



Ralph Lorentz

October 27, 1925 - January 27, 2007

Ralph Anthony Lorentz passed away on Saturday evening, January 27th, at Tri-County Hospital in Wadena. Ralph was born to his parents Joseph & Ann (Hopp) Lorentz on the family farm on Oct. 27, 1925. He graduated from Wadena Senior High School in 1943 and stayed on the family farm to help his father run the family farm. On April 20, 1948 he was united in marriage to Bernadine Margaret Schleder at St. Hubert's Catholic Church in Blue Grass. Ralph worked as a farmer, a chef, did construction work and served as a Wadena County Commissioner for 16 years. Ralph was a member of the Elks Lodge, the Wadena Lions Club and the Knights of Columbus. In his spare time he enjoyed spending time with his wife and family, hunting and fishing. Ralph was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Mike, Benny & Jerome; sisters Leona, Phyliss, Isabelle & Joanne. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Bernadine; daughters Peggy (Jim) Brendel of Cloquet, Nancy (Stan Berg) of Clear Lake, Tina (Dan Campbell) of Magnolia, TX; sons Steve (Rose) of Wadena, Paul (Elaine) of Wadena, Jerry (Bev) of Eagle Bend, Al (Kathy) of Wadena, Tim (Brenda) of Verndale, Ted (Vicki) of Alexandria, Louie (Tammy) of Colorado Springs, CO; 26 grandchildren & 9 great-grandchildren; sisters Irene Johnson of Wadena, Janet (Ronald) Wright of Bluffton, Ruth Ann Theriault of Texas; brothers Mark (Rosemary) of Ottertail, Frank (Leona) of Bluffton & Nibs (Bernice) of Wadena. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, January 31st at 11:00 AM in the St. Ann's Catholic Church in Wadena with Fr. Donald Wagner as celebrant. Serving as Honorary

Pallbearers will be all of the Grand & Great-grandchildren. Serving as active pallbearers will be David Lorentz, Paul Lorentz, Jr., Brad Lorentz, Brent Lorentz, Tony Cain, Dustin Lorentz, Michelle Lorentz, Ryan Anderson. Burial will take place in the St. Fredericks Catholic Cemetery in Verndale.

Tribute Wall

KN

“ *Wow! What a great video/tribute to Ralph and the whole family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I will remember him with a smile, always.*

Katy Davis Neitzke - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *Thinking of you and your family at this time Kathy and Rose. Liz Hendrickson/Pietila*

Liz Hendrickson - Pietila - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ *I want to send my condolences to my aunt Bernie and all of my cousins. Uncle Ralph was a really neat guy who sometimes reminded me of Grandpa Joe. I really enjoyed watching the video tribute - so much so that I've watched it twice and will probably watch it a few more times. I hadn't realized Ralph and "the boys" were such avid hunters or that he and Bernie were world travelers. It was such a beautiful tribute. I've heard from my parents (Frank and Leona) that there were a lot of people around to say their farewells to Uncle Ralph. Evidently, he had touched the lives of a lot of people. I know I'll always have fond memories of him. Take care.*

Lisa Lorentz Klaphake - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AU

“ *Sorry, I missed the funeral, I was in Mexico, would have loved to say good-bye. That was a great video tribute. Brought back memories of dad.
Love, Angie and Mark Urman*

Angie Urman - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Tina, Bernie and family,
I'm so sorry to hear that Ralph passed away. My memories are of Ralph being a very tolerant and welcoming man, often with a big smile on his face. Tina, your fond words for your father were powerful. May God give you all strength and comfort at this time of loss.

Bill Kollodge - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ When I was a kid, my Grandpa and I done a lot of ice fishing with Ralph. I remember that he always had a joke to tell, maybe not always appropriate for young ears, but that never stopped him from telling it. He was also a good friend of my Dad, (Tom). My condolences to Ralphs family. Steve Resch

Steve Resch - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ What a beautiful tribute to Ralph. I just viewed it and was so moved. I remember him well. My sympathies to you and your family. May God's strength surround you and lift you up.
Love, Michelle (Olson) Christiansen

Michelle - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I have so many good memerys of Ralph both as neighbor and friend to my dad. Those two had some great times together. As a young boy I worked for Ralph on the farm and always injoyed the way we had a good time even while working hard at farming. I am very sad to here of Ralph's passing and my heart go's out to Bernadine and all of the family.

Cleon & Pat Sundby

Cleon Sundby - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dear Bernie and family,
I was surprised and sorry to hear about Ralph's death. My thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family.
You raised kind, thoughtful and helpful children. The grandchildren that I know have wonderful attributes too.
This quote is one that was a comfort to me when my mother died.
"Death does not extinguish the light. It blows out the lamp because the dawn has come."
Sincerely,
Mary Ellen

Mary Ellen Kennedy Kollodge - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ our thoughts and prayers are with the family, may he rest in peace

joan cooney - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I am so sad to hear about the passing of Ralph. You are all in my thoughts and prayers!

Samantha Schleder - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *I would like to extend my condolences on the death of your father. Based on my experience with Louis, Mr. Lorentz had to have given his best to everything that he did as that is certainly emulated by his son, Louis.*

Helen Atwater - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Louie - I am so sorry to hear of your families loss. You will be in my thoughts.*

*Take care,
Shawn*

Shawn Marie Schwenke - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *It was always a joy to be neighbors.*

We enjoyed many parties at Ralph and Bernie's and their friendship was treasured.

He will be missed.

I'm sure he will keep heaven lively with his good nature and card games.

Sharon & Jim Neuerburg - January 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM