



GOD'S LOVING HANDS

The beauty of the daffodils
In beds of snowy white
The patter of a gentle rain
A song of sheer delight.

The freshness of the ocean breeze
As it sweeps across the land
Can there be doubt this would exist
Without God's loving hand.

The song of a canary
With such a pleasant tune
The wondrous smell of springtime
With fields that are in bloom.

The birds that soar up in the sky
All creatures on this land
No doubt that this could ever be
Without God's loving hand.

So thank Him without measure
For His blessings showered down
That fill our lives with pleasure
'Til at last we're homeward bound.

By Albert N. Theel

In Loving Memory Of

Jerry Rex Hawkinson

August 2, 1936
Tolstoy, South Dakota

September 15, 2021
Gettysburg, South Dakota

PRAYER SERVICE:

5:00 p.m., Sunday, September 19, 2021
Grace Bible Church ~ Gettysburg, South Dakota

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE:

10:30 a.m., Monday, September 20, 2021
Grace Bible Church ~ Gettysburg, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Pastor Scott Crook

CASKET BEARERS:

Mark Nold, Ed Beringer, Cody Holzwarth,
Kelly Kirby, Mike Clark, and James Langer

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:

All of Jerry's Family and Friends

USHERS: Rick Decker and Carson Kirby

MUSICIANS:

Dorcas Storer, Barb Hamburger,
Cheryl Nelson, Germaine Crook,
Vicki Heien, and Deb Westphal

MUSIC:

"Amazing Grace" "Old Rugged Cross" "Because He Lives"
"God On The Mountain" "What A Day That Will Be"

INTERMENT:

Springs Cemetery ~ Tolstoy, South Dakota

Jerry Rex Hawkinson, 85, of Gettysburg, was taken home to his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at Avera Missouri River Health Center, Gettysburg.

Jerry was born on August 2, 1936, to Carl and Elsie (Nold) on the farm near Onaka, South Dakota. He excelled in sports and music and graduated from Hoven High School in 1954. He spent his 18th birthday in bootcamp, having enlisted in the United States Navy.

After serving his country for four years, Jerry decided he wanted to go to college and enrolled at South Dakota State University. He would go on to win several awards for horse showmanship and graduate in 1962. He remained a proud alum for life. Go Jackrabbits!

After graduation he moved to beautiful Montana to work for the US Bureau of Land Management where he became a team leader. He fought forest fires in the area and even led teams to Alaska for several summers. He would often speak about the bravery of his men risking their lives to save forestland, but never of his own courage and sacrifice. "Someone needed to lead them, and the Lord picked me."

While in Montana, Jerry met Lauris Collison and her two sons, Michael and Eric. They married and Jerry adopted both boys into his heart and home. On January 1, 1967, they welcomed the first baby of the year in Miles City, Montana, their son, Lane. The family eventually moved back to Gettysburg, South Dakota to pursue Jerry's dream of owning and operating his own farm. He would raise thousands of animals over the next 40 years. He was known for his angus cattle and his beautiful horses.

Throughout his life Jerry was active in FFA, 4-H, the VFW, his beloved Potter County Fair, and several other organizations. He was rarely idle. He loved dessert. He was a proud veteran. His family will forever miss his giant bear hugs, his genuine ear-to-ear smile, his ability to make a short story long and his remarkable talent to respond to anything with a quick one liner full of wisdom. His unfailing faith leaves his family with some peace.

He is survived by his sister, Oleatha Goeke of Jefferson, GA; son, Lane (Brandy) Hawkinson of Gettysburg; grandchildren: Kristy (Chris) Jones and son, Cohen, Spearfish, SD, Jamie Hawkinson and children, Jasmyn, Mikayla, Cameron, and Leaha of Faulkton, SD, Kasey (Josh) Wagner and sons, Kaden and Ryan of Sioux Falls, SD, Jennifer (Michael) Jolley of Coeur D'Alene, ID, Eric Hawkinson of Gettysburg, Destiny Voyles, Belle Fourche, SD, Chance Voyles of Belle Fourche, SD; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Elsie; ex-wife, Lauris; sons, Michael and Eric; brothers: Robert, Howard, and Larry; sister, Pearl Armstrong; brothers-in-law, Robert Goeke and Kenny Armstrong; and sister-in-law, Belva Hawkinson.

Celebrating The Life Of



Jerry R. Hawkinson

1936 ~ 2021