

# In Loving Memory

A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hard-working hands at rest  
It broke our hearts to see you go,  
God only takes the best.

They say that memories are golden,  
Well, maybe that is true,  
But we never wanted memories,  
We only wanted you.

Your life was love and labour,  
Your love for your family true,  
You did your best for all of us,  
We will always remember you.

We sat beside your bedside,  
Our hearts were crushed and sore,  
We did our duty to the end,  
'Til we could do no more.

In tears we watched you sinking,  
We watched you fade away,  
And though our hearts were breaking,  
We know you could not stay.

Our lips cannot speak how we loved you,  
Our hearts cannot tell what to say,  
But God only knows how we miss you,  
In our home that is lonely today.

# In Loving Memory

**Prayer Service:** 7:00 p.m., Friday, November 1, 2024  
Our Savior Lutheran Church - Highmore, S.D.

**Funeral Service:** 10:30 a.m., Saturday, November 2, 2024  
Our Savior Lutheran Church - Highmore S.D.

**Minister:** Rev. David Peterson

**Casketbearers:** *Grandchildren*

Brandy Skovly - Matt Kutz - Mary McGillivray - Adam Kutz  
TJ Ellsworth - Tyrel Ellsworth - Desa Clement

**Honorary Casketsbearers:**

17, soon-to-be 18, Great Grandchildren

**Placing of the Pall:** Desa & Kyle Clement  
All Great Grandchildren

**Guestbook:** The Aasby Family

**Eulogists:** Rex Gregg & Jeff Ellsworth

**Readers:** Mary McGillivray & Adam Kutz

**Ushers:** Mary Knox & Deb Houdek

**Musicians:** Chantrel LaMont & Allison Goebel

**Music Selections:**

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus", "On Eagles' Wings"  
"He Touched Me" (*Allison Goebel*)

**Burial:** At A Later Date  
Highmore Cemetery - Highmore, S.D.

The family warmly invites you to join them for a lunch and  
continued fellowship following the funeral service at the  
Hyde County Memorial Auditorium



I N L O V I N G  
*Memory*

**Royal Edwin (Shorty) Kutz**

June 14, 1930 - October 29, 2024



Royal (Shorty) Kutz, 94, of Highmore, passed away Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at Highmore Health, with his family at his side, after a series of illnesses.

Royal Edwin Kutz (Shorty) was born on June 14, 1930, in Highmore, S.D. at the Sammons Maternity Home to parents Otto William and Ruth Marie (Traver) Kutz. Shorty attended Hyde County Rural School (Illinois) and lived his whole life in Hyde County. Shorty married Lavonne A. Dalton on January 27, 1955, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Highmore, S.D. Shorty worked for Frank Hawkins Construction for nine years and then he purchased the company in 1963 and changed the name to Kutz Construction. He built three homes for his family and many homes and buildings in Highmore and the Hyde County area.

In his early years, Shorty spent his waking hours working. In his later years, he enjoyed his yard, garden, and beautiful gladiolus. His love for gladiolus came from his mom. Shorty took pride in all his many vehicles and keeping them clean was a must. One of his most prized new vehicles was a convertible, yellow Corvette which he shared with everyone who showed interest in it. When LaVonne

did daycare, he became Grandpa Shorty to many children in this area. It wasn't uncommon to see him with several children following behind and all of them getting into mischief, but when it was time to behave, they all loved him enough to listen. Shorty decided he enjoyed cooking and spent several hours on Fridays preparing a huge meal for friends and family. His world famous chocolate cake with caramel frosting was loved by many. Lifelong friendships were developed at his tables followed by a game of cards. Shorty served his country in the Korean War as a soldier in the Marine Corps for two years. He was a driver for a Marine Colonel. He kept in touch with special friends from his service. He then was a member of the American Legion. He was also a lifelong member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Highmore.

Shorty is survived by his wife, LaVonne of almost 70 years; son, Steven Kutz of Highmore; daughter, Sheila (Rex) Gregg of Sioux Falls; daughter, Lori (Jeff) Ellsworth of Macs Corner; grandchildren: Matt (Kassie) Kutz, Adam (Jessica) Kutz, Brandy (Don) Skovly, Mary (Mike) McGillivray, TJ (Melanie) Ellsworth, Tyrel (Lacey) Ellsworth, and Desa (Kyle) Clement.; seventeen

and almost eighteen great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law: Marilyn Kutz, and Grace (Darold) Heckenlaible; and brother-in-law, Marvin (Barb) Dalton.

Shorty was preceded in death by his parents, Otto and Ruth; seven brothers: Carl, Richard, Harold, John, Don, Dale, and Myron; six sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; and parents-in-law, Harley and Esther Dalton.



Arrangements Entrusted To  
Luz Funeral Home - Highmore, South Dakota  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)