



Arrangements Entrusted To
Reck Funeral Home - Miller, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

Love me always, now let me go
An example left for the next
generation to know
Lessons through me that were learned
walked my life a spot in heaven to earn
I would say God willing give
me another day
When God welcomes me here this
is what he had to say....
Welcome home Well done my son
be at peace with other loved ones
Reflecting back the life you led
Blessed others my soul was fed
Family, friend or foe you didn't mind
To all my creations you were kind
A hard working man as the day is long
But taking time to praise in word or song
The gifts I gave you, my son you used well
Perseverance, determination and strength
when you fell
A life of loved ones you left behind
No worries the Legacy of Lessons
learned will bind
Thank you my son for strengthen,
my foundations
Great morals, values and strengths to
carry through the up coming generations
Welcome home Well done my son
Be at peace with other loved ones
I will comfort your family and
let them know
To love you always Now let you go...

-Tammy (Venjohn) Mewes



Roger John
Venjohn
November 28, 1942
March 8, 2018

Rosary & Prayer Service:
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2018
St. Ann's Catholic Church
Miller, South Dakota

Funeral Mass:
10:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 14, 2018
St. Ann's Catholic Church
Miller, South Dakota

Celebrant: Father Paul T. Josten

Casketbearers:
Ron Venjohn, Ray Venjohn, Jim Venjohn,
Dave Venjohn, Dan Venjohn, Gary Venjohn,
Les Larson, Gary Yearous

Honorary Casketbearers:
All Roger's Friends & Family

Ushers: Dean Simons, Wayne Porter,
Mike Mitchell, Justin Swartzendruber

Altar Servers: Henry & Ally Mullaney

Lectors: Ron Venjohn, Dave Venjohn

Offertory: All Roger's Grandchildren

Eucharistic Ministers: Dave Blachford, Mike Ortmeier

Musicians: Connie Schroeder, St. Ann's Choir

Music Selections:
"How Great Thou Art" , "On Eagle's Wings"
"Here I Am, Lord" , "Song of Farewell"
"Amazing Grace"

Interment with Military Honors:
Mount Calvary Cemetery
Polo, South Dakota

**Everyone is invited to lunch immediately
following the funeral Mass**

Remembering

T H E L I F E O F

Roger John Venjohn, 75, of Vayland, SD, passed away Thursday, March 8, 2018 at his home.

Roger was born to Wilbert Xavier and Dorine Gertrude (Schaefers) Venjohn on November 28, 1942 in Faulkton, South Dakota. He grew up on the family farm South of Polo, attending St. Liborius Church and Catholic School, until he graduated 8th Grade. After graduation he began his life working for Ralph Wernsmann and helping on the family farm.

Roger was a Field Wireman with the South Dakota National Guard and was noted as an expert marksman. Roger married Sharlene Mary Eschenbaum on September 30, 1966 and to this 27-year union were born four children: Timothy, Tammy, Todd and Tonja. Shortly after, he began work with a construction crew building Hwy 14, moving to Ellendale, MN. Once that project ended, he began work at a local butter factory. Since he continued serving monthly with the Miller NG Unit, that brought them back to the Miller, Ree Heights, St. Lawrence area. After moving back, he found employment with Sheldon Holt, Ree Heights Implement, Joe Beaner Trucking and Miller Fencing. While living in St. Lawrence, his love of collecting iron began. This also marked the beginning of a 28 year career with REA (Dakota Energy). Roger's strong work ethic showed as he continued to serve as a lineman and began a small family farm NW of Miller. This was when Venjohn Wrecking and Salvage was established and the collection grew (and grew and grew...) to include iron, cars, implements, etc. Roger and the family moved to Vayland in October 1982, where he continued with his passion for salvage and restoration. Roger and Sharlene took separate paths in 1993 but were able to keep open lines of communication because of the love of their children.

Roger was blessed to find love again and married Lora B. Karinen on March 16, 1995. With this union he gained two stepdaughters: Jamie and Jessica. Roger and Lora were days away from celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary. During this time Roger's faith life grew along with his 'hobbies'. Roger and Lora found themselves with a new venture; building moving. Oh, the adventures and stories this brought! Roger took great pride in repurposing the Greenleaf Church into a guesthouse for all the friends and family to come stay. They also enjoyed attending area auctions, car and implement shows, community gatherings or fundraisers. Roger was always happy to help neighbors or offer advice to anyone who needed it. He enjoyed connecting with people, playing cards, laughing and sharing stories. Roger continually worked on various projects and could be found tinkering around the yard, as he was a jack of all trades. Throughout Roger's life, he was not held back by a genetic heart condition but instead was always making new plans and was an optimist for the future.

His life motto was to work hard and to make the best of any and all circumstances. He will be sorely missed by his large family and countless friends.

Roger is survived by his wife, Lora; children: Tim (Marjean) Venjohn & children: Victor, John & Lauren, Tammy (John) Mewes & children: Paxton, Morgan, Jordyn & Colton, Todd (Tina) Venjohn & children: Kristina & Kayla, and Tonja (Steve) Jessen & children: Gideon, Velvet, Letha & Ervin; stepchildren: Jamie (Bryan) Brost & child: Allison, and Jessica (Dan) Mertz & children: Zachary, Gabrielle, & Isabelle; 10 siblings: Marilyn Hanson, Cil (Les) Larson, Ron (Kathy) Venjohn, Diane Venjohn, Phyllis (Gary) Yearous, Gary Venjohn, Jim (Nina) Venjohn, Ray (Yuri) Venjohn; Dan Venjohn; & Dave (Kelli) Venjohn; sister-in-law, Deb Venjohn; 27 nieces and nephews; and other extended family and friends.

Roger joined the saints and those who have passed before him. He is preceded in death by his parents, Dorine and Wilbert Venjohn; brother, Patrick Venjohn; and sister-in-law Vicki Venjohn.