

CLOSE THE GATE
by Nancy Kraayenhof

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 sun,
 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 the good Lord would provide
 and He always did 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.

Allen Gibson, 65, of Highmore, passed away Friday, April 23, 2021 peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his beloved wife, DeVandolyn of 47 years, his children, Angel Hoover and Chester Gibson and two of his grandchildren, Maxwell and Marshall Gibson, after a long illness with cancer.

Allen Roy Gibson was born in Miller, South Dakota on December 31, 1955 to Lucille (Westover) and Bryan Gibson, the last of seven children born to the couple. Allen lived and went to Eagle Country School south of Highmore and graduated from Highmore High School in 1974.

Allen and DeVandolyn traveled extensively with members of Allen's family during the first ten years of their marriage, living in Kansas, Texas, Tennessee, Arkansas and New Mexico to work on the construction of steel towers across the country. However, Highmore was always a home base and they returned to live there permanently in 1985, where Allen took on more responsibility for running and growing the Gibson farm located south of Highmore. Allen was known for his infinite energy and willingness to lend a helping hand to anyone – stranger, friend, neighbor or loved one alike. He was a loving father, grandfather and uncle, attending events, games and meets almost without fail, and had a supportive voice that could always be heard over the crowd. His love was unconditional and always available.

Allen is survived by his wife, DeVandolyn (De) Gibson; daughter, Angel (Mark) Hoover; son, Chester (Michelle) Gibson; three grandchildren: Maxwell and Marshall Gibson, Colson Hoover; two sisters: Anna Mae (Paul) Ryan, California and Sharon Kay (Dick) Wilson, Sioux Falls; brother-in-law, Arlen (Mary) Schamber, Minnesota; sister-in-law, Sharleen (Lynn) Harnisch, Parkston; and many nieces, nephews and cousins throughout the country.

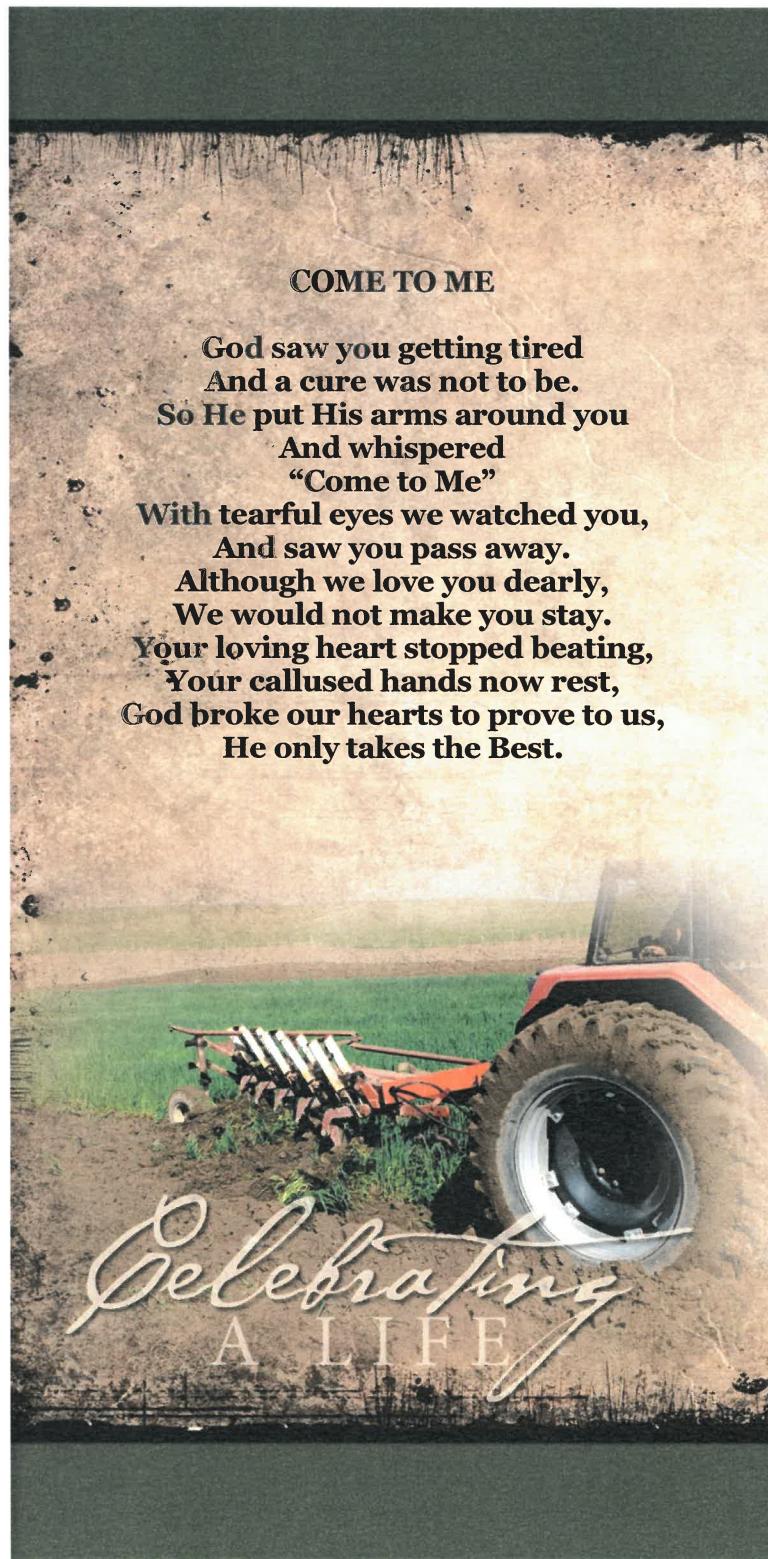
He is preceded in death by his parents: Lucille (Westover) & Bryan; brothers: Carl Leroy, Merlin, Alvin and Gary; in-laws: Kathryn & Max Schamber; nieces: Cheryl Gibson and Susan Bennett; sisters-in-law: Noreen Gibson and Rosa Lee Gibson and nephew-in-law, Mike Riley.

Many heartfelt thanks to very special family friend Sally Hofius, Naomi Circle, the Ferens and Haiwick family, Jason Runestad, the Avera Hospice Team: Dr. Michael Richardson, Lauren, Chip, Laura, Judy, the Mashek family, Paul Knox and family, Don Hamlin and family and the many neighbors and friends who visited, offered their time, loaned their possessions and delivered food to the Gibson family.

Arrangements Entrusted To



Highmore, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net



COME TO ME

God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
And whispered
"Come to Me"
With tearful eyes we watched you,
And saw you pass away.
Although we love you dearly,
We would not make you stay.
Your loving heart stopped beating,
Your callused hands now rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the Best.

