

Century year old farmer and rancher, Raymond Ray Baloun, 100 years, 1 month and 14 days, of Highmore, was called home on Friday, October 22, 2010.

Ray was born on a bright fall day, September 8, 1910, to Frank and Antonia Menhart Baloun on a farm 25 miles northeast of Highmore and is very proud of his Bohemian heritage. He attended grade school in Banner Township in Hyde County through eighth grade. His love on the farm was his Hereford cattle which were sold when he was 97 years of age at the Ft. Pierre Sale Barn. Ray also raised herds of sheep and was an avid sheep shearer in his younger days.

His main interests while growing up were farm work, playing ball on Sunday, and going to barn dances at the McQuown farm where Lawrence Welk played. It was there that he met his spouse, Alice Ellenbecker. On October 14, 1931, Ray and Alice were married at the First Congregational Church in Faulkton. Their first home was northeast of Highmore until they bought the Jim Marton farm in 1939 and lived there until December of 2008.

Ray was involved in working on WPA, served on Union Township board, REA board in Miller, ASC board in Hyde County and 4-H leader for many years when his children were involved.

In the 1970's, Ray and Alice traveled with the Farmers Union tours to Australia, London, England, New Zealand, Holland, Hawaii and Paris, France.

He was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Seneca and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Highmore.

Grateful to have shared in his life are his children: three sons: Burton (MaryAnn) Baloun, Darwin Baloun and Richard (Carol) Baloun, all of Highmore; three daughters: Virginia (Robert) Wieseler of Orient, Donna Jean (Arnold) Gutenkauf of Pierre, and Carol Ann (Dick) Myler of Seneca; 22 grandchildren; 38 great grandchildren; and one great-great grandson.

Preceding him in death was his wife, Alice in 1997; his parents; four brothers: Reg, Vern, Richard and Melvin; three sisters: Rose Heinzen, Irene Weber and Geneva Fieldsend; one granddaughter, Patrice Baloun in 1972; one grandson, Shane Gutenkauf in 1997; and one great granddaughter, Briana Baloun in 1980.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials to St. Mary's Catholic Church or St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

In Loving Memory



Raymond Ray Baloun

September 8, 1910

October 22, 2010



like the eagle soars
may you rise above
to watch over the land
and the crops you love
and your family behind
keep close to your heart
watch over us,
guide us,
while we are apart.
when we look to the skies
we will know you are there
we love you, dad,
till we meet again
you're in our prayers.

---Kim Baloun ©



The roses at the front are in memory of Alice Baloun,
Patrice Baloun, Shane Gutenkauf, and Briana Baloun

Raymond Ray Baloun

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 27, 2010
St. Mary's Catholic Church ~ Highmore, South Dakota

CELEBRANTS

Father Paul Nereparmpil – Father Jerry Holtzman

PALLBEARERS: Grandsons

Pat Baloun – Kevin Baloun – Kip Baloun
Steven Wieseler – Scot Wieseler – Jeffrey Gutenkauf
Chad Gutenkauf – Monty Myler – Troy Baloun
Ryan Baloun – Brent Baloun

ALTER SERVERS

Jace Baloun – Kara Baloun

LECTOR

Carol Ann Myler

OFFERTORY: Granddaughters

Vicki Wieseler – Kim Baloun – Pam Edgar
Brenda Schnieder – Katina Patriquin – Rhonda Shappert
Chantel Ostrem – Renae Terrano – Christina Boyd

USHERS: Troy Baloun – Kevin Baloun

GUESTBOOK: Vicki Wieseler

ORGANIST: Katherine Hieb

MUSICIANS

Christina & Scott Boyd
Chanda Bender – Rodney Fieldsend
Roger Day

MUSIC SELECTIONS

“Amazing Grace” – “Old Rugged Cross”
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” – “Daddy’s Hands”
“Song of Farewell” – “How Great Thou Art”

INTERMENT

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery
Highmore, South Dakota