

Joie Knut Gjernes was born on October 29, 1920 to Gullick and Mary (Holt) Gjernes at the family home south of Chelsea, South Dakota. He lived his whole life there except for the time he spent serving his country in WWII. He attended grade school at Vensand Country School near his home. He then attended Cresbard High School. Upon graduation he began his life's work on the family farm with his parents and later his brother, Floyd.

November 17, 1942 he was called to serve his country with the 31st Tank Battalion, Company A, of the 7th Armored Division. He shipped out with his Division to England on the Queen Mary, the 6th day of June, D-Day. He was a tank gunner of a M4-105 Howitzer on Sherman tank and was with the division until it was disbanded. His tank battalion received the Presidential Citation for their part in the Battle of the Bulge. Joie received an honorable discharge in December 1945 at the rank of Corporal. After he was discharged he returned home to the life he loved, the farm.

Joie then married Gladys Toennies of Cresbard on September 16, 1956. They moved into the family home and lived there until his death. Marvin Joe was born on June 18, 1957 and Kathy Marie on July 11, 1959. Joie worked on the farm until his retirement and then he worked some more helping his son, Marvin. In his later years he was there mainly for moral support and advice. He loved his God, wife, family, church, and country. He was a member of the Devoe Methodist Church until its closing and later joined the Cresbard Methodist Church. He was a member of the Methodist Men's Fellowship and a church board member when the present Methodist Church was built in Cresbard. Joie was a life member of the Cresbard American Legion, which he joined in 1946. He was a 50+ year member of the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star, Sons of Norway and many other community organizations. He was an eleven year member of the Cresbard School board and was chairman when the two additions were added to the school.

Joie enjoyed fishing; making four trips to Canada to fish. He also enjoyed hunting and traveling all over the country and Norway.

Joie and Gladys attended 15-7th Armored Division Reunions. The last one attended was in 2005 when the 7th Armored held their reunion in Washington D.C. at the World War II Memorial.

He was a man that was respected and loved by those whose lives he touched and will be missed by his family and friends.

Those who will miss him are his wife of almost 58 years, Gladys of Chelsea; son, Marvin (LeAnn) Gjernes of Chelsea and daughter, Kathy (Jim) Didier of Rapid City; grandsons: Joie (Brooke) Gjernes and Matthew (Abigail) Gjernes and granddaughter, Jaimie Didier; great grandson, Ryder Gjernes, and great granddaughters: Bailey and Kaylin Gjernes; one sister, Shirley Chambers; one brother, Floyd Gjernes; brothers-in-law: Loren (Lucille) Toennies and Merlvin (Judy) Toennies; and many nieces and nephews.

Joie was preceded in death by his parents; sister-in-law, Shirley I. Gjernes; and brother-in-law, Dean Chambers.

In Loving Memory



Joie K. Gjernes

1920 - 2014

In Loving Memory

Joie K. Gjernes

October 29, 1920
Chelsea, South Dakota

August 18, 2014
Faulkton, South Dakota

PRAYER SERVICE: 5:00 p.m., Sunday, August 24, 2014
Luce Funeral Home ~ Faulkton, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE: 10:30 a.m., Monday, August 25, 2014
United Methodist Church ~ Cresbard, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Pastor Bill Hoffman

CASKETBEARERS:

Wade Chambers Kent Chambers
Gerald Toennies Gene Toennies
Mark Toennies Tim Toennies
Tom Toennies

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS:

Bert Lerew, 7th Armored Division Comrade in Arms
All of Joie's Family, Friends and Neighbors

USHERS: Darwin Holt and Dennis Holm

EULOGIST: Joie F. Gjernes

GUESTBOOK: Darlys Holm

MUSICIANS: Lorene Veatch, Brian Winter, Jaimie Didier

MUSICAL SELECTIONS: "How Great Thou Art"
"Untitled Hymn (Come to Jesus)" "Amazing Grace"

INTERMENT:

Cresbard Cemetery ~ Cresbard, South Dakota
With Military Honors

*God saw he was getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around him
And whispered "Come with me."*

*With tearful eyes
We watched him suffer
And saw him fade away
Although we loved him dearly,
We would not make him stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.*



Faulkton, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net