

His Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of him as gone away— His journey's just begun.

Life holds so many facets— This earth is only one. . .

Just think of him as resting, from the sorrow and the tears,

In a place of warmth and comfort, where there are no days and years.

Think how he must be wishing, that we could know today,

How nothing but our sadness, can really pass away.

And think of him as living, in the hearts of those he touched. . .

For nothing loved is ever lost— and he is loved so much.

~ E. Brenneman

In Loving Memory

Gary Mertz

1940~ 2023



For Gary ~

There must be tractors in heaven, because he left us way too soon.

Did God need someone to repair it, and knew only the best would?

Was it an Allis Chalmers or John Deere for a tractor show?

Or was it needed to haul some hay, a parade or perhaps a rodeo?

He left us way too quickly, there must have been a rush.

So give him a hug and let him know we love and miss him very much.





Gary Duane Mertz, age 82, of Mandan went to be with the Lord on April 2, 2023.

Gary was born to William O. and Melita (Anhorn) Mertz on May 30, 1940, in Goodrich, ND, and was raised on a farm outside of Denhoff. After graduating as salutatorian of his high school class, Gary moved to Bismarck. During this time, he met the love of his life, Marilyn Miller. Shortly after, he was drafted into the Army in October 1963. He and Marilyn were married in 1965 and lived at Ft. Hood, TX, until he was honorably discharged in October 1965. The couple returned to ND where he worked for Atlas/Igoe Construction, General Tire, Claremont Construction, and retired from Cooperative Power.

While raising a family, Gary took pride in teaching his children the value of hard work and making memories. The family spent weekends hunting, fishing, boating, and camping. He also spent time planning annual summer vacations to destinations across the US and Canada. After his grandkids came along, he spent time sharing his love of working with horses, making sure they experienced some of the things he did growing up.

Gary had a gift for working on engines be it tractors, cars, you name it. He loved a good story, auction, parade, and dessert. He enjoyed traveling, playing cards, polka music, and visiting with friends and family. Above all, he cherished his family, and this was evident in his smile when they were around.

Gary is survived by his wife of 57 years, Marilyn; children, Brenton (Teresa) Mertz, Heather Mertz, and Shonda Mertz; grandchildren, Ashley Herzig, Allison Mertz, and Brock Mertz; great-grandchildren, Easton Beeter, Chance Mertz, and Jayleigh Herzig; brothers, Ronald (Loretta), William (Carol), David (Sharon), Curtis (Linda), and Clarence (Nancy); sister, Lois; brothers-in-law, Terry (Millie) Miller and Joel Miller; sisters-in-law, Shirley Mertz, Marlene Grate, and Virginia (Marlin) Bachler. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Allen, Whelan, and Arlin; sisters, Darliss Laib, Glennis Muscha, and Melita Rose Mertz; brothers-in-law, Elmer Laib, Bennie Muscha, and Robert Miller; and sister-in-law, Dorothy Miller.

To view the funeral livestream or sign the online guestbook please visit www.WeigelFuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the ND Western Honor Flight (<https://westernndhf.org>) or the ND Special Olympics (<https://specialolympicsnd.org>).

Prayer Service
Presider
Funeral Service

Monday, April 10, 2023; 6:00 PM
Pastor Dan Kent
Tuesday, April 11, 2023; 10:30 AM
Capital Christian Church
3838 Jericho Road, Bismarck

Officiant
Musician
Casketbearers

Pastor Harley Holden
Pastor Chad Hammontree
Lonny Mertz, Tyler Mertz, Shayne Mertz,
Rob Mertz, James Miller, & Jared Miller

Memorial Service for Gary D. Mertz

Congregational Welcome ~ Opening Scripture & Prayer
 Congregational Song *“Will the Circle Be Unbroken”*
 Obituary Millie Miller
 Scriptures Millie Miller
 1 Peter 5:6-7
 John 14:27
 Invitation to Share
 Special Reading Brent Mertz
 Song *“Supertime”*
 Message Pastor Holden
 Song *“When I Get Where I’m Going”*
recorded by Brad Paisley
 Closing Prayer & Benediction
 Recessional *“I’ll Fly Away”*

*****You are invited for food and fellowship at the church immediately following the funeral service.*****

Committal Service North Dakota Veterans Cemetery at 3 PM
 Mandan, North Dakota

When you remember Gary, let it be about a good time shared, a funny story you both laughed at or the smile he had when you were together. He would be so humbled you joined us to honor him today. His friends and family held a special place in his heart and if you every helped him out along the way, he never forgot about your act of kindness.
