

### *Remembering . . .*

Gerald Burau, 90, of Fergus Falls died Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Fergus Falls Veteran's Home.

Gerald Louis was born October 29<sup>th</sup>, 1933, in Fergus Falls to George and Mabelle Burau. He was the second of five children born to the Buraus who farmed in Dane Prairie township on what became a century farm. Jerry graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 1951. He attended the University of Minnesota in Agricultural studies. Jerry enlisted in the Air Force in 1954 and served until 1956.

Jerry and Frances (Duncan) were married on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1956, at the Federated Church in Fergus Falls. They settled on the home farm, where they operated a dairy farm and raised their six children. He was known to his great grandchildren as "Farmer Grandpa," a title of which he was very proud. After Frances passed away in 2015, Jerry commented that his great grandchildren gave him a reason to keep living.

In retirement, Jerry and Frances developed a friendship with Larry and RoyNell Norby, which Jerry and RoyNell continued after the loss of their spouses, providing mutual companionship. The Norby family welcomed Jerry into their gatherings, which was very meaningful to him. Jerry developed meaningful and lasting relationships with the Norby children and cared for them as if they were his own.

After retiring from farming, Jerry spent many years taking care of Oak Grove Cemetery, in which he took great pride. This was greatly appreciated by those coming to visit their loved one's resting place. Jerry was a mentor for a number of young men in their first employment opportunities at the cemetery, including three of his grandsons.

Jerry and Frances were long-time 4-H leaders. He was active in Farm Bureau and in his church. He was a member of the American Legion and was a founding member of Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife Frances, parents George and Mabelle Burau, brother Richard Burau, and sister Mary Burau.

Surviving family members include children: Nancy (Jeff) Freitag, Greg (Lori) Burau, Mark (Julie) Burau, Sandy (Dale) Holo, Lisa (Loren) Sawatsky, Scott Burau; grandchildren: Stacy (Jesse) Griggs, Shawn Freitag, Chelsea (Robb) Emerson, Markus (Brandy) Burau, Amy (Alex) Hawkins, Dane (Cassie) Holo, Emma (Derek) Schreiber, Isaiah (Lauren) Sawatsky, Ruanna (Marty) Francisco, Josiah Sawatsky, Elijah Sawatsky and 20 great grandchildren; brothers: David (Julie) Burau, Duane (Sylvia) Burau.

*Blessed be the memory of Jerry Burau*



In Loving Memory of  
Gerald "Jerry" Burau

October 29, 1933

April 11, 2024



*Precious in the sight of the Lord  
Is the death of one of His saints.*

*There is sacredness in tears . . .  
They are messengers of overwhelming  
grief . . . and unspeakable love.*

*Psalm 116:15*



**In Loving Memory of  
Gerald "Jerry" Louis Burau**

1:00 p.m. Friday, April 19, 2024

Olson Funeral and Cremation Chapel ~ Fergus Falls, Minnesota

**Clergy**

Reverend Todd Hylden

**Scripture Readings**

Loren Sawatsky ~ Reader

*Psalm 33:20-22*

*Psalm 46*

*Hebrews 13:20-21*

**Music**

Judy Hoffbeck ~ Accompanist

**Special Music**

Stacy Griggs and Ruanna Francisco ~ Vocalists

*"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"*

Gerald's Great-Grandchildren

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

**Congregational Hymns**

*"Battle Hymn of the Republic" #692*

*"Blessed Assurance" #67*

*"Lift High the Cross" insert*

**Casket Bearers**

Shawn Freitag   Robb Emerson   Markus Burau   Alex Hawkins   Dane Holo  
Derek Schreiber   Isaiah Sawatsky   Josiah Sawatsky   Elijah Sawatsky   Marty Francisco

**Military Participation**

Fergus Falls VFW Post 612 and American Legion Post 30

**Interment**

Oak Grove Cemetery ~ Fergus Falls, Minnesota

**Appreciation**

We gratefully acknowledge your attendance and many kind expressions of sympathy during our time of loss. Please join us for lunch following the service.

*~The family of Jerry Burau*

**Olson** Funeral & Cremation  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota