



Federal R. Bridgman

February 6, 1920 - November 4, 2012

Federal R. Bridgman, age 92, of Fairmont died Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012 in Lincoln. He was born Feb. 6, 1920 to Chester and Nellie (Hooker) Bridgman in Fairmont. He married Charlotte Albro on June 14, 1941.

Federal lived his first 87 years on the family farm near Fairmont that was homesteaded by his grandfather in 1876. When he began farming with his father in 1938 they changed from farming with horses to purchasing their first John Deere A tractor. He assumed all the farming in 1942 when his parents moved into town. He owes his start in farming to a 4-H feeder calf at age 9 and a 4-H Guernsey heifer calf at age 10. From that calf he built a dairy herd and ran a Grade A dairy farm until the 60's when he began feeding cattle. He was a progressive farmer who began irrigating in the 50's and received awards from Conservation Farm Families, Cattle Feeder's and Young Farmer's. Federal served his community through the Fillmore County Board of Supervisors, Fairmont Co-Op Board, and Fairmont Community Church. He also served as a Tabitha Hospice Volunteer, donated well over 10 gallons of blood, sang bass in the church choir for over 50 years and supported his family and friends in many ways. Federal lived an active life farming into his late 70's, plus he learned to snow ski at 70 and play golf at 75. He also loved to sing, dance, play cards & dominos and spend time with his family. His grandchildren remember having fun with Grandpa including rides on the three wheeler, building a tree house, picking chokecherries and teaching them the joys of farming and cattle feeding.

Federal loved fried chicken and cherry pie and requested that these be served at his funeral lunch.

Survivors include his daughters and son-in-law, Janet Domeier of Lincoln, Jeanne & Dan Cuda of Lincoln; grandchildren, David & Teresa Domeier, Jan & Trudi Domeier, Jason & Kris Cuda, & Dawn Nelson; seven great grand children, two great-great grandchildren; and special friend, Marge Hesse. He was preceded in death by wife, Charlotte; grandchildren, Sheri Domeier & Bradley Cuda; brothers: Dwight, Frank, Lyman and Henry Bridgman; sister, Evelyn Armitage; and son-in-law, LeAlen Domeier.

Funeral services for Federal were held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at the Fairmont Community Church. Pastor Karla Sheffy officiated the service. Nancy Jo Galusha accompanied M. Annette Bridgman in the singing of "The Lord's Prayer." She also accompanied the congregation in the singing of "For All Saints," "Hymn Of Promise," and "How Great Thou Art." Pallbearers for the service included Dave Domeier, Jan Domeier, Jason Cuda, Brad Cuda, Quentin Nelson, Marv Roper, and Alan Songster. Honorary bearers were Bill Cudaback and Howard Lefler. Interment was held in the Fairmont Public Cemetery. Farmer & Son Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements. Memorials are directed to the Fairmont Community Church, Nebraska Special Olympics, and the Fillmore County Museum.

To view pictures of Federal during his life go to <http://youtu.be/LUnykW7w-Tw>

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Janet--David--Teresa: Just wanted to say I am sorry to see Federal has passed away. I used to work at the Friend golf pro shop and enjoyed visiting and helping Federal when he came out to golf. Take care, Cindy

Cindy Huber - November 08, 2012 at 10:06 PM

CM

“ I was sorry to hear of the loss of such a wonderful man this week. Mr. Bridgman has made such an impact in my life ever since I can remember. As a young girl, I remember selling him Girl Scout cookies; he would always give us a small donation along with buying two boxes of Thin Mints. I think they were his favorite. :) Growing up singing in the church choir at Fairmont, I always heard what a wonderful voice he had. Everyone was excited when he decided to join us one time for a special performance, and the minute he began to sing, I understood their excitement. He was a gifted man, but more than that, Mr. Bridgman was humble, quick-witted, and most importantly, truly caring. He never left a conversation before finding out how my day was going, what I was up to, or what my plans were for the future. His smile was contagious, and I know that he will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family this week.

Caitlin Moore - November 08, 2012 at 01:10 PM

GA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May the Lord give you His perfect peace in the days ahead. We enjoyed being able to share some memorable times with Federal.

Gary and Mary Arbuck - November 07, 2012 at 10:59 PM

KZ

“ I am so sorry to hear about Federal's passing. I met with Him for many years at Kopsa Otte in York, NE. He was probably my favorite client and became a friend over the years. I know you will miss him terribly.

Kay Zoucha - November 07, 2012 at 12:36 PM

HD

“ My husband and I had the Family market in Fairmont and Federal was a faithful customer. His Grace and Pride in his community was clear and he was one of our prized customers. It was an honor to serve him and he will be fondly remembered. The Ivan Davenport Family.

Holly Davenport - November 06, 2012 at 11:38 AM

JP

“ Janet and Jeanne, please accept my sympathy at the loss of your Dad, Federal. I have only known him for a short time, but his kindness and humor left a lasting impression on me. A true gentleman and great man now has earned his heavenly reward.Q

Jerry Pawlak - November 06, 2012 at 09:41 AM