

Noel Herman Paetznick was born on November 26, 1932, in Paynesville, MN, the son of Herman and Esther (Zimmerman) Paetznick. He grew up in Paynesville and in 1946, his family moved to Willmar, MN. In 1950, Noel graduated from Willmar Senior High School and went on to attend St. Cloud Teacher's College. He earned his teaching degree in 1955 and began his teaching career in Lynd, MN.

On December 27, 1957, Noel married his college sweetheart, Barbara Louise Leaf from Sunburg, MN. They were married at West Norway Lake Lutheran Church in Sunburg, on a beautiful snowy evening. Noel and Barbara were blessed with three children: Mark, Mary Jo and Karin.

From 1957-1959, Noel served in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Fort Knox, Kentucky at the Medical Research Laboratory. In June 1958, after fulfilling her teaching contract in Paynesville, Barbara joined Noel in Kentucky. They made their first home together there until the summer of 1959 when Noel was honorably discharged. After his discharge they returned to Lynd, MN and resumed teaching. Later, Noel also taught and coached varsity basketball in Eden Valley, MN before moving to Willmar in 1964.

The majority of Noel's classroom experience while in Willmar was to teach Health, "Psychology of Living," to all the ninth graders that passed through the Willmar Junior High School. It was very important to him that each student felt welcome and accepted in his class. One of the ways he did this was by teaching the students IALAC, an acronym for "I Am Lovable And Capable." He found it very rewarding when he ran into former students, and they specifically mentioned learning about IALAC. In the 1970's Noel served on the State Drug Task Force. He attended workshops, spoke to various special interest groups in Minnesota, and was instrumental in developing the drug education program for the Willmar School System. In 1992, he retired from his teaching career.

Noel was very passionate about and loved the game of basketball. He played on the Willmar High School varsity basketball team and intermural teams in college. During his years in Willmar, Noel officiated basketball at the high school level. A highlight in his officiating career came when he was asked to ref the regional tournament at Williams Arena.

Noel had a deep faith and was an active member of First Covenant Church in Willmar. He served as church chairman, adult Sunday school teacher, led and attended Bible studies, and assisted with confirmation classes. He was a mentor to many youths throughout the years.

Noel enjoyed spending time outdoors and passed on his love of nature to his family. Some of his favorite activities were fishing, canoeing, hiking, birdwatching, ice fishing, ice skating, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and spending time with his family at their cabin on Lake Koronis. He also looked forward to the many trips he took to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

Noel loved his family dearly. He was proud of all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He took an active role and interest in their lives.

Noel will be remembered for his sense of humor, creativity, wisdom, strong Christian faith, compassionate, kind and caring heart. He enjoyed meeting new people and made a friend wherever he went. He took a genuine interest in people; accepting everyone, without judgement, no matter who they were and treated them with dignity and respect. His life touched many and for that, we are all truly blessed.

Noel is survived by his wife Barbara, three children: Mark (Jo) Paetznick of Bloomington, MN; Mary Jo (Larry) Eckblad of Mason City, IA; and Karin (Russ) Rein of Dundas, MN; seven grandchildren: Andrea (Adam) Miller, Aaron (Courtney) Paetznick, Britta Eckblad, Ayanna Eckblad, Mikael (Joy) Rein, Erik Rein, and Kjirstin (Nick) Escalante and five great grandchildren: twins, Liv and Malin Rein, Elin Rein, Henry Miller and Bodin Escalante. He is also survived by a sister-in-law, Kay Paetznick of Apple Valley, MN, along with many other relatives and friends.

Noel was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Daniel Paetznick.

# *Celebrating the Life of*



## *Noel H. Paetznick*

**1932 - 2021**

In Loving Memory Of

# Noel H. Paetznick

*Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun!*

Arrangements By  
*Peterson Brothers Funeral Home*  
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"

November 26, 1932  
Paynesville, Minnesota

December 26, 2021  
Willmar, Minnesota

## Celebration of Life Service

Friday, April 22, 2022 - 1:30 p.m.

First Covenant Church  
Willmar, Minnesota

Prelude		Becca Gamboa
Call to Worship		Pastor Dan May
Invocation		
Solo	"Because He Lives"	Becca Gamboa
Reading of the Scriptures		Aaron Paetznick & Russ Rein
	<i>John 15:5-13, 17, Revelation 3:20, Psalm 119:105, Galatians 5:22, 23 &amp; 2 Timothy 4:7</i>	
Pastoral Prayer		
Hymn	"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"	No. 399
Tributes	Ayanna Eckblad, Kjirstin Escalante & Mark Paetznick	
Message		Pastor Dan May
Benediction		
Solo	"Amazing Grace"	Becca Gamboa
Postlude		Becca Gamboa

## Interment

West Norway Lake Lutheran Cemetery  
Sunburg, Minnesota