



Willard W. Bartels

March 4, 1936 - November 1, 2017

Willard W. Bartels was born to Otto John Bartels and Lena Marie (Schwisow) Bartels on March 4, 1936 on the family farm near Tobias, Nebraska. He passed away on November 1, 2017 at the Fillmore County Hospital in Geneva, Nebraska at the age of 81 years, 7 months, 28 days.

Willard received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 22, 1936 at Zion Lutheran Church, Tobias, Nebraska. He attended Zion Lutheran School through the 8th grade and was confirmed in his faith at Zion Lutheran Church on April 2, 1950. He graduated from Tobias High School in May of 1954.

On June 14, 1959, he was united in marriage to Judith Rose Bender at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Scotland, South Dakota. Three children were born to this union.

Willard was inducted in the U.S. Army on June 25, 1959 and completed his active duty service on May 19, 1961.

He was an avid Husker sports fan. While he was still able to drive, he enjoyed cruising the countryside scouting wildlife and taking pictures. His hobbies included metal-working and reading about the history of World War II. He spent many hours building his own experimental airplane and collected International toy tractors. He was happiest when visiting with his

grandchildren.

Willard was a volunteer on the Tobias Fire Department for many years, and he was also trained and served the department as an EMT.

He served his church in many capacities, some of which included: Elder, Trustee, Chairman of the Congregation, and he was also on the Zion School board of Education.

Willard was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers Vernon, Everett and Gaylord; and two sisters-in-law Letha and Iona.

He is survived by his wife Judy of Tobias, Nebraska; daughter Victoria Bartels of Lincoln, Nebraska; sons Vaughn and wife Denise Bartels and Vance and wife Jessica Bartels all of Tobias, Nebraska; sisters Leona Klawitter of Milligan, Nebraska, Dorothy Brandt of Western, Nebraska, Donna Steinbrook of Tobias, Nebraska; sister-in-law Pat Bartels of Tobias, Nebraska; seven grandchildren Neal Bartels and Logan and wife Anna Bartels all of Lincoln, Nebraska, Evan and wife Cryssa Bartels of Omaha, Nebraska, Desiree Bartels of Lincoln, Nebraska, Nathan Bartels of Geneva, Nebraska, Erin Criner and husband Andrew of Hastings, Nebraska and Grant Bartels of Tobias, Nebraska. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

A Funeral Service for Willard was held on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church, rural Tobias, Nebraska. Pastor Paul Beyer officiated the service. Janile Campbell accompanied the congregation in the singing of "How Great Thou Art," "Be Still My Soul," "Rock Of Ages," and "Abide With Me."

Pallbearers for the service included Nathan Bartels, Andrew Criner, Logan

Bartels, Even Bartels, Neal Bartels, and Lyle Bartels. Honorary pallbearers were Erin Criner, Desiree Bartels, and Grant Bartels. Interment was held in the Zion Lutheran Cemetery with Military Honors performed by the Tobias American Legion Post 311. Farmer & Son Funeral Home of Geneva conducted the services. Online condolences may be left at www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com. Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation.

Tribute Wall

 Donna Mouser

“ *Judy, just heard about your husband's passing. Seems there are a lot of us gals in the class of 58 who've lost our husbands. Mine has been gone 15 1/2 years already, not to mention my daughter who passed away 3 years ago. Time goes by and time heals. Just wanted to let you know I'm thinking of you,
Donna (Thum) Mouser, Scottsdale, AZ*

Donna Mouser - December 16, 2017 at 07:25 PM

 BD

“ *So sorry to hear that Willard passed away. He always had something nice to say about me each day I left the Farmland plant where he worked as a guard. Even when I returned for a visit after leaving in 2008 working from the Corporate office in Kansas City, he always greeted me with a smile, shook my hand, and asked how I was doing. I will miss him dearly, not only as a friend, but as a great person.
Bob DeWald*

Bob DeWald - November 05, 2017 at 05:37 PM

 AB

“ *My name is April i work with Willard at farmland doing Security . He always had a smile on his face and was great guy to work with....
sorry for you loss..*

April bruns - November 04, 2017 at 04:52 PM



“ 24 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - November 04, 2017 at 12:28 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Dorothy and Donna and family in the passing of Willard Bartels.

Dale and Barbara Niday.

Dale and Barbara Niday - November 04, 2017 at 10:52 AM



“ My name is Blake I worked with Willard for 6 or 7 years at the Crete Farmland/ Smithfield foods plant as a security guard he was a good person to work with and talk to and share stories with my thoughts and prayers go to his Family I'm so sorry for your loss



Blake Russell - November 04, 2017 at 08:43 AM

RH

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the family. Willard was a good friend. We have many memories as I(Roger) was a classmate of his. He will truly be missed by all. May God give you all comfort at this time and in the days ahead. (Roger and Leota Haake)

Roger and Leota Haake - November 03, 2017 at 10:50 AM

MF

“ Marlon, Judy & family and Ray, Jan and family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Willard W. Bartels.



Marlon, Judy & family and Ray, Jan and family - November 02, 2017 at 11:20 PM

BN

“ Willard helped me get started in my working life. One day the school Supt. said there was a phone call for me it was Willard he said if I wanted a job after school let out for the day. I said yes. After graduation I was full time. One of his other hired help came back from the service. Then I got a job with Rail Road and some Saturdays I would work for him. We were great friends, we built a TV tower in the evenings and other stuff like that.

Bob Newby

Bob Newby - November 02, 2017 at 08:34 PM

TB

“ *Terry & Terry Ann Brandt lit a candle in
memory of Willard W. Bartels*



Terry & Terry Ann Brandt - November 02, 2017 at 07:03 PM