



Rolland Bruce Potter, 77, of Seneca, passed away Friday, December 20, 2013 at his home.

Rolland Bruce was born September 24, 1936 to Rolland O. and Hazel (Miller) Potter in Seneca. He graduated from high school at Faulkton in 1954. He helped his father that summer and went to the technical school in Fargo to study welding and mechanics that winter. During the next couple years he worked for Wilhelm Construction, the Berry Ranch north of the Potter Farm before volunteering in 1957 for the U.S. Army. The Army sent him to Korea for 13 months in the artillery just south of the DMZ.

When he came home in 1958, he helped his father on the farm, worked construction, and did dragline work. He also met his future wife, Janice Binger, whom he married on Valentine's Day in 1960. He had taught himself drag line operation, dug water dugouts in cattle pastures in South Dakota and North Dakota, excavated bridge sites on the Cheyenne River and east of Yankton, and prepared an irrigation pumping site north of Pierre on the Missouri River. He was recognized statewide as one of the best dragline operators at the time.

He took over as the Standard Oil distributor at Seneca, and moved their house from the farm to Seneca to be closer to the Standard Oil operation and be available to neighbors needing fuel, furnace repair, and greases and oil for their equipment. He was also still farming and helping his father.

Bruce loved his cattle and being at home. He also enjoyed the Seneca Coffee Crew, polka music, visiting with people and spending time with his family. He was a member of the Seneca Methodist Church and the IOOF lodge.

He will be greatly missed by his children: Rolland (Carol) Potter of Seneca, Connie Woodring of Brookings, and Brian (Shiela) Potter of Faulkton, 12 grandchildren; one brother, Willard (Marion) Potter of Belle Fourche; one sister-in-law, Bev Stoner of Albuquerque, NM and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Janice in November 1993; one sister, Adella (Alford) Martschinske; and one brother-in-law, Tim (Shirley) Binger.

Arrangements Entrusted To



Faulkton, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

A Cowboy's Prayer

Oh Lord, I've never lived where churches grow.
I love creation better as it stood
That day you finished it so long ago
And looked upon your work and called it good.
I know that others find you in the light
That's sifted down through tinted windowpanes.
And yet I seem to feel you near tonight
In this dim, quiet starlight on the plains.

I thank you, Lord, that I am placed so well
That you have made my freedom so complete:
That I'm no slave to whistle, clock or bell,
Nor weak-eyed prisoner of wall and street.
Just let me live my life as I've begun
And give me work that's open to the sky;
Make me a pardoner of the wind and sun,
And I won't ask a life that's soft or high.

Let me be easy on the man that's down:
Let me be square and generous with all.
I'm careless sometimes, Lord, when I'm in town,
But never let'em say I'm mean or small
Make me as big and open as the plains.
As honest as the hawse between my knees,
Clean as the wind that blows behind the rains,
Free as the hawk that circles down the breeze!

Forgive me, Lord, if sometimes I forget.
You know about the reasons that are hid.
You understand the things that gall and fret:
You know me better than my mother did.
Just keep an eye on all that's done and said
And right me, sometimes, when I turn aside,
And guide me on the long, dim trail ahead
That stretches upward toward the Great Divide.

In Loving Memory

Rolland Bruce Potter

September 24, 1936
Seneca, South Dakota

December 20, 2013
Seneca, South Dakota

PRAYER SERVICE: 7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 26, 2013
United Church of Faulkton – Faulkton, South Dakota

MEMORIAL SERVICE: 10:30 a.m., Friday, December 27, 2013
United Church of Faulkton – Faulkton, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Pastor Bill Hoffman

USHERS: Allen Hadrick & Bob Hadrick

CASKETBEARERS: Martin Martschinske, Lee Potter, Bruce Potter, Rick Woodward,
Randy Woodward, Rod Woodward, Darin Binger, Brett Binger, Chad Binger

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS: Seneca Coffee Crew & Everyone Who's Lives He Touched

MUSICIAN: Wendy Crews – "Shepherd Me, O God"

MUSICAL SELECTIONS: "When I Get Where I'm Going" – "Don't Worry" – "Happy Trails"

INTERMENT: Oakland Cemetery ~ Seneca, South Dakota