

## REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF...

William "Bill" Rutten, 90, of West Fargo, ND passed away April 30, 2019 surrounded by his family. Bill was born July 11, 1928, near Drake, ND to John and Elizabeth Rutten. The family moved to Wild Rice area at the age of 14, where he helped farm.

On October 2, 1952, Bill married Delores Stolt of Anamoose, ND, at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in St. Benedict. They began their life of farming southwest of West Fargo until their retirement in 2001. They moved into town, and their son John took over farming. Bill served many years on the Mapleton Township Board and as the Township Assessor. He also worked at Idso Sales in the 1970s.

Bill was born to farm and took pride in his crops and the work he put into them. He enjoyed spending time with family, especially his grandkids. He loved to hunt, fish, shoot the breeze with the neighbors, and was always up for a good game of cards or dice.

Bill is survived by his wife of 66 years, Delores, 5 Children: Dan Rutten, Mapleton; Bob (Sally) Rutten, Christine; Debbie (Jim) Anstadt, Frazee, MN; John (Peggy) Rutten, Mapleton; Evelyn Rutten, West Fargo; 11 Grandchildren: Sheri Rough, Missy Krabbe, Brandon Rutten, Kristi Allen, Amber Kiefat, Lindsey Fromm, Mindi Rutten, Lacey Gebeke, Adam Rutten, Anna Molstre, Alec Rutten, 4 step-grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 6 step-great-grandchildren, sisters: Grace Fridgen and Emily Anderson, and one special cat, Walter.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sisters: Gladys, Verny, Helen, Tillie, and Hazel, brothers: Con, Dick, Tony and Paul.

*Bill's family wishes to sincerely thank Terre Johnson for her dedication and her continued care, the staff of Eventide Fargo for their loving, respectful care, along with Hospice of the Red River Valley.*



## A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

# A FARMER'S CREED



I BELIEVE A MAN'S GREATEST  
POSSESSION IS HIS DIGNITY  
AND THAT NO CALLING BE-  
STOWS THIS MORE ABUN-  
DANTLY THAN FARMING.

I BELIEVE HARD WORK  
AND HONEST SWEAT ARE  
THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF  
A PERSON'S CHARACTER.

I BELIEVE THAT FARMING,  
DESPITE ITS HARDSHIPS AND  
DISAPPOINTMENTS, IS THE MOST  
HONEST AND HONORABLE WAY A  
MAN CAN SPEND HIS DAYS ON EARTH.

I BELIEVE FARMING NURTURES THE CLOSE FAMILY TIES THAT  
MAKE LIFE RICH IN WAYS MONEY CAN'T BUY.

I BELIEVE MANY OF THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE INDEED  
FREE; THE SPLENDOR OF A SUNRISE, THE RAPTURE OF WIDE  
OPEN SPACES, THE EXHILARATING SIGHT OF YOUR LAND  
GREENING EACH SPRING.

I BELIEVE TRUE HAPPINESS COMES FROM WATCHING YOUR  
CROPS RIPEN IN THE FIELD, YOUR CHILDREN GROW TALL IN  
THE SUN, YOUR WHOLE FAMILY FEEL THE PRIDE THAT  
SPRINGS FROM THEIR SHARED EXPERIENCE.

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*NOW I CAN SAY "GOOD MORNING, GOD"  
RATHER THAN "GOOD GOD, IT'S MORNING!"*

## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM "BILL" RUTTEN



### SERVICES

West Funeral Home & Life Tribute Center  
West Fargo, North Dakota  
Friday, May 3, 2019 - 5 p.m.

### OFFICIANT

Rev. Chuck Belzer

### OBITUARY READING & EULOGIES

Members of Bill's Family

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Selections from Alan Jackson's Precious Memories

*"When We All Get To Heaven"*

*"Are You Washed In The Blood/I'll Fly Away"*

*"I Want To Stroll Over Heaven With You"*

### Honorary BEARERS

All of Bill's Grandchildren

### INTERMENT

St. Benedict's Catholic Cemetery  
Wild Rice

*The family wishes to express their appreciation for  
your kindness and support during this difficult time.  
Please join them for a fellowship meal following the service.*

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