

*Celebrating the Life
of
Donald "Don" Hammer*



*Do not stand at my grave and weep;
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn's rain.
When you awake in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.*



March 7, 1925 - December 28, 2016

"Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."

Luke 11:28

Donald L. Hammer was born to Ben and Dora (Gehrts) Hammer, northeast of Holstein, Iowa, Cherokee County, on March 7, 1925. He was baptized at St. John's Lutheran Church in Galva as an infant. He was confirmed at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cushing on July 2, 1939.

As a young boy, he moved to Cushing, Iowa, where he attended school through the third grade, before moving to a farm south of Correctionville where he continued his education at a country school and one year of high school. From there, the family moved to a farm northwest of Holstein and Don graduated from Holstein High School in 1942. His young adult years were spent working on the family farm before he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He was stationed on Guam with the Seebees Construction Battalion.

On March 18, 1948, Don and Wilma Heilman were united in marriage at the Cushing Methodist Church. To this union three children were born: Rollie, Gary and Donna. They purchased a farm north of Arthur, Iowa, and moved there in February of 1959, where Don farmed and the family grew.

Through the years, Don serving his church and following his Lord with his strong faith, was his priority. His favorite past times were wood working and reading.

Don was a member of the Faith Lutheran Church in Holstein, Iowa and a member of the American Legion Post #61 in Ida Grove.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Earl and sister, Vesta Fey.

Survivors include his wife, Wilma; three children, Rollie of Story City, Iowa, Gary (Linda) of Evart, Michigan, and Donna (Fred) Reineke of Sigourney, Iowa; eight grandchildren; two step grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; five step great grandchildren; brothers, Alvin (Phyllis) Hammer of Cherokee and Dean (Karen) Hammer of Ida Grove; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family members and friends.

We wish to express our gratitude for your attendance at this service. You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and a luncheon at Boulder's Motel immediately following the burial.

-Don's Family

Celebrating the Life of

Donald "Don" Hammer

Date of Birth

March 7, 1925, Cherokee County, Iowa

Date of Death

December 28, 2016, Sioux City, Iowa

Services

Saturday, December 31, 2016, 2:00 P.M.

Faith Lutheran Church

Holstein, Iowa

Clergy

Pastor Chris Schroder

Vocalists

Tracy Johnson, Tamara Hoffman & Trisha Hoffman

"In The Garden"

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Art Witten

"How Great Thou Art"

Accompanist

Jeanne Freese

Congregational Hymns

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

"On Our Way Rejoicing"

Pallbearers

Ben Reineke

Seth Reineke

Steven Reineke

Randy Reineke

Cale Sito

Brendon Reineke

Burial

Holstein Cemetery

Holstein, Iowa

Military Rites

McNamara-Moore Post No. 61 of the American Legion of Ida Grove

Ida Grove, Iowa