



## Bernard A. Hinrichs

May 6, 1925 - September 18, 2013

Bernard Allen Hinrichs was called home by the Lord on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at Thayer County Memorial Hospital while surrounded by family at the age of 88 years, 4 months, and 11 days.

Bernard was born on May 6, 1925 to Henry and Hilda (Higel) Hinrichs on a farm southwest of Ohioa. He was one of two children. Bernard was baptized on June 7, 1925 by Pastor G. Kratt of St. John's Lutheran Church (South Church) where he was also confirmed the 3rd of September 1939 by Pastor V.R. Pietzko. His memory verse was 2 Cor. 5, Verse 15. He grew up going to country school and graduated from Ohioa High School in 1943.

Bernard was married to Hazel Eich on March 12, 1945. To this union six children were born, Max, Vaughn, Rex, Gary, Carol, and Nancy. They enjoyed 37 years of marriage. Hazel died November 1982.

On January 25, 1986 he married Ruby (Bedlan) Peppie. They enjoyed 27 years of marriage. They enjoyed attending numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren's activities, antique tractor shows, and spending many winters in Arizona.

Bernard was a farmer and custom combiner traveling from Kingfisher, OK to Jamestown N.D. for 13 years with his dad and brother in-law Louis Schoenholz . Operating the combine was always his passion up until 2012 when he was 87 years young. Bernard loved the good ole days but always looked ahead to new technology. He loved the harvest – missing only one wheat harvest due to health problems. No matter how bad a summer Bernard had, he always perked up in the fall about harvest time. He would always say, "You know, this is my vacation." Bernard started driving truck at age 14 hauling grain away from the combine. He eventually got to operate the combine and loved every minute of it. Bernard's hobbies included going to antique tractor shows, collecting Rumley and Oliver tractors, telling jokes and visiting with friends.

Bernard served in the United States Army, was a member of the Fairbury Elks Lodge and was Thayer County Commissioner. He was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Bruning where he served on the Church Endowment Board for many years. He served on many other boards including the Bruning School Board, FHA Board, and Bruning Grain and Feed Board.

Bernard is survived by wife Ruby, children: Max (Karen), Vaughn (Vicki), Rex (Pat), Gary (Nancy), Carol (Leroy) Voss, Nancy (Jeff) Joe; grandchildren/great-grandchildren: Jess (Megan) Hinrichs, Luke, Joe, Jacob, Connor; Jodi (Matt) Weber, Nolan, Easton, Elijah; Jane (Mike) Fountain, Jaren, Kale, Bryce, Trace; Shawn Hinrichs, Travis (Jenny) Hinrichs, Sammy, Brett; Kristen (Tracy) Henke, Abe; Nicole (Mike) Frank, Reese, Hannah; Jered (Tammy) Hinrichs, Gatlin, Elizabeth; Andrew (Megan) Hinrichs, Lenora; Laura (Brandon) Bryan, Sage, Gus; Chad (Rachelle) Hinrichs, Riley, Jaci; Bryan (Valerie) Hinrichs, Marah, Mikayla, Kendall; Angela (Robert) Miller, Daniel, Lindsay; Mike (Ambur) Hinrichs, Claire, Emma; Jeremy (Stephanie) Hinrichs, Peyton, Gabriel, Kody; Joel Voss, Mikyna; Neal (Tara) Voss, Toby, Carter; Cory (Samantha) Voss; Grady Joe, Gabrielle Joe. Step-children: Jackie (Ken) Mach, MaryBeth (Jim) Harrold, Gary (Carol) Peppie; step-grandchildren: Tiffany Vieth, Kelby, Dalton; Todd Mach; Kim (Marc) Vieth, Brady, Bailey; Stephanie (Kent) Crandall, Taylor, Connor; Lisa (Kevin) Kimbrough, Maddy, Thayne; Julie (Jim) Stutzman, Tucker, Jasper; sister, LoElla Hinrichs Schoenholz along with nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Bernard was preceded in death by wife Hazel, his parents, brother in-law Louis Schoenholz, and grand-daughter Melissa Hinrichs.

Funeral services were conducted on Monday, September 23, 2013, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Bruning Nebraska with Pastor Stuart Sell officiating. Janice Fintel accompanied the congregation who sang On Eagles Wings, The Old Rugged Cross and I Was There To Hear Your Morning Cry. Casket bearers were Jess Hinrichs, Shawn Hinrichs, Jered Hinrichs, Chad Hinrichs, Joel Voss and Grady Joe. Honorary bearers were his grandchildren, great grandchildren, Frank Bruning and Darreld Domeier. Interment was in the Trinity Lutheran Cemetery with Farmer & Son Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

# Comments

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“ My Sympathies to you all. Bernard was such a wonderful man. He hired me as a summer farm helper my senior year summer. He was a hard working honest and caring man and that character is evident in the family he leaves behind. I was blessed by the Lord for the summer I had working for Bernard. Jesus is all smiles welcoming Bernard home.  
Love and prayers for you, Kevin

**Kevin Schulte** - September 23, 2013 at 10:17 PM

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“ Today they laid to rest a very respected man from our small community. A man who was loved and was a great father, grandfather and a great grandfather! Who's passion ran deep in his family from his love of farming to his old tractors and threshing crew! He was a friend to everyone he came to know and will be missed! So I would just like to give all my thoughts and prayers to the Bernard Hinrichs family as they laid a very loved member of their family to rest today and remember that he will always be with you in spirit watching down upon all of his family. He is now setting with his dad Hank and I bet the stories have already begun!! So may all of you find peace in God knowing he will always be with you!!

**Gary and Denise Wagner & family** - September 23, 2013 at 07:38 PM

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“ Bernard was such an amazing man. He has a special spot up in Heaven to watch over his family and friends. I am sure we can all picture him up there walking around freely and happily. There are not too many people in this world who can touch as many lives as Bernard has and I am grateful to have been one of them. We will all miss him greatly but are all happy that we got to be with him and know him as long as we have. Prayers to you all.

**Anjanette Kindelspire** - September 23, 2013 at 02:51 PM

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“ I am saddened to hear of the passing of Bernard. I greatly enjoyed working for him and the rest of the family. I still remember fondly Bernard's excitement in describing how cultivation makes "the little plants excited and grow". This included elaborate hand gestures. He was certainly an old-fashioned gentleman in my eyes. I regret I cannot attend the services today but will certainly be thinking of your family. With deepest sympathy  
Gary Young, Jr. Crete, NE

**Gary Young Jr.** - September 23, 2013 at 09:44 AM

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“ To the Hinricks Family , so sorry for you lose . Your family has always gone out of there way to make us feel welcome on our visits back to the homeland and Bernard was the person who seemed to always make sure we had a good time . He will be greatly missed .  
As Nancy posted , Heaven needed a combine driver and they got the best .

**Scott Lamoree** - September 22, 2013 at 12:03 PM

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“ Rex & Family, We know Dad was special & will be greatly missed. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. "Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day, Unseen, unheard, but always near, Still loved, still missed and very dear." Gary & Penny Veprovsky

**Gary Veprovsky** - September 22, 2013 at 11:11 AM

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“ So very sorry to hear of your recent loss. Bernard was such a super-super person. My Dad always enjoyed the "corn shelling days" with Bernard. What a nice family he and Hazel raised. I know you made him very happy Ruby. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time. Denny and Donna (Henkel) Stoll D

**Donna (Henkel) Stoll** - September 21, 2013 at 12:14 PM

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“ Bernard used to visit every so often while I was growing up. We always had such a great time with him. Bless your family.

**Lisa Hendrix \*Glenda Garland's daughter\*** - September 20, 2013 at 01:15 PM



“ To Bernard's family, Bernard was like a second grandfather to me. He always made me feel special, and was good to my parents. Mom always enjoyed going to Nebraska and visiting, as well as Dad. We have many fond memories of spending time with Bernard and his family. My heart is with each and every one of you at this somber time, but know that he is no longer suffering, and he is able to run and jump freely. All my love, Bam

**Bambi Byers** - September 19, 2013 at 09:40 PM