

## The Life of A Soldier



OUR DEBT TO THE  
HEROIC MEN AND VALIANT  
WOMEN IN THE SERVICE  
OF OUR COUNTRY CAN  
NEVER BE REPAID. THEY  
HAVE EARNED OUR  
UNDYING GRATITUDE.  
AMERICA WILL NEVER  
FORGET THEIR SACRIFICES.

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN

### Close the Gate (For Dad)

By Nancy Kraayenhof

For this one farmer the worries are over,  
lie down and rest your head,  
Your time has been and struggles enough,  
put the tractor in the shed.

Years were not easy, many downright  
hard, but your faith in God transcended,  
Put away your tools and sleep in peace.  
The fences have all been mended.

You raised a fine family, worked the land  
well and always followed the Son,  
Hang up your shovel inside of the barn;  
your work here on earth is done.

A faith few possess led your journey  
through life, often a jagged and stony way,  
The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded,  
and here now is the end of your day.

Your love of God's soil has passed on to  
your kin; the stories flow like fine wine,  
Wash off your work boots in the puddle  
left by blessed rain one final time.

You always believed that the good Lord  
would provide and He always had  
somehow,  
Take off your gloves and put them down,  
no more sweat and worry for you now.

Your labor is done, your home now is  
heaven; no more must you wait,  
Your legacy lives on, your love of the land,  
and we will close the gate.

*In Loving Memory*

*of*

*Clifford H. Friedrichsen*

*1925 - 2021*



*"Cliff"*

Cliff Friedrichsen was born August 1, 1925 on a farm west of Holstein to Henry and Marie (Indorf) Friedrichsen – the same farm where his mother Marie was born. He was baptized and confirmed into the Christian faith at St. Paul Lutheran Church. He attended school in Holstein and graduated from Holstein High School in 1943. He enjoyed sports and was a State qualifier in the mile.

On October 30, 1943 he entered military service and in April 1944 he boarded the *U.S.S. West Point* and set sail for overseas duty. He served in the Pacific theater through the end of World War II and was lucky to meet up with his brother Bob on three separate occasions. He was stationed on a ship entering Tokyo Bay on V-J Day for the historic signing of the peace treaty on the battleship *Missouri*.

On his first day back in Holstein in January 1946, he attended church, said hello to his future wife and they began dating. Cliff and Florence Clausen were married on September 22, 1946 at St. Paul Lutheran Church. They established their home on a farm north of Holstein. To this union four children were born: Connie, Cathy, Carole and Timothy, whom they raised with unconditional love and support. They continued to farm until they moved into Holstein in 1990. His love of farming never diminished.

For many years Cliff and Florence enjoyed dances at the Cobblestone Inn in Storm Lake or at the Lake View Ballroom and were members of various card clubs. No meal was complete without a bowl of ice cream for dessert, usually with Hershey's chocolate topping. Homemade cookies were a favorite and he was known to grab a candy bar or two when stopping at the Phillips 66 station for gas.

In addition to farming, Cliff also served as Ida County supervisor for 16 years, and after moving into town was on the Holstein City Council. He had been active in the American Legion for 75 years and especially enjoyed helping out at Bingo. He was a faithful and active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, where in earlier years he served as deacon.

Cliff is survived by Florence, his wife of 74 years; four children – daughters, Connie Ludvigson, Holstein, Cathy Conover and husband Keith of Iowa Falls, IA, Carole Fleck and husband Tom of Woodbury, MN, son, Tim Friedrichsen and wife Jenni of Seattle, WA; seven grandchildren – Landon (Christie) Ludvigson, Hudson (Courtney) Ludvigson, Andrea (Mike) Widen, Christopher (Jamie) Fleck, Benjamin Fleck, Max (Monica) Friedrichsen, Molly Friedrichsen; six great-grandchildren – Carver Ludvigson, Bronwyn Ludvigson, Ryder Ludvigson, Peyton Widen, Allison Widen, Brynn Widen; sister-in-law – Shirley (Dick) Friedrichsen; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Cliff was preceded in death by his parents – Henry and Marie Friedrichsen; in-laws – Emil and Frances Clausen; brothers and sisters – Bob (Lois) Friedrichsen, Pearl (Ervin) Henrichsen, Dorothy (Darwin) Thornhill, Richard Friedrichsen; brother in-law – Raymond “Bud” (Alice) Clausen; grandson – Matt Conover, great-granddaughter – Hope Ludvigson; niece – Joyce Friedrichsen and nephews – Mark Friedrichsen, Dale Clausen and Jim Clausen.

In lieu of flowers, donations will be accepted by the family for contribution to the Holstein American Legion or St. Paul Lutheran Church.



*In Loving Memory of  
Clifford K. Friedrichsen*

*Date of Birth*

August 1, 1925, Holstein, Iowa

*Date of Death*

January 3, 2021, Holstein, Iowa

*Service*

Thursday, January 7, 2021  
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Holstein, Iowa

*Clergy*

Pastor Bob Lewis

*Musicians*

Jim and Kris Kistenmacher

“Borning Cry”

“On Eagle’s Wings”

“How Great Thou Art”

*Burial*

Holstein Cemetery  
Holstein, Iowa

*Military Rites*

American Legion Dessel-Schmitt Post #225  
Holstein, Iowa