



*Luce*  
FUNERAL HOME

Faulkton, South Dakota  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)

**In Loving Memory Of**

# **Royal Leon Traver**

*March 31, 1936*

*Hyde County, South Dakota*

*November 8, 2020*

*Faulkton, South Dakota*

## **FUNERAL SERVICE**

*2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 12, 2020*

*United Church of Faulkton  
Faulkton, South Dakota*

## **OFFICIATING**

*Rev. Thomas Sumers*

## **CASKET BEARERS**

*Dustin Clement, Beau Bellack, Sam Schaefers,  
Todd Hanson, Allen Hadrick, and Kyle Gilmour*

## **HONORARY CASKET BEARERS**

*All of Royal's Granddaughters,  
Great Grandchildren, Nieces and Nephews*

## **ORGANIST**

*Marlene Hammond*

## **SOLOIST**

*Chris Hammond "I Can Only Imagine"*

## **HYMN**

*"In the Garden"*

## **INTERMENT**

*Faulkton Cemetery  
Faulkton, South Dakota  
With Military Honors*

**High Flight**

Oh, I have slipped the surly  
bonds of earth and danced the  
skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
sunward I've climbed, and joined  
the tumbling mirth of sun-spilt  
clouds - and done a hundred  
things you have not dreamed of -  
wheeled and soared and swung  
high in the sunlit silence.  
Hov'ring there, I've chased the  
shouting wind along, and flung my  
eager craft through footless  
halls of air. Up, up the long,  
delirious, burning blue I've  
topped the windswept heights  
with easy grace, where never  
lark, or even eagle flew.  
And while with silent, lifting mind  
I've trod the high untrespassed  
sanctity of space, put out my  
hand, and touched the face of

*God.*

**Royal Leon Traver** was born March 31, 1936 at his grandparents' home, Joseph and Mary Vopat's farm in Union Township, Hyde County, SD. He was the first of four sons born to Cecil "Tete" and Leona (Vopat) Traver. Royal grew up on the family farm two miles east of Burkmere and attended school in Bryant Township and later Faulkton High School.

On October 23, 1953 at the age of 17, Royal enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. He attended training at Camp Pendleton, CA and went on to serve as a tank driver in both Japan and Korea until his honorable discharge in October of 1956.

Following his military service, Royal returned to Faulkton where he went to work for Wilhelm Construction. On October 17, 1958 Royal married Irmgard "Pip" Zupp in Faulkton, SD. To this union four children were born. He joined his father on the family farm in 1964 before purchasing it in 1973. Royal raised his family and continued to work the cattle and farm the land he was raised on until 2016 when he moved to town.

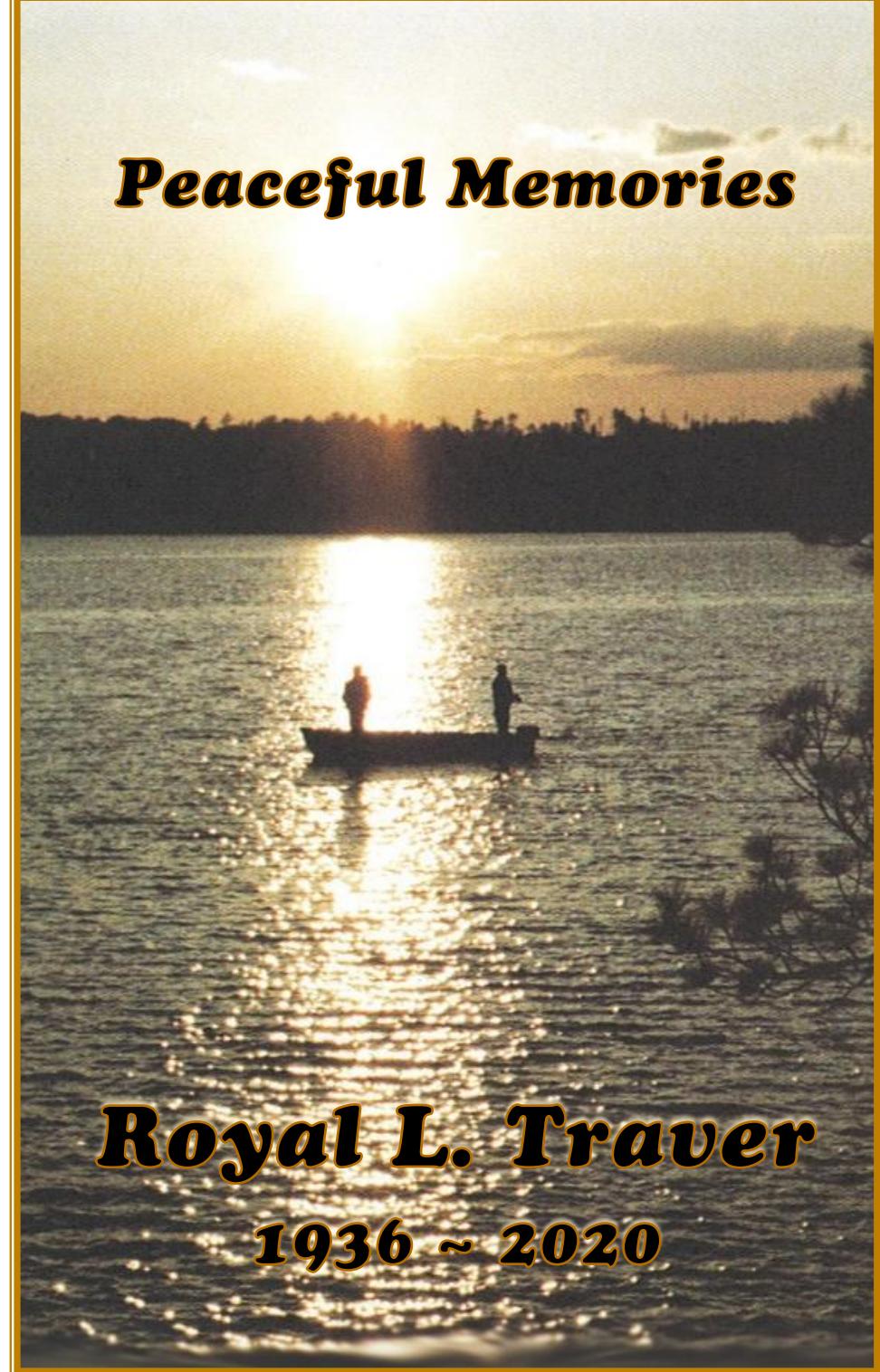
Community and family were a large part of Royal's life. He was a lifetime member of the VFW, served many years on the Bryant Township Board and belonged to the American Ag Movement. He was a fan of baseball, both as a player in his younger years and later as a coach. Royal also loved aviation and obtained his private pilot's license in 1960. He enjoyed flying his plane and worked as a crop sprayer for a number of years. But above all, family was everything to Royal. He was a large supporter of his children and grandchildren's activities, and you could usually see him in the stands with a camera in his hand. He always enjoyed time and conversation with family, whether home to celebrate an occasion, or on a phone call or a Facetime chat. In his spare time he enjoyed fishing, pheasant hunting or having a cup of coffee with friends.

Royal will be remembered for his contagious smile, positive attitude and his true love of his family and friends.

Those left to cherish his life will be his children: Deb (Bill) Clement, Faulkton, Donna (Ed) Bellack, North Vernon, IN, Lee Traver, Sioux Falls, and Jay (Sallie) Traver, Box Elder; his grandchildren: Dustin (Michelle) Clement, Kelli (Sam) Schaefers, Kayla (Todd) Hanson, and Beau (Megan) Bellack; great-grandchildren: Dominic, Isaac, Gabrielle, Patrick, and Trinity Clement, Olivia and Noah Schaefers, Eleanor and Chase Hanson, and Rosalie Bellack; brothers: Larry Traver, Sturgis, Gene Traver, Faulkton, and Ronald Traver, Lantry; special friend, Rosene Royce, Faulkton; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Royal will be welcomed into heaven by his parents.

## **Peaceful Memories**



# **Royal L. Traver**

**1936 ~ 2020**