



## *Treasured Seasons*

*For everything there is an  
appointed season,  
And a time for everything  
under heaven –  
A time for sowing,  
a time for reaping;  
A time for sharing,  
a time for caring.  
A time for loving,  
a time for giving;  
A time for remembering,  
A time for parting.  
You have made everything  
beautiful in its time  
For everything You do remains  
forever.*

*Simon Peter answered him,  
“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have  
the words of eternal life .”*

*John 6:68*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

# *Willard Jean Rakow*

WHO WAS BORN  
September 20, 1930  
Bellingham, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME  
January 13, 2023  
Ortonville, Minnesota

FUNERAL SERVICE  
Thursday, January 19, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Odessa, Minnesota

OFFICIANT  
Reverend Nathaniel Brown

MUSICIAN  
Sue Ohm, Organist

CASKET BEARERS  
Chad Loula | Paul Loula | Ryan Bartholow  
Ethan Rakow | Jason Floren | Mitch Muske

HONORARY BEARERS  
All of Willie's Grandchildren

MILITARY HONORS  
American Legion Post #156  
Marietta, Minnesota  
American Legion Post #151  
Appleton, Minnesota

INURNMENT  
Trinity Lutheran Cemetery  
Odessa, Minnesota

APPRECIATION  
Willie's family is grateful for your attendance at this service.  
Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply  
appreciated. Following the service, please join the family  
for food and fellowship in the church dining hall.

ARRANGEMENTS BY  
Mundwiler and Larson Funeral Home  
Ortonville, Minnesota

Willard Jean Rakow was born on September 20, 1930, in Bellingham, MN, to Otto and Alma (Herrmann) Rakow. He was baptized into the Lutheran Faith on October 10, 1930, and was confirmed on May 28, 1944. He attended school in Bellingham and graduated with the Class of 1948. Willie was inducted into the United States Marine Corps in January of 1952 and served on ship in the Mediterranean Sea during the Korean Conflict. He was honorably discharged in January of 1954.

On June 26, 1954, Willie was united in marriage with Dorothy Wellnitz. To this union, they were blessed with four children and made their home in Odessa.

Always a hard worker, Willie worked at the Bellingham elevator and at the local granite quarry. He was also the Trinity Lutheran Church custodian for 30 years and took great pride in his church. When he wasn't busy working, Willie spent his time building things and doing a lot of woodworking. He played softball, liked bowling, and enjoyed the game of Horseshoe. In his younger years, Willie enjoyed fishing and taking his kids and Dorothy to a nice spot to fish and have a picnic. He served on the HRA Board and on the Odessa City Council. Willie was also a volunteer fireman for Odessa and was a member of the Bellingham American Legion.

Left to cherish Willie's memory are his wife of 68 years, Dorothy Rakow of Odessa, MN; children: Charlene Loula of Chisago, MN; Jollene (Craig) Bartholow of New Hope, MN; Robert (Sally) Rakow of Odessa, MN; and Wayne (Jenny) Rakow of Finlayson, MN; nine grandchildren: Chad Loula, Paul Loula, Ryan Bartholow, Marissa Ibara, Ethan Rakow, Aidan Rakow, Jason Floren, Kelsey Muske, and Ashley Rakow; 20 great-grandchildren; brother, Raymond Rakow of Tucson, AZ; along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Otto and Alma; brothers: Eldon Rakow and Donald Rakow; sister, Leona Shelton; and son-in-law, Chuck Loula.

## In Loving Memory



*THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR  
STRENGTH. THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES;  
THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY,  
THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BE FAINT.*

*ISAIAH 40*