



Russell Bjerke

December 1, 1922 - February 27, 2003

Russell Lloyd Bjerke was born to his parents Norman & Louise (Bellefeuille) Bjerke on Dec. 1, 1922 in Detroit Lakes. He passed away on Thurs. morning at his home in rural Wadena. Russ operated Bjerke Sign Service for a number of years. He also taught a marketing class at the Wadena Technical College and worked in his own production company, Apache Promotions. He loved to fish, create new business enterprises, music and traveling. He is a former director of the Wadena Chamber of Commerce, a former member of the Wadena Lions Club, a lifetime member of the VFW and served as state vice-president of the Minnesota Jaycee's. He served in the US Army in 1943 and 1944 training field dogs. Russ was united in marriage to Lorna Piepkorn on Jan. 4, 1945 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. They have lived in Wadena for the past 48 years. Russ was preceded in death by his parents Norman & Louise. He is survived by his wife Lorna; daughter Sandra Pippo of Coon Rapids; sons Craig of Alexandria, Bruce of Virginia, Jim and Jay both of Wadena; 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Burial with full military honors will take place in the Wadena Cemetery.