



Melvin Porter

July 15, 1925 - October 25, 2009

Melvin Edward Porter was born in Deer Creek Township, Ottertail County, MN on July 15, 1925 to his parents Hartzel and Mertie (Lane) Porter. He passed away, at age 84 , on October 25, 2009 at the Elders Home in New York Mills. Melvin attended the Spruce Lawn School that once stood west of Deer Creek. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954 until receiving an honorable discharge in 1956. Melvin was a farmer all of his life, farming with his dad and brothers in partnership, then on his own after the death of his father. Melvin had a real passion for horses and always had to have special ones for show. They were always trimmed and neat in appearance. He threshed and filled silo with a team of horses when the rest of the crew had tractors. He was a man known for his neatness and always had to have everything looking its best. Melvin loved and cherished all his nieces and nephews and always loved family gatherings to be able to see them, visit, and watch them grow up. He always got a sparkle in his eyes whenever they were around. The past three years Melvin made his home at the Elders Home in New York Mills, but his interest was always in his farm, family, and friends. He will be sadly missed. Melvin was preceded in death by his parents; brother Donald; and an infant sister. He is survived by his sisters, Estella Loween of Wadena, Betty (Lawrence) Hanson of Austin, Doris Edholm of Hudson, WI., and Vivian (Ronald) Olson of Clitheral; brother Gerald (Peggy) Porter of Deer Creek; sister-in-law Leona Porter of Deer Creek; numerous nieces and nephews; and his loving dog, Ring, which he cherished with all his love. Funeral services

were held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 29, 2009 in the Salem United Methodist Church in Deer Creek, with Pastor Mark Bateson officiating. Military honors were provided by the Edward Carlson Post 283, American Legion in Deer Creek. Interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, along side his parents, in rural Deer Creek. Pallbearers were Jim Porter, Michael Porter, Terry Olson, Gary Edholm, Steven Loween, Kevin Olson, Scott Loween, and Roger Porter.

Tribute Wall

L(

“ *Melvin was an awesome neighbor during my childhood. I loved to go across the road to his farm. He always gave me and my brother and sister peacock feathers. We would watch him feed his animals.*

I will never forget when there was a black bear up his tree in the front yard. It was early morning and we were supposed to be getting on the bus but mom made us wait in the house. We were watching out the window trying to see the bear. Melvin went out to that tree and tied a pair of pants around the bottom. He had heard from someone that would keep the bear in the tree until the game warden came. It was really cute to see him do that. Good thing Melvin didn't become breakfast.

Melvin was a kind person. He will be missed by many.

Linda Neal (South) - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ *I am Richard and Leona Brinks oldest daughter and we wanted to let the family know our thoughts are with you. I use to come to the farm and Melvin would always entertain us with the animals. He seemed to always have a racoon. It was always so much fun to be around him. My husband and I stopped just before Mertie passed away, and the minute I got out of the car Melvin said "You have to be a Brink girl". Your family has always been special. Melvin will be missed. You all take care. LOVE Gwen*

Gwen R Ross - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ although we only knew melvin for a sort few years as a neighbor we will always remember him and cherish the time and stories he shared with us. We couldn't have dreamed of having a better neighbor to have. We learned more history about our place from melvin than any literature could have ever told us. we always enjoyed taking our kids across the road to let melvin show off the animals to the kids. Or maybe it was to watch the amount of enjoyment Melvin seemed to have in watching our kids run around the farm. Melvin always kept a eye on our place like a hawk when we would be away. He would always seem to know when the school buss was 5 min late or call to see if we had noticed the 3 badgers out by the rock pile. If it wasn't melvin it was ring sitting at the front corner of the house watching the kids play in the yard. between the two of them they never missed much. We first introduced ourselves to melvin a short time after we had moved in after the mail man had put mulvines mail in our mail box. I think it was the best mistake the postal service had ever made. We took his mail over to him and after melvin got done ribbing me that i could have kept his bills and it wouldn't have bothered him we struck up small talk-well about 2hrs worth-and began a great neighborly friendship. After seeing over the years the way melvin enjoyed visiting and watching all around him I believe he is in a great place with a awesome view to watch over all of us.

John Scott Sawyer - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ I am thinking of your family at this time. I thank Margie for getting us the information through Becky Andrews(Porter).

My mother, Elma Porter Beitz is the oldest daughter of Lewis and Ida Ratcliff Porter. She is 93 and living in the Good Neighbor Home in Manchester, IA. Her siblings Nelson, Raymond and Marion have passed away.

Again my prayers for all the family and know that we in Iowa still like to keep in touch.

*In His Love,
Charlotte Beitz Emerson*

Charlotte Ann Emerson - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ We want to give tribute to Melvin for his kindness and big smiles. He always gave them to us when we would visit him and Don's dad, while they were roommates at the Elder's Home. He was a lot of help to us many times. He was such a wonderful man and a joy to visit inspite of his situation. If only we could have the attitude half as good as he did, we would be better people.

*Sincerely,
Don and Marge*

Don and Marge Haase - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM