How do you say "goodbye" to the man you call Dad?
You were always there for us in good times and bad.
You were the perfect example of hard work and humbleness.
And from us, you expected no less.

No matter the trials and tribulations, you had the fight-And faith in others to make it right.

You surprised us so many times with your grit and determination,
On your 96 year journey to your salvation.

"Off we go into the wild blue yonder: Climbing high, to meet the SON!"

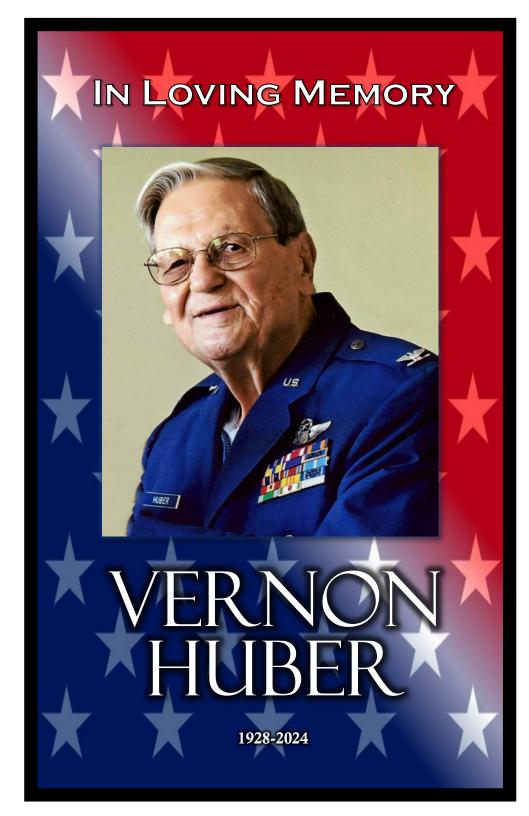
I believe you have flown your last mission, Colonel, sir.

Time to let go of the wheel and "see the face of God"!



Scan to watch Vernon's Celebration of Life video.





**Vernon R. Huber**, 96, died September 14, 2024, at his home in Mandan.

Vernon was born September 4, 1928, in Mandan, ND, the second eldest of six children born to Joseph and Elsie (Moebius) Huber. Upon graduating from Mandan High School, Vern was awarded a football scholarship to UND. While attending UND, Vern was afforded the opportunity to join the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC). Having achieved the rank of Cadet Colonel during his senior year, he was offered a regular United States Air Force Commission. Vern began his pilot training in Randolph, Texas. This training eventually led to him flying an F-84 Thunderjet, beginning in December 1951. In January 1952, he was assigned to the 9th Fighter Bomber Wing and 49th Fighter Bomber Wing at Taegu Air Base in Korea. On May 16, 1952, Vern became a Prisoner of War (POW) during the Korean War. On September 20, 1953, after 16 months as a POW, Vern arrived in San Francisco, CA, as a repatriated Korean War prisoner.

A year and a half after his release, Vern married his sweetheart, Marlene Boehm. Colonel Vernon Huber retired as Commander of the 456th Bombardment Wing at Beale Air Force Base in California in 1975, ending a 25-year career in the United States Air Force.

After his military retirement, Vern became a realtor and worked for Robert James Realty. Eventually he decided the "full-retirement" life was for him and Marlene. They spent their time traveling, and in time, became the "best grandparents" around!

Left to cherish Vern's memory are his daughter and son-in-law, Marla and Randy Joersz, Mandan; grandchildren, Mandy (Charles) Dendy, Bismarck, and their daughters, Madeliene, Lola, Willow, and Isabella; Blaine (Kiana) Joersz, Denver, CO, and their children, Adriana and Quinlan; and Melissa Joersz (Jayme) Emmetsburg, IA, and their sons, Jayson and Carter; brother, Duane (Georgette) Huber, Livermore, CA; brother-in-law, Virgil Kilen, Mandan; and his faithful companion, Alice Ereth, Mandan; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Vern was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marlene, in 2003; his son, Scott Huber; sweet baby daughter, Jane Marie; precious great grandsons, Wyatt and Eli Dendy; parents, Joe and Elsie Huber; brother, Edwin (Shirley) Huber; sisters, Lorraine Kilen, Donna (Robert) Joersz, Marlene (Bud) Kindel; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Shirley (Edward) Makelke; and nephews, Joel Joersz and Kevin Kilen.

Off you go Vern, into the Wild Blue Yonder!!

To learn more about Vern's time as a Prisoner of War, his book, "To Korea & Back: A POW's Story: The Story of Vernon Huber," is available on Amazon with all proceeds going to Veterans organizations.

Parish Rosary & Vigil Thursday | September 19, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Weigel Funeral Home | Mandan, ND

**Presider** Fr. Fred Harvey

**Funeral Liturgy** Friday | September 20, 2024 | 11:00 AM Christ the King Catholic Church | Mandan, ND

Fr. Fred Harvey

Musicians Alice Gerhardt & Vance Krebs

Processional "How Great Thou Art"

# Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61:1-3
Lector Randy Joersz
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 121

"Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

New Testament ReadingRomans 5:1-5LectorMandy DendyGospel ReadingJohn 14:1-6

Homily

Celebrant

# **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Preparation of Gifts Song

Presentation of Gifts

Madeliene Dendy | Lola Dendy | Willow Dendy

Isabella Dendy | Adriana Joersz | Quinlan Joersz

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Songs "I Am the Bread of Life" "Prayer of St. Francis"

Communion Meditation

Final Commendation "Song of Farewell"

#### Pallbearers

Mandy Dendy | Charlie Dendy | Blaine Joersz Missy Joersz | Carter Baker | Jayme Baker

### **Honorary Bearers**

Jayson Baker | Maddie Dendy | Carter Baker | Lola Dendy Willow Dendy | Isabella Dendy | Adriana Joersz | Quinlan Joersz

#### **Graveside Service**

North Dakota Veterans Cemetery Mandan, ND

-Full Military honors provided by Mandan VFW/American Legion Joint Honor Guard-

Immediately following the funeral service, the family invites you for lunch and fellowship at the Mandan Eagles Club, 1400 Collins Ave.