

### ***REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF....***

Leopold "Leo" Ernst, 83, Casselton, ND passed away on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at Villa Maria Nursing Home, Fargo, ND.

Leopold Ernst was born on January 1, 1937 in Poland to Adolf and Emma (Haumann) Ernst. He moved with his family to Germany in 1945. Leo moved to the United States in 1952 with the sponsorship of the Leonard Lutheran Church. Leo enlisted in the US Army. In 1960, Leo married Jean Driscoll and had 5 children. After his honorable discharge Leo was employed by Grant Mattson and RD Offutt as a parts manager for 45 years. This is where he was given the nickname "Kraut", which stayed with him his entire life. He retired in 1999. In 1979 he married Diane Schmidt Mitchell and in October they celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Leo, as a young man, was an expert roller skater, which he won many awards. He was also an avid NDSU Bison football fan. He was the Assistant Fire Chief for the Casselton Fire Department and in the early 1980's helped rejuvenate the Casselton Golf Course.

Leo is survived by his wife Diane, of Casselton, children Tony (Stacey) Ernst, Tracey (Kevin) Kloster, Jim (Sheri) Ernst, Tim Ernst, and Mary Jo Ernst, step-children Dan (Alysia) Mitchell and Debbie (Brad) Bartholomay. Other survivors include his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters Eugenie (Jean) Sedelmaier, Wilhelmina "Mina" Zaudtke, Emma LaPlant, Erna Farney, and Ursula DeSiervo.

Leo was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Edward and Robert, sisters Olga Buschmann and Frieda Strahl, and step-son William Mitchell.

***Thank you so much to Villa Maria in Fargo for the expert and loving care he got in his over 6 years there. Also to Hospice of the Red River Valley for his end of life care.***

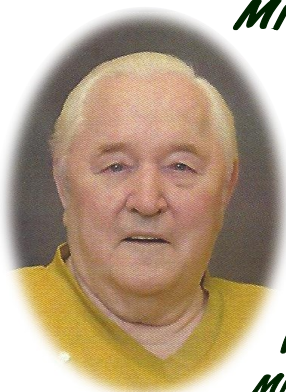
***In Lieu of flowers memorials can be sent to Martin's Lutheran Church, Casselton or to Hospice of the Red River Valley.***

***The family would like people to dress in their Bison attire for the Prayer service.***



[westfuneralhome.com](http://westfuneralhome.com)





***MISS ME -  
BUT LET ME GO...***

***WHEN I COME TO  
THE END OF THE ROAD  
AND THE SUN HAS SET FOR ME,  
I WANT NO RITES  
IN A GLOOM FILLED ROOM,  
WHY CRY FOR A SOUL SET FREE  
MISS ME A LITTLE-***

***BUT NOT TOO LONG,  
AND NOT WITH YOUR HEAD BOWED LOW.  
REMEMBER THE LOVE THAT WE ONCE SHARED,  
MISS ME - BUT LET ME GO.  
FOR THIS IS A JOURNEY THAT WE ALL MUST TAKE,  
AND EACH MUST GO ALONE.  
IT'S ALL A PART OF THE MASTER'S PLAN,  
A STEP ON THE ROAD TO HOME.  
WHEN YOU ARE LONELY AND SICK OF HEART,  
GO TO THE FRIENDS WE KNOW.  
AND BURY YOUR SORROWS IN DOING GOOD DEEDS,  
MISS ME - BUT LET ME GO.***

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

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF**

**LEO "KRAUT" ERNST**



**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

**Martin's Lutheran Church  
Casselton, North Dakota  
Saturday, February 8, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Officiants**

**Rev. Mike Jacobson    Rev. Keith Walka**

**Music**

**Rod Brekken, soloist  
"My Lord, What A Morning" & "Well Done"  
Colleen Baumgarten, organist**

**Hymns:**

**"Here I Am Lord" & "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"**

**Honorary Pallbearers**

**Leo's Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren**

**Final Resting Place**

**Casselton Cemetery                      Caselton, ND**

**Military Rites**

**Military Honor Guard  
Rugg-Heille Post #15 - Casselton American Legion  
Ries-Kickertz Post 4655 - Casselton VFW**

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