

Obituary of Elgin L. Saunders

Elgin Leroy Saunders was born on May 23, 1944 in White Rock, Kansas to Paul and Vera (Carpenter) Saunders. He passed away on May 24, 2023 at the North Central Kansas Medical Center, Concordia, KS at the age of 79 years and 1 day. He was the oldest of 3 children. He grew up on a farm near White Rock, KS and then moved to the farm north of Courtland, KS. He graduated from Courtland High School in 1963. In high school he participated in football, basketball, and track.

On May 23, 1975 Elgin was united in marriage to Linda Youngblood and to this union two children were born, Angel and John. They began their married life near Courtland, KS. They enjoyed camping, fishing, boating with the kids on Lovewell Lake, going to auctions, traveling, and Elgin always enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

During high school, Elgin helped with the family dairy and worked on the family farm. His family milked cows until 1979. He started driving a tractor when he was as young as 8 years old. After high school, Elgin worked on a neighbor's farm, irrigating and farming. He thoroughly enjoyed this as he loved to be outside. He then learned how to do concrete and masonry work from some friends. For 45 years, he poured sidewalks, laid bricks and cement blocks and formed foundations for many residents in and around Republic County. He took great pride in his work. His grandfather used to say, "If you have the ambition to move a mountain, you can do anything you want to do."

After Linda's death on March 30, 2022, he moved to the Sunset Home in Concordia, KS. He was a favorite resident there. Every holiday, Angel decorated his room. He had a candy dish in his room that tempted many to stop by and say hi to him and of course they received his heart-warming smile. He loved it when John came to visit and brought Elgin's dog to see him. He and Linda both were avid Kansas City Chiefs fans and Kansas City Royals fans. At the home, the staff knew exactly when the Chiefs were playing as they had to make sure that Elgin could find the channel on his TV and on game day he was outfitted with his Chiefs shirt, hat, and sweatpants.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Linda. They had been married 46 years.

Elgin is survived by his daughter, Angel (Lucas) Zeller of Paxico, KS, his son John Saunders of York, NE; five grandchildren, Bridgette (Brian) Estrada, Hunter, Ethan, Owen & Lily Johnson; two great grandchildren, Jacob and Everleigh; one brother, Duane (Susan) Saunders of Republic, KS and one sister, Paula (Lonnie) Hoops of Byron, NE, other relatives and many friends.

Memorials are suggested to the Elgin L Saunders Memorial Fund Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, 1322 19th St, Belleville, KS is in charge of the arrangements.

In Memory Of



Elgin L. Saunders

May 23, 1944 – May 24, 2023



*Do not stand at my grave and weep
For I am not here I do not sleep.*

*I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glints on winter snow.*

*I am the hint of fresh earth in Spring
I am there in the song the meadowlark sings.*

*I am the sunlight on golden ripened grain
I am the gentle Autumn rain.*

*I am the hum of a tractor on a hill far away
I am the wonderful smell of new mown hay.*

*I am the whisper of Summer leaves
I am there on every soft cool breeze.*

*I am the blush in the East of every sunrise
I am the mischief in my children's eyes.*

*I am the thrill of coyotes at night
I am the beauty of a pheasant in flight.*

*I am there when my grandchildren cry in their
Mother's arms
I am there in every part of the family farms.*

*So when you wake in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet birds in circled flight
I am the soft star above you each night.*

*Do not stand at my grave and cry, For I am not here,
I did not die!*



In Memory Of

Elgin L. Saunders

May 23, 1944 - May 24, 2023

FUNERAL SERVICE
United Methodist Church
Courtland, Kansas
Saturday, June 3, 2023
2:00 P.M.

OFFICIATING
Pastor Sandra Jellison-Knock

ACCOMPANIST
Charlotte Seybold

MUSICAL SELECTIONS
"How Great Thou Art" vocal solo-John Surber
"Amazing Grace"-Congregational Hymn

CASKET BEARERS
Ethan Johnson Owen Johnson Tony Hoops
Darin Saunders Nate Tofteland James Skupa

INTERMENT
White Rock Cemetery
Rural Courtland, Kansas