Valley; sisters, Marlene (Ken) Burg of New York Mills, and Bernice (Marty) Vandorsten of Hawick; sister-in-law, Helen Hiltner of Paynesville; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial services were held on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 11:00 AM in the St. John Lutheran Church in Wadena, with Vicar Stephen Meltzer officiating. Honorary pallbearers were his grandchildren, Justin Hiltner, Lacy Hiltner, Cole Hiltner, Peyton Hiltner, Blake Hiltner, and Braylon Hiltner.



# Tribute Wall

ML

“ Anna and family,  
I'm shocked and saddened. My heart goes out to you. I have always looked forward to unloading poultis when Jerome was around. He'd poke me in the stomach and say "How ya doin' smiley?"  
I will miss him and his great personality. My thoughts are with you and the whole family.  
Mike

---

**Mike LaCoursiere** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ We are very sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

---

**Clint & Kim Snyder** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Hi Ann,  
I am at a loss for words for the tragedy that you and your family is experencing. I always considered you and Jerome close friends. We are very Sorry for your loss and our prayers are with you.  
With Love,  
Dick and Julie Hansen

---

**Dick and Julie Hansen** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Sherri  
I am so sorry to hear of your great loss. I am thinking and praying for you and your family.  
With Sympathy,  
Judy Merickel

---

**Judy Merickel** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ I am passing on this message from Denny Sorenson. He sends his sympathy to the Hiltner family. He is now living in North Dakota near his children and asked me to send his condolences.

*Lynda Johnson*

---

**Lynda (Sorenson) Johnson** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ We are praying for you during this difficult time. God will give you the strength to carry you through. Our thoughts are with you. with Love

---

**Lane and Donna Waldahl** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ Anna & family,

*Bear & I are so sorry to hear the loss of Jerome. We will continue to keep you in our prayers and life you up. Please call if you need any help of any kind. God bless and love you,  
Bear & Lyn*

---

**Randy & Lyn Andrews** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Anna and family words cannot express how much Jerome has meant to me. He spent a lot of years trying to teach me about common sense. He was a great role model, friend, and dad. He is greatly missed by Jackson, Courtney, and me.

---

**Jaime Templin** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

L(

“ Anna and family,  
Words just cannot begin to express how saddened we are for the loss of Jerome. Please know you and your family are in our every thought and prayer today and in the days to come. Jerome truly had a gift with people and really was a true friend in every sense of the word to those whom had the pleasure to know him. He is missed already by so many. We have many a fond memories of the laughs we shared. Please let us know if there is anything we can help with in the days to come. God Bless you and and your family and may God's everlasting peace be with Jerome today.

---

**Larry & Becky Shultz (CBL)** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

---

**Samantha Schleder** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Jerry & entire Hiltner Family -  
I am so sorry to hear about your dad/husband/grandfather. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. God Bless.

---

**Kim (Denny) Carlson** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Anna and family, I was so shocked by the news of Jerome's sudden passing. My deepest sympathies go out to you and yours. Jerome and I had shared so many good times together! When I first began to fish with him, he brought his boat over for me to paint "Iceman" on it. Therefore, I nicknamed him "Icey". It wasn't that much later that he started calling me "Icey" too. (That stems from the fact that he and I fell through the ice once or twice too many while ice fishing). I'll never forget one day that Icey and I were fishing on a lake north of Park Rapids. As we walked off the lake pulling a sled full of tullibeeds and fishing gear, the ice gave way about 30' from shore and down we went, sled & all. After getting to shore & removed our shoes & some clothing, here we were, wading around in water up to our armpits, trying to find the gear on the bottom with our toes. Although we retrieved most of it, some pretty expensive equipment of his was destroyed in the process. On the trip home, instead of being totally upset as some people would be, Jerome just laughed and joked about how only he & I were goofy enough to be out there in the first place. His sense of humor & prankster nature were awesome! I've also never met anyone who was more willing to jump in and selflessly help out a friend or neighbor when they needed it. Jerome will be so missed by so many!!

---

**Dale Miller** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I will always remember Jerry from bowling. He was always a kidder! He could match joke for joke. His smile was an enlightener. He will be sorely missed. My prayers are with the whole family as you travel through this tough time. May God bless you with comforting thoughts and the knowing that one day we will all be together. Art Blom sends his sympathies also. He too, remembers bowling and Jerry. We are all saddened to lose a friend. It is so hard to keep in touch, that when we lose a friend, it makes us realize how precious time and life really is. Jerry always had fun. What a wonderful guy. I will keep you all in my prayers and love. Jackie.

---

**Jackie Perius** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ ANNA & FAMILY, WE JUST RETURNED TO MN AND HEARD THE SAD NEWS.....I ALWAYS WILL REMEMBER THE FUN TALKS I HAD WITH JEROME AND YOU WHEN AT THE BOONDOCKS.. A SPECIAL 'HI' TO DARREL

---

**JIM/BETTY WILLIAMS** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Our sympathy with your family during your loss of a husband and father. Keep his memory alive in your thoughts and heart.

---

**Don and Cheryl Crabb** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dear Jerry and family,

*I just learned of your dad's death. I want to extend my deepest sympathies to you and your family.*

*Thoughts and prayers to you all!!  
Michele*

---

**Michele (Krusemark) Smykle** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ There are a thousand words to describe Jerome: smiling, friendly, teasing, joking, warm, caring, hugable, and happy come to mind. He never saw the wealth (or lack of,) gender, IQ, or bowling ability in others - he saw people for their positives and never their shortcomings.

*My favorite memories of him are when he would ruffle my hair and say "how you doing kiddo?" You couldn't help but love the big guy.*

*Jerome was one of a kind and will be deeply missed by all the people whos lives he has touched, including mine.*

*Anna and family, my thoughts and many prayers are with you.*

---

**Penny Hamm** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Our prayers are with you Anna and Jerry-Jo and Missy and Anna. Also with the rest of the family. God Bless you all during this difficult time.

---

**Tina Marie Reece&Craig Reece** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Anna, the kids and all of the extended family.  
I want you to know that I am deeply saddened by the loss of Jerome. He was a big lovable gentle teddy bear who I respected very much! I really enjoyed giving him crap at our meetings and of course him giving it right back to me and then some!!! May it ease your sorrow to know that others who cared for Jerome are sharing your sadness and sense of loss. You are all in my thoughts and prayers!

Peggy

---

**Peggy Moline** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ Anna and family,  
We were so shocked to hear about Jerry's untimely death. If there's anything that we can do, please don't hesitate to ask. We will miss the "big guy".

---

**Terry and Mary Lynk** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Our sympathy for the family.

---

**Jane Johnson** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ God has called an ANGEL home. We both knew that any time day or night if we would call and you both would be there and many times you have. I remember 28 years ago when we went to Nebraska and you and Jerome came and helped Tammy get 50 chickens a day over to Barb's to be dressed. Then fill the truck loads with sweet corn and then go sell yourselves. There are too many times to count when Jerome came and did chores for us so we could take a vacation. We will treasure the memories; even counting cows in the mud to have Jerome say April fool. Thank God that we were given the opportunity to share in Jerome's life. Your Family is like Family to us. Day or Night call and we will be there.  
Love Ya

---

**Leone & Jerry Rowan** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ With deepest sympathy to Anna and the kids and grandkids on the loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather.

---

**Tereasa and Gary Link** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Darrell and Family - we want you to know that we are thinking of you and your family in your time of need. Jerome will be remembered and missed dearly. You have a very strong and wonderful family - and I know Jerome is very proud of every one of you! God can take our loved one home but no one can take away the great memories and the great smiles that Jerome shared with all of us. Lean on each other and that strength and love will hold Jerome's family together forever!  
Love, Jackie & Brian

---

**Jackie & Brian Torborg** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ Sherri,  
*You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*~Tracy*

---

**Tracy Venne** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ *Dear Anna and family,*

*You are all in our thoughts and prayers as you travel this very difficult road. We so much enjoyed all the bowling nights with the two of you. Jerome always had a smile and the awesome laugh of his infected the whole bowling ally.*

*Our deepest sympathy*

---

**Judy & Bruce Erdahl** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ *Our sympathy to you all on the loss of Jerome. He was so good to our son Dean during the summers he worked on the turkey farm. He was a wonderful role model and such a very nice man. Remember the good times.*

---

**Wayne and Mary Ann Hagen** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ We will always remember Jerome and also Anna on our trip to Reno. They really helped us out when Jerry got hurt. Also the comments that Jerome always made to Jerry. I can hear you but I can't see you.

Our thoughts and prayers are will you guys always. If there is anything that we can do, please let us know.

Love,  
Diane & Jerry

---

**Diane Crabb** - September 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM