

## THE FARMER'S CREED

I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on earth.

I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be earned no other way.

I believe farming provides education for life and that no other occupation teaches so much about birth, growth, and maturity in such a variety of ways.

I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide-open spaces, and the exhilarating sight of your land greening each spring.

I believe true happiness comes in watching your crops ripen in the field, your children grow tall in the sun, and your whole family feel the pride that springs from their shared experience.

I believe that by my toil I am giving more to the world than I am taking from it, an honor that does not come to all men.

I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellow man, and by this standard I fear no judgment.

I believe when a man grows old and sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.

I believe in farming because it makes all this possible.



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

*In Loving Memory Of*

**Robert L. Aesoph**

March 3, 1937  
Miller, South Dakota

June 5, 2020  
Faulkton, South Dakota

**WAKE SERVICE:** 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 9, 2020  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Orient, South Dakota

**MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:** 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2020  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Orient, South Dakota

### **CELEBRANTS:**

Fr. Christopher Hughes and Fr. Tom Clement

**CASKET BEARERS:** Kody Aesoph, Rob Aesoph, George Kellogg, Ike Schlechter, John Schlechter, Xavier Schlechter, Jake Schlechter, Simon Baumberger, Matt Baumberger, Jack Aesoph, Alex Aesoph, Charlie Hall, Drew Hall, Landy Hurlbert

**HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:** Makenzie Sindelar, Madeline Aesoph, Maria Aesoph, Rose Kellogg, Ellen Schlechter, Grace Schlechter, Claire Baumberger, Ella Baumberger, Isabel Aesoph, Anna Aesoph, Gabby Hall

**HONORARY USHERS:** All of Bob's Nieces and Nephews

**ORGANIST:** Linda Bartholomew

**VOCALIST:** Jerry Bowar

### **MUSICAL SELECTIONS:**

*"In the Garden"*    *"Here I Am, Lord"*  
*"Amazing Grace"*    *"You Raise Me Up"*

### **INTERMENT:**

St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery - Orient, South Dakota

**Robert Leo Aesoph** was born March 3, 1937 in Miller, SD to Leo and Berneice (Baloun) Aesoph. He attended Banner Country School, Miller High School and graduated from Orient High School as salutatorian.

Bob entered the United States Army in 1955 between the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He was honorably discharged on July 25, 1958 and was active in the reserves until 1962. After his discharge from the Army, Bob returned home to South Dakota to farm with his family.

On August 22, 1960, Bob married Maralyn (Vopat) in Seneca, SD. They made their first home on the Wainwright place, where they lived for four years. They moved to the Johnny Lusk place just west of Leo and Berneice and lived there for eight years. In 1972, they built their home on the George Aesoph farm 11 miles west of Orient. Bob and Maralyn raised nine children during their 40-year marriage. In August 2001, Bob lost Maralyn and his daughter Jennifer in a car accident.

Bob was blessed to find love again and married Marlas Gillette on July 5, 2005. The Aesoph crew grew by three more children with this union.

Bob was a lifelong member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Orient. He was a parish council member many times over the years. He supported everything "Orient," from church, to softball, pool leagues, community celebrations and the local bars. He coined the phrase, "If you can't buy it in Orient, you don't need it." Bob's optimistic attitude was summed up by his response to the question, "How are you?" with "I'm always good."

Bob loved farming! He spent his life working the land, and with the help of his wife and children, raising hogs, sheep and cattle. His children were his life, and he loved working alongside them as well as supporting them in their sporting activities (in Orient). He retired from farming in 2015. In his later years, he took over the vegetable garden, loved canning and enjoyed dispersing the fruits of his labor to friends and neighbors. It was always a nice surprise to find a five-gallon bucket of sweet corn or a jar of pickles delivered to many homes from Bob.

Bob is survived by his wife Marlas; children: Terry (JoAnn) Aesoph, Stacy (Steve) Hunt, Maggie (Tony) Kellogg, Mary (Terry) Schlechter, Chad and Trixie Schlechter, Sarah (Greg) Baumberger, Sam (Kelly) Aesoph, Ben (Stacy) Aesoph, Elizabeth (Mark) Hall, Kristi Gillette, Kate (Tom) Hurlbert, and Todd Gillette; sisters: Pat McCloud, Joan (Dick) Bent, Karen Kusser, and Jackie Aesoph; brothers: David Aesoph, Mike (Staci) Aesoph, and Steve Aesoph; grandchildren: Makenzie (Nathan) Sindelar, Kody (Emma) Aesoph, Rob, Madeline and Maria Aesoph; George, Rose and Ike Kellogg; John, Ellen and Grace Schlechter; Xavier (Mallory) Schlechter, Jake and Hannah Schlechter; Simon, Ella, Matt and Claire Baumberger; Jack, Alex, Isabel and Anna Aesoph; Charlie, Gabby and Drew Hall; and Landy Hurlbert; great-grandchildren: Vivienne and Sloane Sindelar, Eden Aesoph, and Conrad Schlechter.

He is preceded in death by his wife Maralyn; daughter, Jennifer; granddaughter, Sophia; parents: Leo and Berneice; in-laws: Amy and James Vopat; brothers: Gerald and Jeff Aesoph; and sister, Virginia Wharton.

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*March 3, 1937 ~ June 5, 2020*