



## Robert Dean Lovegrove

March 10, 1929 - December 31, 2015

Funeral services for Robert Dean will be on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Geneva. Pastor Michelle Gowin will officiate the service.

Public graveside services will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at the Geneva Public Cemetery.

Visitation will be on Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with family greeting friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Farmer & Son Funeral Home in Geneva.

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association or the Geneva Public Cemetery.

Robert Dean Lovegrove was born to George Edward Lovegrove and Alice Mae Ainsworth Lovegrove on March 10, 1929, at Geneva, Nebraska, and passed away December 31, 2015 at Heritage Crossings in Geneva, Nebraska, at the age of 86 years, 9 months, and 21 days. He was one of four children in the family.

Robert Dean attended District 14 country grade school and graduated from Geneva High School in 1946. He lived on the family farm northwest of Geneva

until he married Shirley Lee Dyer of Exeter, Nebraska, on September 1, 1950 and they moved three miles north of the family farm. In October of 1951, he entered the Army serving in the Korean War until October of 1953. Robert Dean and Shirley lived in their first house until they moved into their new home across the road in 1963. To this union three sons were born: Jim, John and Bob.

His love for farming started at an early age. At the age of 9 or 10 he plowed with a steel-wheeled John Deere GP tractor while his dad and brother were following the wheat harvest. After school, he would hitch-hike to where his dad was picking corn and by the time he was 15, he was transporting harvest equipment. Robert Dean, along with his brother and father, followed harvest from Texas to Canada and owned a wheat farm in South Dakota - this was the favorite time of his life. They followed harvest until 1957 when they started irrigating on the farm. Early in 1958, Robert Dean started BH&L Grain Co. in Grafton, Nebraska, along with his brother, Dale, brother-in-law, Keith Burt, and other partners.

Robert Dean farmed until 1984 when his three sons took over the family farming operation. He enjoyed driving around watching his sons farm and giving a few suggestions. After retirement, he became a full-time antique John Deere tractor collector. He traveled coast to coast searching for the "best deal." He was a regular at swap meets and auctions until November 2015 and for every tractor in his collection he could recall with ease when and where he bought it, for how much and its serial number. He made many life-long friendships through his collection and excursions. Not a day went by that Robert Dean didn't have a story, new or old, about the wheat harvest or his tractor collecting adventures.

Robert Dean was preceded in death by his parents, George and Alice Lovegrove, his brother Dale Lovegrove, sisters Lila Bettger and Marjorie Burt,

and brother-in-law Keith Burt.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Shirley Dyer Lovegrove of Fairmont, NE; his three sons and daughters-in-law: Jim and Paula Lovegrove of Fairmont, NE, John and Patrice Lovegrove of Fairmont, NE and Bob and Vicki Lovegrove of Grafton, NE; his seven grandchildren Lisa Finkner and husband John of Roca, NE, Justin Lovegrove and wife Alecia of Lincoln, NE, Christin Lovegrove of Geneva, NE, Brandon Lovegrove and wife Holli of Geneva, NE, Jenni Hoarty and husband Dustin of Fairmont, NE, Ashley Risseeuw and husband Dan of Fairmont, NE, and Bobbi Baumann and husband Aaron of Grafton, NE; his 12 great grandchildren Hailley, Merritt and Sienna Finkner, Olivia and Emily Lovegrove, Sloan Lovegrove, Lauryn and Hayden Lovegrove, Brooks and Blakely Hoarty, Donavon Risseeuw and Drake Baumann; his brother-in-law, Robert Bettger, sister-in-law Jean Lovegrove, and brother-in-law Sterling Dyer and his wife Sharon as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

# Tribute Wall

LN

“ Gary Schroller just contacted me about Bob. We will all miss him at our auctions as he always had good stories to tell us about his travels and his collection. You have our deepest sympathy is his passing. Everyone in the tractor collectors circle who knew Bob will surely miss him. He normally would be at the auction the day before and we would visit and I will really miss that. Our family and everyone in our company share your sorrow at this time and will keep you in our prayers.

*Lonnie Nixon*

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**Lonnie Nixon** - January 04, 2016 at 01:21 PM

BI

“ Our thoughts are with the entire Lovegrove family. Marvin always enjoyed talking "tractors" with him, hearing about where and when and how they came to him. You could hear his love and passion for each one that he restored. May the family find comfort in the days to come.



*Marvin & Bobbie Itzen*

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**Bobbie Itzen** - January 04, 2016 at 12:41 PM

ID

“ I spent several nights at bar h with Robert Dean he was always a gentleman I always remember how he would replace cap over and over again One time I remember him saying how a good bartender can make some money here he was a nice man I wish I had known him better

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**I just sent a comment about Robert Dean** - January 03, 2016 at 05:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert Dean Lovegrove.*



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January 03, 2016 at 10:02 AM



“ *What an honor to say I knew Mr. Lovegrove. His son Bob and I are friends and as a kid it was always special to spend time at their house, always treated me as family and with respect. May God bless him and his family. Tim Bleach.*

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**tim bleach** - January 03, 2016 at 08:36 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Dean Lovegrove.*



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January 03, 2016 at 12:37 AM



“ *Condolences to all of you. Robert bought the farm we grew up on west of Grafton in the early 60's. Always kept in touch.*

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**Ivan Tracy** - January 02, 2016 at 11:59 PM

TK

“ Robert dean and dad (Cletus Kamler) sure knew how to have a good time and crank it up a notch. Those stories were like solid gold to me and my brothers. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Todd and Susan Kamler



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**todd kamlet** - January 02, 2016 at 10:26 PM

CK

“ So sorry for your loss! My dad Clet and Robert Dean were such good friends. They had a lot of fun together! Lots of good memories! Was a dear friend to our family! Our deepest sympathy and prayers for your family!  
Craig & Joyce Kamler

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**Craig Kamler** - January 02, 2016 at 11:41 AM

SJ

“ boy we sure had fun years ago looking for old Deeres in California

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**Steve Just** - January 01, 2016 at 02:32 PM

JV

Sympathy to all of Robert Deans family. I always enjoyed having coffee with him and listening to his many stories.

*Jim Votipka*

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**Jim Votipka** - January 01, 2016 at 03:59 PM

CK

*My thoughts and prayers go out to the whole Lovegrove family.*

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**Cindy Kahler** - January 03, 2016 at 06:48 AM

GL

*Will always remember the good times at the Lovegrove family reunions, all the uncles, aunts and cousins. Had breakfast with Robert Dean up here in Billings when he was on one of his John Deere buying trips. May God Bless Shirley, the Boys and Grand Kids.*

*Greg Lovegrove*

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**Greg Lovegrove** - January 03, 2016 at 02:21 PM

JC

*Our thoughts are with the entire Lovegrove family. He was so much fun to be around..Jo (Jennett) Carson*

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**Jo Carson** - January 03, 2016 at 02:25 PM

DK

*Thinking of the Lovegrove family today.  
Dave Koozer*

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**Dave Koozer** - January 04, 2016 at 10:13 AM