

Eugene Russell Bartel was born October 29, 1931 in Frazee, Minnesota, the son of Julius and Laura (Illg) Bartel. He passed away Saturday July 13, 2019 at Ecumen – Emmanuel Nursing Home in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

He was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church, Toad Lake. Eugene attended country school and graduated from Frazee High School.

Eugene proudly served his country during the Korean Conflict in the U.S. Air Force receiving his honorable discharge in 1956.

On February 14, 1954, Eugene was united in marriage to Shirley Clapsaddle at Grace Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota. They made their home in Toad Lake Township where Eugene farmed and operated Bartel Trucking. To this union four daughters were born.

Eugene served on the boards of the Minnesota Valley Breeders Association, Mid-Am Dairymen and Toad Lake Township. He was a township fire warden and was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church – Evergreen. After retiring from farming in the early 1990's, he began a new career with Anderson Transportation driving school bus for 25 years.

He enjoyed gardening, selling his fresh produce at the farmers market, and attending the Toad Lake Store for coffee club. Eugene especially enjoyed spending time with his family and attending his girl's and grandchildren's activities and sporting events. Eugene loved to watch his girls play basketball. He even started milking his cows at 3:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (to keep them on schedule) so that he could attend away games. He traveled whenever he could to watch his grandchildren play basketball, he even traveled as far as Rochester, Minnesota to watch them play.

Eugene was a past commander of the Frazee V.F.W. and was honored by being selected in May of 2016 to attend the WDAY Honor Flight in Washington, D.C.

He is survived by his daughters: Jacki (John) Graham of Frazee; Kathy (Scott) Graham of Frazee; Tammy (William) Januszewski of Pelican Rapids; Kim (Joe) Bauman of Rochester; grandchildren: Jonathon Graham, Stephanie Winjum, Hunter Graham, Megan Kelsey, Hannah Holm, Sarah Halbakken, Katelyn Bauman, Dain Bauman, Dylan Bauman; great-grandchildren: Gretchen, Charles, Evelyn, Elena, John, Alexis, Joseph, Abel; sister-in-law: Delaine Bartel; brother-in-law: Warren Clappsaddle and several nieces and nephews.

Eugene was preceded in death by his wife: Shirley in March of 2019; his parents: Julius and Laura Bartel; brother: Marvin Bartel.



Eugene Russell Bartel

October 29, 1931 - July 13, 2019



And on the 8th day,

God looked down on His planned paradise
And said, "I NEED A CARETAKER."

So God made a farmer.

A Life Well-Lived ~ Forever In Our Hearts
Eugene Russell Bartel

Date of Birth
October 29, 1931

Date of Death
July 13, 2019

Memorial Service

Saturday, July 20, 2019 - 11:00 am
St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Evergreen

Officiant

Pastor Tom Batchelder

Special Music

Karen Meyer, Accompanist

Urn Bearers

Jonathon Graham
Stephanie Winjum
Hunter Graham
Megan Kelsey
Hannah Holm
Sarah Halbakken
Katelyn Bauman
Dain Bauman
Dylan Bauman

Honorary Urn Bearers

Anderson Bus Company

Military Honors

Heart O' Lakes VFW Post #7702
Frazee, Minnesota

Close the Gate

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.***

