

Remembering the life of....

Jim Martin, 81, West Fargo, ND died peacefully surrounded by his 4 daughters on Monday, January 11, 2021 at Bethany on University, Fargo, ND.

James Ellis Martin was born Nov. 10, 1939 in Fargo to Albert and Margaret (McLeod) Martin. He grew up on the family farm South of West Fargo. He attended a country school and graduated from West Fargo High School where he enjoyed participating in sports. Jim married his high school sweetheart, Marlys Rachel Buzick on Sept. 10, 1960 at Community Presbyterian Church. Jim and Marlys were honored to have had the first wedding in the church. They made their home on the family farm South of West Fargo where they farmed for many years and raised four daughters.

His life was always centered on family and he especially enjoyed his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jim was a lifelong member of Community Presbyterian Church. In 1983 he was inducted into the North Dakota Fastpitch Softball Hall of Fame. Jim spent many years playing ball on the Horace, Dan's Oil and Lepird's ball teams. He loved hunting and fishing and enjoyed sharing this passion with his family and friends. In his retirement years, he and Marlys enjoyed traveling, spending the winters in Arizona where he loved golfing, playing cards, and dice games. He also loved the time he spent in Hettinger, ND where he hunted with his family and friends. Many great memories were made at the "Hilton".

He is survived by four daughters, Debbie (Marty) Matzke, Lori (Steve) Johnson, Cathy (Tom) Birrenkott and Jill (Wade) Swenson; 14 grandchildren, Brian (Jess) Matzke, Cody (Amanda) Matzke and Amy (Tucker) Bucholz, Darin (Jerrica) Johnson, Holly (Andrew) Eben, Jordan (Maddie) Birrenkott, Taylor (Zak) Birrenkott-Kringstad, Cami Birrenkott, Amber (Josh) Hanson, Ashley and Danielle Swart, Maggie, Grace and Ben Swenson; 13 great grandchildren, Erika, Ryder, Bria and Brynn Matzke, Lauren Bucholz, Serenity and Isahel Spielman, Penny John-Eben, Josiah and Nathan Leighton Hanson;



IN LOVING MEMORY

A Farmer's Creed

I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly 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.



Celebrating the life of

JIM MARTIN



FUNERAL SERVICE

Community Presbyterian Church

West Fargo, North Dakota

Friday, January 15, 2021 - 1 p.m.

Officiant

The Rev. Cathie Bishop

Music

Dawn Larson, *pianist*

Recorded Selections

"Amazing Grace"

"Jealous of the Angels"

"On Eagle's Wings"

Pallbearers

Jim's Grandsons

Brian Matzke, Cody Matzke, Darin Johnson,
Jordan Birrenkott, Taylor Birrenkott-Kringstad,
Ben Swenson & Ryder Matzke

Honorary Pallbearers

Granddaughters & Great Grandchildren

Interment

The family wishes to express their appreciation for your kindness and support during this difficult time.