

Eugene Ralph Nagel, 82, of Gettysburg, passed away Monday, July 25, 2022, at Avera Oahe Manor, Gettysburg, SD surrounded by his wife and daughters.

Eugene was born 12-20-1939, in Gettysburg, SD, to John Adam and Rose (Brincks) Nagel. He grew up on the family farm in Northwest Potter County as the middle child of seven, learning his life role as harmonizer and peacemaker.

Eugene attended a one room country school and then high school in Gettysburg, SD, graduating in 1958. He was a member of the Catholic Youth Organization, FFA and 4-H. Eugene received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Brookings, SD, in 1962. Eugene was on the SDSC Dean's Honor Roll, the 1962 Little International Tour Superintendent, active in SDSC Ag Club and helped build the Pope Pius XII Newman Center.

Eugene returned to the family farm raising crops, cattle and pigs. September 27, 1969, he married his love, Stella (Weninger). Later two daughters were born. Through the farm he sold Dr. McDonald's feed. He was proud to help build a state-of-the-art hog confinement building in 1972, bring Gelbvieh cattle to the U.S. in the 1980's, and maximize livestock rations and carcasses. He was especially proud of building and maintaining strong fences—excited about the gate latches he designed and built.

Eugene loved God, his family, the farm, and learning. Family never stopped with simply his wife, kids and grandkids but included everyone he came in contact with; he never met a stranger. He loved telling stories about haying, fixing fence, harvesting, livestock, his grandfather, and showing his intense love for agriculture and the people in his life. He harbored a genuine interest in the world and people around him. He enjoyed the simple things—flowers, ice cream, Pepsi, raspberries, chokecherries, plums, cherries, traveling, reading, and napping.

Eugene was an active EMT 25 years, a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, a Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Knight, Potter County Farm Bureau member, a National FFA Alumni member, Potter County 4-H Beef Superintendent 15 years, and helped with many local, regional and state FFA events.

Eugene and Stella hosted three exchange students Michi Iguchi, Japan; Dicky Yung, Hong Kong; and Lily Baracuda, Bolivia expanding their personal learning and knowledge of the world.

Eugene is survived by his wife of 52 years, Stella (Weninger) Nagel; daughters, Gerri (Shon) Eide and Dawn Nagel; and three grandchildren, Hunter, Tanner, and Bobbi Eide, all of Gettysburg, SD; brothers, Herman (Becky) Nagel and James (Roseann) Nagel; sister, Irma (Tom) LeFaive; sisters-in-law: Kathleen Nagel, Mary Nagel, and Marcy Swengel; brothers-in-law: Norb (Phyllis) Weninger and Steve (Jean) Weninger; many loved cousins, nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his stepfather, LaVerne Meyers; and three brothers: Arnold, Leonard and Larry Nagel.

*In Loving Memory*

# *Eugene Ralph Nagel*

December 20, 1939 ~ July 25, 2022

Gettysburg, SD

**WAKE SERVICE:** 7:00 p.m., July 31, 2022

Sacred Heart Catholic Church ~ Gettysburg, South Dakota

**ROSARY:** Alex, Beth, Jim, and Roseann Nagel

**MUSIC:** "Amazing Grace" "Our Father"

**MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:** 10:30 a.m., August 1, 2022

Sacred Heart Catholic Church ~ Gettysburg, South Dakota

**CELEBRANT:** Father Brian Simon

**LECTOR:** Jon LeFaive

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:** Irma (Nagel) LeFaive

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Tanner Eide, Weston and Carolyn Feist

**PLACING OF THE PALL:** Gerri (Nagel) Eide, Dawn Nagel

**OFFERTORY GIFTS:** Hunter and Bobbi Eide

**MUSIC:** Vicki Frye, Amber Larsen, and Colleen Simon

"The Old Rugged Cross" "Blest Are They" "On Eagle's Wings"

"In Christ Alone" "Ave Maria"

"Song of Farewell" "How Great Thou Art"

**CASKET BEARERS:**

Adam Nagel, Brandon Nagel, Mark Nagel,

Paul Nagel, Philip Nagel, Brian Feist

**HONORARY CASKET BEARERS: Nieces and Nephews**

Marlys Hanten, Katee Nagel, Joseph Nagel, LaMont Nagel, Neil Nagel, Nathan Nagel, Andrea Goodroad, Kim Christensen, Kara Bauman, Sarah McGill, Alex Nagel, Beth Nagel, Ivy LeFaive, Cindy Olson, Michelle Duda, Sheri Rentzepis,

Brenda Weninger, Glen Weninger, Ronald Swengel, Pam Fahrni,

Nancy Fish and Linda Swengel

**INTERMENT:**

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Gettysburg, SD

The family would like to thank everyone for their support and would like to invite everyone for food and fellowship in the church hall following the funeral.

*"Let my death glorify you God"*



## CLOSE THE GATE

For this one farmer the *worries are over*,  
lie down and rest your head,  
Your time has been and struggles enough,  
put the tractor in the shed.  
Years were not easy, many downright hard,  
but your *faith in God* transcended,  
Put away your tools and *sleep in peace*.  
The fences have all been mended.  
You raised a fine family, worked the land well  
and *always followed the Son*,  
Hang up your shovel inside of the barn;  
your work here on earth is done.  
A faith few possess led your *journey through life*,  
often a jagged and stony way,  
The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded,  
and here now is the end of your day.  
Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin;  
the stories flow like fine wine,  
Wash off your work boots in the puddle left by blessed rain *one final time*.  
You always believed that the good Lord would provide  
and He always had somehow,  
*Take off your gloves* and put them down,  
no more sweat and worry for you now.  
Your labor is done, your  
home now is heaven;  
no more must you wait,  
Your legacy lives on,  
your love of the land and  
*we will close the gate*.

By Nancy Kraayenhof



Gettysburg, South Dakota  
www.familyfuneralhome.net



## EUGENE R. NAGEL

*I was born to be a Farmer....***IT IS WHAT I KNOW...**and what I love.

Up before the crack of  
dawn with a morning  
ritual that includes a  
strong cup of joe, a quick  
glance at the weather and  
always a check on the  
market, because

*I was born to be a Farmer....*

**IT'S HAVING GREAT  
FAITH...**

As the storm comes in,  
knowing, that the green,  
tender plants could be  
wiped out in a matter of  
seconds. Or, when the  
rain simply doesn't come,  
and watching, the plants  
wither until at the last  
minute of almost losing hope, a rain cloud comes, and the sky opens right at that  
moment, with just enough to get a little relief and a renewed faith, because

*I was born to be a Farmer....*

**IT'S KEEPING UP**

With technology, realizing that it's a sure necessity. But always looking back  
with the fondest of memories and great admiration of how Dad and Grandpa  
did things, because

*I was born to be a Farmer....*

**IT'S A PARTNERSHIP...**

A partnership with the good Lord Almighty, without Him, it could not be done.  
It is His divine guidance that gets me through each season, from the planting to  
the harvest. Through the storms and the drought....the highs and the lows.  
Some say it's a gamble, but to me, it's a way of life, because

***I WAS BORN TO BE A FARMER....***

by Marla Rae Anders

