

“When I Must Leave You”

*When I must leave you for
a little while
Please do not grieve and shed
wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you
through the years
But start out bravely with
a gallant smile;
And for my sake and in my
name live on and do
all things the same,
Freed not your loneliness
on empty days,
But fill each waking hour
in useful ways,
Reach out your hand in comfort
and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you
and hold you near;
And never, never be
afraid to die,
For I am waiting for
you in the sky*

Arrangements Entrusted to:



Miller, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

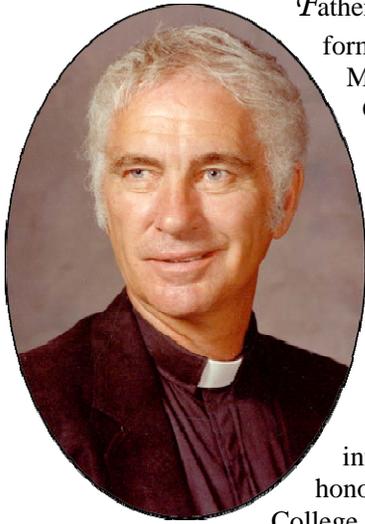


Family Chain

*If Love could have saved you –
You would not have died.
If tears could bring you back
You'd be by our side.*

*It broke our heart to lose you,
But you did not go alone;
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.*

*God takes us one by one
And breaks the family chain.
But somewhere in a better land
Our chain will link again.*



Father Richard Ortmeier, 85, of Sioux Falls and formerly of Polo, South Dakota, passed away Monday, June 27, 2011 at the Primrose Retirement Community in Sioux Falls, SD.

Richard was born at the parental farm in Harrison Township on May 18, 1926, to Maxmilian and Elizabeth (Schaefers) Ortmeier. He was baptized at St. Liborius Church in Polo on May 26, 1926 and confirmed on September 23, 1938. He attended grade school at St. Liborius and graduated from Fairview High School in 1944.

He served for two years, 1945 to 1947 in the infantry in Japan as a medic and an MP. After his honorable discharge, he attended Northern State College in Aberdeen for the summer term. He first attended Crosier Seminary in Onamia, Minnesota before completing his seminary formation at St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Sioux Falls on May 27, 1956 by Bishop William O. Brady, at St. Joseph Cathedral. He celebrated his first Mass at his home parish, St. Liborius in Polo on May 30, 1956.

His first assignment was at St. Mary's Parish in Aberdeen as an associate pastor from 1956 to 1962. He then went to Holy Name Parish in Watertown until 1963. He was then assigned as administrator at St. Peter's Parish in Platte and St. Willibrord in Robey where he remained until 1973. Father Ortmeier was named Pastor at St. Mary's Parish in Aberdeen where he served until being named Pastor at St. Vincent Parish in Springfield and as director of the Newman Center at the University of South Dakota at Springfield. Father Ortmeier was then assigned in 1980 as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Mobridge. He remained in this assignment until his retirement from active, priestly ministry in 1996. In his retirement, Father Ortmeier served as Chaplin to the Benedictine Sisters at Mother of God Monastery in Watertown.

Father Ortmeier carried an appreciation for his upbringing on a farm throughout his priestly ministry. He enjoyed returning to the farm to pheasant hunt, walk through the prairie and to offer Mass. Father ministered in a special way to Native Americans. He was also always eager to learn, frequently enrolling in continuing education courses and even taking a sabbatical to Rome and the Holy Land in 1987.

He is survived by three siblings: Mary King of Scottsdale, AZ, William (Catherine) Ortmeier of Watertown, SD and James (Kay) Ortmeier of Polo, SD; sister-in-law, Mildred Ortmeier of Hoven, SD; and many nieces and nephews.

Father was preceded in death by his parents; five siblings: Ray (Laurine) Ortmeier, Agnes (Bill) Pangburn, John (Kitty) Ortmeier, Paul Ortmeier, and Bernard Ortmeier; and brother-in-law, Kenny King.

In Loving Memory of

Fr. Richard J. Ortmeier

May 18, 1926

June 27, 2011

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

11:00 a.m., Friday, July 1, 2011

St. Liborius Catholic Church ~ Polo, South Dakota

OFFICIATING

Bishop Paul J. Swain

Father Jerry Holtzman - Father Chester Murtha

CASKETBEARERS

Jim Ortmeier

Ed Ortmeier

Tom Ortmeier

Shane Ortmeier

Jack King

Jamie King

Mike Ortmeier

Gerri Ortmeier

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS

All His Nieces and Nephews

ORGANIST

JoAnn Schaefers

MUSICIANS

St. Liborius Choir

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

"River of Glory" - "Table of Plenty"

"Gift of Finest Wheat" - "Song of Farewell"

"Faith of Our Fathers"

USHERS

Jack Schaefers - Vic Martinmaas

LECTORS

Ann Schaefer - Rodey Martinmaas

GIFT BEARERS

Evie Howe - Joni Blachford

ALTAR SERVERS

Jack Ortmeier - Bill Ortmeier

INTERMENT

Mount Calvary Cemetery ~ Polo, South Dakota
Military Honors