The Heart of a Hunter

In the whispering woods where the sunlight plays,
He found his joy in the simplest ways.
Laughter with friends, under vast, open skies,
A spirit of freedom, where love never dies.

The hunts and the campfires, the thrill of the chase,
These are the treasures no time can erase.
Remember his courage, his kindness so true,
The moments he gifted and shared with us too.

Remember the days with the sun shining bright,
The thrill of the chase as dawn kissed the night.
With compassionate eyes and a soul filled with grace,
He's wrapped in our hearts, in this sacred place.

So, remember him gently in sun-dappled fields,
In moments of stillness when our hearts softly heal.
For he walks still among us in whispers and sighs,
In the rustling leaves and the bright morning skies.

With faith as our compass and love as our guide,
We'll carry him forward; he's here by our side.
As we trek through life's trails – know he's not far;
He walks beside us beneath every star.

For Gary

A Life Remembered

A life well loved, a heart so kind,
Leaves treasured memories behind,
A gentle soul, a steady light,
That made the darkest moments bright.

Her days were filled with gifts she gave,
With hands that helped and hearts made brave,
With simple joys and faithful care,
With love made visible everywhere.

She taught us how to laugh and give,
To cherish time, to fully live,
To hold our people close and true,
And find the good in all we do.

Though we now grieve the empty space,
We bless the beauty of her grace,
With every story that we share,
We feel her gentle presence there.

May peace now hold her soft and deep,
May angels guard her gentle sleep,
And may her love, forever near,
Remain our comfort year by year.

For Deb

Prayer Service
7:00 p.m., Friday, October 16, 2026
Harrold School Gym
Harrold, South Dakota

Eulogy
Michael Hobert

Funeral Service
10:30 a.m., Saturday, October 17, 2026
Harrold School Gym
Harrold, South Dakota

Clergy
Rev. David Otten
Rev. Tom Penrod

Honorary Urnbearers (Grandchildren)
Xavier, Easton, & Beckett
Henry & Madelyn

Musical Selections
"Peace Like A River" (It Is Well With My Soul) - Lehla Pietz
"Walk on Faith" - Mike Reid
"Amazing Grace" - Congregational

Pianist
Elizabeth Bengs

Burial
Medicine Hill Cemetery
Harrold, South Dakota

The family warmly invites you to join them following the burial for lunch and continued fellowship at the Harrold School Gym.

Together Forever



Debra Kay Hobert
October 3, 1955
October 5, 2026

Gary Neil Hobert
September 24, 1954
September 26, 2026



Gary Hobert, 72, of Harrold, passed away on Saturday, September 26, 2026, near Cresbard, South Dakota, as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. His wife, Debra Kay Hobert, passed away from injuries sustained in the same accident on Monday, October 5, 2026.

Gary Neil Hobert, son of Orville and Rita (Mootz) Hobert, was born on September 24, 1954, in Pierre, South Dakota. Gary attended school in Harrold and worked on the family farm "from the time he was old enough to see over the steering wheel on Grandpa's old 'B' John Deere." Gary loved farming. It was his life's work and he took pride in what he was able to build with his dad and his brother, David. If he wasn't on the tractor, you would have probably found young Gary with a fishing pole or a lever action .22. He enjoyed the outdoors and spent his free time hunting, fishing, and trapping with his buddies.

On February 21, 1976, Gary married Debra Heintz at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harrold. Their twin sons, Michael and Scott, were born on August 2, 1982. Gary never missed an opportunity to brag about his boys and enjoyed sharing his passion for hunting, fishing, and farming with them. Shortly after the boys were born, Gary and Deb purchased the house just south of the Methodist Church in Harrold. They spent decades renovating and adding to their home and lived there the rest of their lives. It was the setting for countless birthdays, holidays, and cherished family memories.

The highlight of Gary's year was deer season. He would spend weeks scouting the draws west of the farm and always had an eye out for the "big one" during fall harvest. Opening day would bring quality time in the blinds with his sons and grandsons and his lifelong friend, Pat Buchanan. Stories were told and memories were made. It was always his way of catching up with everyone and whether all the tags were filled or not a single shot was fired, it was always a successful hunt.

Gary was devoted to the town of Harrold and the people in it. He served on the Harrold Town Board as Vice President and later as Mayor. He was also a trustee at Immanuel Lutheran Church and President of the board for Medicine Hill Cemetery. What his friends and neighbors will remember most is his big heart and the infectious belly laugh that brought smiles to the faces of everyone who knew him. Gary would till gardens, push snow, mow lawns, and just about anything else that needed to be done around town. He always found ways to keep busy.

Gary is survived by his sons: Michael (April) Hobert of Hoven and Scott (Adie) Hobert of Jamestown, North Dakota; brother, David (Barb) Hobert of Harrold; sisters: Jennifer Hegg of Rapid City, Carla Hurn of Verona, Missouri, and Roxanne (Scott) Cloud of Wentworth, Missouri; sister-in-law, Patti Heintz of Pierre; four nephews; and eleven nieces. Gary will be particularly missed by his precious grandchildren: Xavier Hobert of Watertown, Easton and Beckett Hobert of Hoven, Henry Hobert of Jamestown, North Dakota, and Madelyn Reinarts of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents; his in-laws, Woodrow "Red" and Grace Heintz; and brothers-in-law: Gary Heintz, Dale Hegg, and Steve Hurn.

On October 5, 2026, Gary was joined in heaven by Deb, his wife of fifty years.

Deb Hobert, 71, of Harrold, passed away with her family at her side on Monday, October 5, 2026, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. Her husband, Gary Neil Hobert, died on September 26, 2026, as a result of the same accident.

Debra Kay Heintz was born in Pierre, South Dakota, on October 3, 1955, to Woodrow "Red" and Grace (Bohannon) Heintz. She grew up in Harrold, where her parents operated the drug store during much of her childhood. Debbie enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the store and helped out whenever she could. She graduated from Harrold High School in 1973, where her favorite teacher just happened to be her big brother Gary, who was the high school English teacher. Despite being almost ten years older than Debbie, she always said that Gary had a big influence on her.

After high school, Debbie attended Northern State College for three years before leaving to get married. She was married to Gary Hobert on February 21, 1976, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harrold. They made their home in Harrold and Debbie worked in Pierre at the state office of Child Support Enforcement. In October of 1980, Debbie went to work at the First Bank in Highmore and worked there until 1983.

Gary and Deb welcomed their twin boys, Michael and Scott, on August 2, 1982. Soon after the birth of the twins, Gary and Deb moved into the house south of the Methodist Church in Harrold. Debbie stayed home to care for the boys while Gary farmed. When Michael and Scott were school age, Debbie became the secretary at the Harrold School District, where she worked until the school closed in 2008. She loved working in the school and developed lasting relationships with students and staff members. No one was more proud to be a Harrold Cardinal.

It was also in 2008 that Deb became a grandmother for the first time. Her retirement allowed her the freedom to frequently babysit grandkids in Hoven and Jamestown. As the grandkids got older, Deb became a fixture at their events. She enjoyed watching Madelyn's concert performances and Henry playing hockey for the Prowl or baseball for the Blue Jays, following on livestream when she was no longer able to attend in person. Deb would often carpool with Grandma Dawn (Kleinschmidt) to Hoven to watch Xavier, Easton, and Beckett. They became strong supporters of the Hoven Greyhounds and Selby Post 100. She quickly became "Gramma Deb" to all who knew her and that always brought a smile to her face.

Deb enjoyed reading and gardening. She always had beautiful plants and flowers. She loved dogs and always had a soft spot for animals. She also loved the Atlanta Braves, especially during the 1990s, and instilled a love of all things sports in her two sons. However, Deb's year revolved around Christmas. She would spend months choosing gifts for her kids and grandkids. The families would come home every year to the house she and Gary made a home to find a brightly decorated tree surrounded by beautifully wrapped presents. Deb would sit surrounded by the people she loved most as they took turns opening the gifts she had chosen for them. She was always happiest when she was making other people happy.

Deb is survived by her sons: Michael (April) Hobert of Hoven and Scott (Adie) Hobert of Jamestown, North Dakota; brother-in-law, David (Barb) Hobert of Harrold; sisters-in-law, Patti Heintz of Pierre, Jennifer Hegg of Rapid City, Carla Hurn of Verona, Missouri, and Roxanne (Scott) Cloud of Wentworth, Missouri; four nephews; and eleven nieces. Deb will be particularly missed by her precious grandchildren: Xavier Hobert of Watertown, Easton and Beckett Hobert of Hoven, Henry Hobert of Jamestown, North Dakota, and Madelyn Reinarts of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Deb was preceded in death by her husband, Gary; parents; brother, Gary Heintz; in-laws, Orville and Rita (Mootz) Hobert; and brothers-in-law, Dale Hegg and Steve Hurn.

Luce, Luze & Reck
FUNERAL HOMES
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