



## Raymond Meinhardt

July 16, 1937 - September 17, 2015

Funeral services for Raymond Carl Meinhardt of Wadena will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, September 25, 2015 at the Wadena Alliance Church. Friends may call at the church on Friday from 9:30 AM until the time of services. Ray passed away peacefully on Thursday September 17, 2015 in St. Cloud surrounded by his loving family and friends. He did not recover from injuries suffered in a fall after being struck by a vehicle in Wadena the previous day.

Raymond Carl Meinhardt was born in Britton, SD, one of four children, to Carl and Lillie (Safstrom) Meinhardt on July 16, 1937. The family had moved to Gwinner, ND in 1935 and began farming there in 1941. Ray helped on the farm until graduating from Gwinner Public School in 1955. That summer he worked part time for Melroe Mfg. Co. in Gwinner. He loved the piano and won a piano competition his senior year in school. Ray graduated from ND Ag College in Mechanical Engineering in 1959.

On July 6, 1956 he married Cora Olson from Menahga, MN, whom he met in a Christian fellowship meeting in Fargo, ND. They lived and raised their three children in North Dakota, Iowa, Texas and Minnesota. Ray and Cora both loved the Bible and singing hymns at the piano.

Ray's first engineering job was with Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and in Dallas, TX, designing radio antennas for 3 years. Ray designed the exterior

structure of the Alvin deep sea submersible, famous for finding the Titanic, while working for General Mills in Golden Valley, MN. Later he designed wind tunnel components for Fluidyne and ASE in St. Paul, MN, visiting customers in Japan, India and Israel. He had a deep appreciation for Japanese culture.

Ray suffered a traumatic brain injury over two decades ago, but courageously moved forward in life, learning to sing, speak, walk, write, read, play the piano, and even go back to work again as an engineer. Ray and Cora made Wadena, near where she grew up, their home during their retirement years.

After losing his wife in 2013, he again moved forward with courage, as an active member of the Wadena community. He enjoyed walking in town, attending music events, tuning pianos, and visiting his family and friends. He was a dedicated advocate of his family, and spent many loving hours with his grandchildren. He was greatly loved for his kind and gentle spirit, and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents and his oldest brother Richard (Marlene).

Ray is survived by children Craig Meinhardt, Rachel (Pedro) Becquer, Kristine (Steven) Lockhart, older brother Donald (Arvilla), younger sister Elaine (Doug) Baird, grandchildren Pedro Jr., Ana, Jessica (Nathan) Biederman, Jeremy, Jaclyn, great grandchildren James and Adaline.

Burial will be in the Wadena Cemetery, Wadena, MN.

# Cemetery Details

## Wadena Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 25. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wadena Alliance Church  
1428 Jefferson St. S.  
Wadena, MN 56482

## Service

SEP 25. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Wadena Alliance Church  
1428 Jefferson St. S.  
Wadena, MN 56482

# Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Raymond Meinhardt*



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**Schuller Family Funeral Homes** - September 24, 2015 at 03:58 PM

DH

“ *We have nothing but good memories of a faithful, kind man who loved serving God with all his heart.*

*We enjoyed our fellowship with Ray, in the faith and knowing how solid and grounded he was in his faith of God's plan for himself and those he loved. He encouraged us and many others. Knowing faithfulness and trust is how he could always go forward with courage.*

*We were saddened to hear of Ray's sudden departure, yet thankful he didn't have to suffer long on this earth after the accident. Even though we are in TX. we will continue to miss his sincere smile and tremendously kind nature which so clearly was an example of Godliness.*

*Our thoughts are with you every step of the way.*

*Duane & Joan Hinkley*

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**Duane & Joan Hinkley** - September 25, 2015 at 10:09 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raymond Meinhardt.*



September 24, 2015 at 07:34 PM



“ *Ray was a gentle soul who will be greatly missed. My sympathies to the family .*

**Lina Belar** - September 24, 2015 at 06:36 PM



“ *Uncle Ray was one of the sweetest, smartest men I have ever known. So very thankful I got to see him in June. He will be missed by many, but is now with my beautiful Aunt Cora. God bless you Meinhardt family, love you all.*

**Gail Barker** - September 22, 2015 at 07:09 PM



*I am glad that I met your dad. I was sad to hear of his death. GLADYS*

**glass chase** - September 23, 2015 at 09:20 PM



“ *Debbie Olson Baldwin sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond Meinhardt*

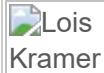


**Debbie Olson Baldwin** - September 21, 2015 at 11:06 AM

DB

*I will never forget my sailboat ride with Uncle Ray in the late 1960's. He had gotten a new sailboat and we took it out on Howard Lake, it got very windy and he lost control of the sails for a short period of time, and the boat "flew" across the lake. Every time I've seen him since then he has brought up our exciting sail boat ride! Love you Uncle Ray!*

Debbie Olson Baldwin - September 21, 2015 at 11:29 AM

Lois Kramer

*Ray was a man of few words, but the words he said spoke volumes. We'll miss this gentle man in many ways. Love to all the close family and friends. We are thankful to call him our uncle and friend. He was a true follower of the faith.*

Lois Kramer - September 21, 2015 at 02:38 PM

CS

*I am so sorry for the loss of Uncle Ray. He was a kind, gentle and talented man. I know Dad (Ansel Olson) loved to visit with him, and I know he will miss his brother-in-law immensely. Sending love and sympathy to Ray's "kids" and grandkids.*

Carlotta Stomberg - September 21, 2015 at 04:15 PM

JG

*I knew Ray as an intelligent, kind, and giving person. I remember when I met him, there was a car accident and Ray was the first one to arrive at the scene and help. For that matter, he would do it for any one. My special thanks and love to the Meinhardt family.  
Josef Guru.*

Josef Guru - September 21, 2015 at 08:35 PM

DH

*Ray had a heart of gold many wonderful memories of visiting with him at Eagle Bend, He will be missed. Our Deepest sympathies to the family*

Deb Hoseth - September 21, 2015 at 08:57 PM

EK

*Ray was a very gentle and genuine person who always had a warm friendly smile to all. We loved to visit with him and looked forward to seeing him at our convention. We want to extend our deep sympathy to all the family. Ed & Karlene Krisher*

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**Ed & Karlene Krisher** - September 22, 2015 at 09:31 AM

ML

*Such a kind and gentle man. I so appreciate the kindness he showed me when I was new at ASE.*

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**Mary Lorenz** - September 22, 2015 at 11:14 AM