

*Melvin William Pantze* was born May 1, 1933, in Villard, Minnesota to William and Alice (Hoth) Pantze. He attended Villard High School through his sophomore year and then went to go help his Dad on the farm.

Melvin enlisted in the United States Army in 1956. While on leave Melvin was united in marriage to Ruby Toft on March 17, 1956, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria. The couple lived in New Jersey while Melvin was stationed there before he was sent overseas to Japan and Korea. Melvin served his country for 3 years and returned home to his wife and 2-year-old daughter, Vicki. The couple made their home in Alexandria and were blessed with 3 more children, Jodi, Jay, and Jeff. Melvin worked as a service technician for Coca-Cola working on vending machines. He retired after 41 years of working for Coca-Cola.

Melvin enjoyed fishing, hunting, woodworking, gardening and farming with his John Deere tractor.

Melvin died on Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at Alomere Health in Alexandria at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife, Ruby of Alexandria; children, Vicki (Robert) Ekdahl, Jodi Cassell, Jay (Diane) Pantze, and Jeff Pantze all of Alexandria; 7 grandchildren, Cory Kludt, Jamie Klug, Shanna Vickerman, Brandy Safe, Chealsie Pantze, Alexandra Rients, and Hannah Pantze; 12 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Melvin is preceded in death by his parents, William and Alice; sisters, Ione Hanson and Bonnie Kirckhoff.

***For Those I Love,  
For Those Who Love Me...***

*When I am gone, release me, let me go...*

*I have so many things to see and do.*

*You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,*

*But let my spirit calm your fears,*

*I gave you my love. You can only guess*

*How much you gave me in happiness.*

*I thank you for the love you have shown,*

*But now it's time I traveled on alone!*

*So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must,*

*Then let your grief be comforted by trust.*

*It's only for a while that we must part,*

*So bless the memories that lie within your heart.*

*I won't be far away, for life goes on.*

*So if you need me, call and I will come.*

*Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near,*

*And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear*

*All of my love around you soft and clear.*

*And then, when you must come this way alone...*

*I'll greet you with a smile and say,*

*"Welcome Home."*

*In Memory of*

**Melvin W. Pantze**

May 1, 1933



September 18, 2019

**Memorial Service**  
Anderson Funeral Home  
Alexandria, Minnesota  
Mon. September 23, 2019  
11:00 AM

**Officiant** ~ Reverend Hans Dahl

**Musician** ~ Sandy Buckner

**Honorary Urn Bearers**  
(Melvin's Grandchildren)

Cory Kludt	Jamie Klug
Shanna Vickerman	Brandy Safe
Chealsie Pantze	Alexandra Rients

Hannah Pantze

And Melvin's 12 Great-Grandchildren

**Military Honors**

American Legion Memorial Unit  
Minnesota National Honor Guard

**Entombment**

Kinkead Cemetery  
Alexandria, Minnesota

