

Calman L. Bredman, 99, of Ada, MN, passed away in Benedictine Living Community Ada late Wednesday evening, November 8, 2023. He had recently moved to the long-term care facility from Mission Court Assisted Living.

Cal, as he was known throughout his life, was born on October 6, 1924, at Twin Valley, MN, the fifth of six children of the union of Carl and Tilla (Thompson) Bredman. While growing up on the family farm in Wild Rice Township he was baptized and confirmed in Zion Lutheran Church, Twin Valley, and graduated from Twin Valley High School with the Class of 1941. He spent the next year plus working for the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Boundary Waters area of northeastern Minnesota. On April 20, 1943 Cal enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. Following basic training in San Diego, CA he shipped out with the Fleet Marine Force on the USS Birmingham to the Pacific Theater of Operations. In May of 1945 he was wounded in action at Okinawa and sent by hospital ship to a military hospital in Guam. After a long period of recovery, he returned to action until his honorable discharge on December 31, 1945. For his service to his country Cal was awarded the Purple Heart, the Pacific Theater Defense Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal.

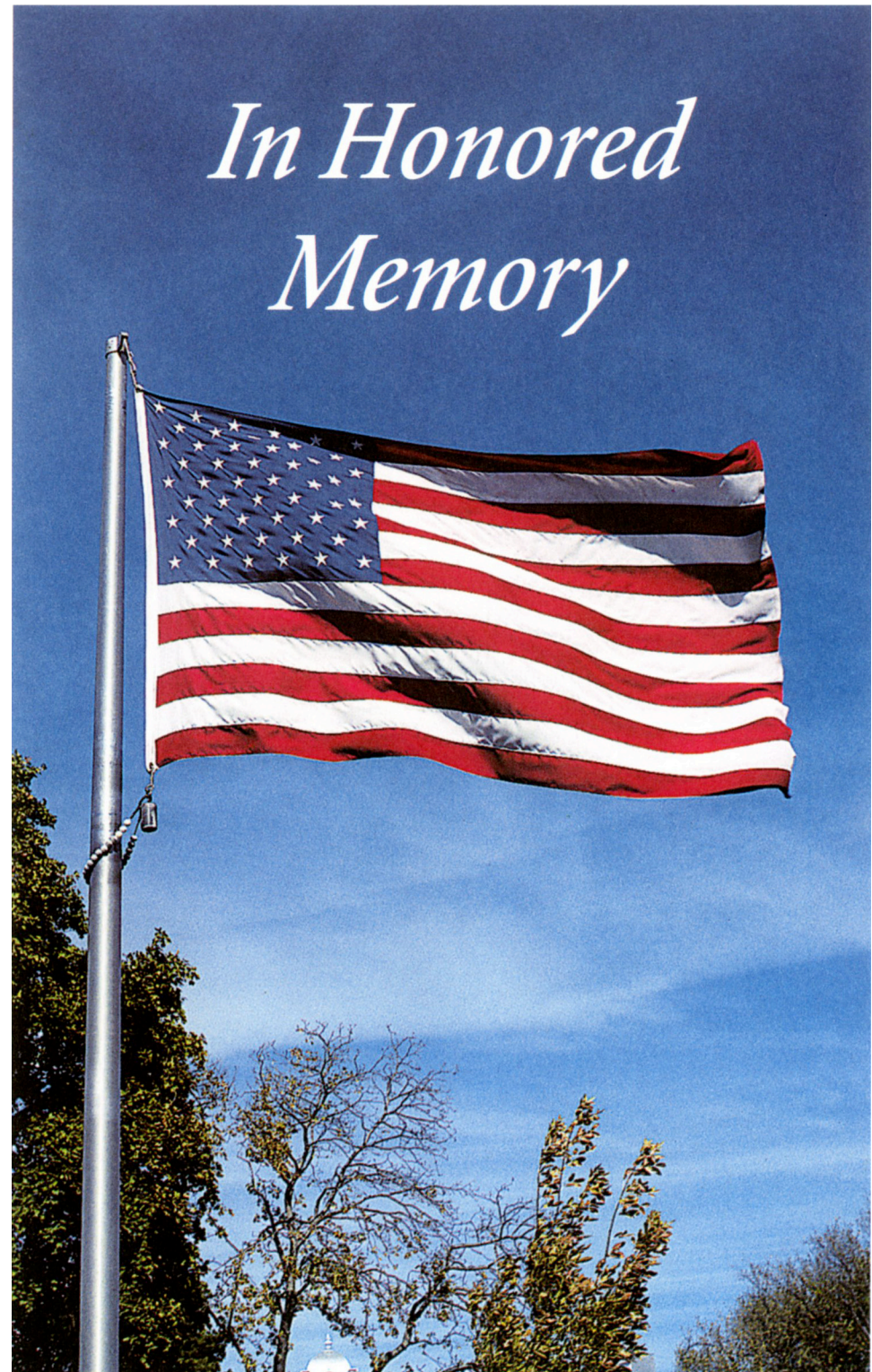
He returned to Twin Valley and then moved to Ada where he began working for the Norman County Highway Department. He was united in marriage to A. Luverne Erickson of Twin Valley on June 1, 1947 at Zion Lutheran. They made their home in Ada and soon welcomed son, James, and daughter, Karen, as they became a family. In 1948 Cal began employment with Sjordial Hardware, primarily selling and servicing appliances, and installing linoleum and carpeting. In 1982 he purchased the local Sears Catalog Store and operated the business until retiring in 1992. In semi-retirement Cal drove for Kelly's Chrysler, picking up and delivering vehicles, while sometimes making several trips a month to the Twin Cities. He enjoyed everyone he worked with at the dealership and the customers he often came in contact with. Cal became a fixture at the Ada Car Dealers new model showings every fall at the Fairgrounds. Schmoozing and making popcorn and hot dogs became his specialty as he and Luverne served many hundreds of visitors. Age finally caught up with Cal in 2007 and he reluctantly hung it up on his 83rd birthday.

Cal was a member of Grace Lutheran Church for over 77 years and served on several boards and committees. He was a charter member of the Ada Toastmasters Club and Heart of the Valley Golf Club, and held longtime memberships with the Ada Jaycees and Chamber of Commerce. His faith and family were of utmost importance in his life. The flag under which he so proudly served gave his early life purpose and his patriotism and love for his country carried over to his life membership in the Ada VFW and as Past Commander of American Legion Post 0026. He was one of the staunch promoters a few years ago in securing the name, Veterans Memorial Highway, for Hwy 200 which runs through Ada. For several years he coordinated Military Honors to honor fallen brothers-in-arms at their funerals. Now that function falls to close family friend and US Army veteran, Craig Larson, who will be presenting his flag. Cal's knowledge of carpentry, and electrical and plumbing systems were invaluable in helping out his kids with their occasional needs. He enjoyed visiting with friends over a cup of coffee and shaking dice for quarters. He'd talk with anyone who came into his orbit, and he was always willing to share an opinion. If you didn't agree he didn't care, he'd try to convince you he was right.

Sadly, Luverne, passed away on October 30, 2019, and he continued to miss her every day. Cal is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Rose Bredman of Crookston, MN; daughter, Karen Busche of Fargo, ND; 5 grandchildren: Tami and Phil Miller of Park Rapids, MN, Jenny and Brad Carlstrom of Crookston, Mike and Shonna Myers, Steve Myers, and Becky Myers, all of Fargo; great-grandchildren: Peyton and Austin Sommerfeld of Duluth, MN, Keifer and Samantha Miller of Roseville, MN; Teagen Carlstrom and Tyler Smith of Bloomington, MN, and Anya Myers of Fargo; sister, Delores Varvel of Modesto, CA; and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

In addition to Luverne, his beloved wife of 73 years, Cal was preceded in death by his son-in-law, Dale Busche, who died on February 17, 2016; great-grandson, Beau Donald Miller, who died on March 5, 1997; parents, Carl and Tilla Bredman; parents-in-law, Oscar and Ada Erickson; 4 brothers: Clarence (Margaret), Milton (Mildred), Clifford (Joyce), and Morris (Gladys); and from Luverne's side of the family 10 siblings: Leonard, Lester, Oscar, Laurel, Lorraine, Lourena, Lila, Nellie, Leola, and Nina.

Blessed be the memory of Calman "Cal" Bredman.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Calman L. Bredman

October 6, 1924 ~ November 8, 2023

The Memorial Service Honoring Cal's Life

Monday, November 20, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

Ada, Minnesota

The Rev. Jack Carlson, officiating

Scripture Readings

The Psalm: Psalm 23

The Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-13

by Great-granddaughter, Anya Myers

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-7 and Sermon

Pastor Jack Carlson

Special Music

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

"The Lord's Prayer"

Stephanie Knutson, soloist

Genise Solseng, accompanist

Congregational Hymns

"How Great Thou Art"

"Lift High the Cross"

Honorary Urn Bearers

David Bredman

Craig Larson

Kelly Myers

Danny Bredman

Milt Lee

P.J. Rund

Ken Pazdernik

In Spirit

Clayton "Doc" Anderson

David Volkerding

Military Honors

US Marine Corps Funeral Honors Team - Wahpeton, North Dakota

Simonson-Betcher American Legion Post 26 - Ada, Minnesota

Taps by Gordon Ramstad

Inurnment

Ada Cemetery

Thank you everyone for your very kind expressions of sympathy and for your presence, whether in body or spirit, as we Celebrate Cal's Life. Special thanks to the great staffs of Mission Court, Benedictine Living Community Ada, and Hospice of the Red River Valley for making Cal feel safe during his last months.

Sincerely,

Jim and Rose – Karen – Two Generations Who Called Him Grandpa – and Family



The Marines' Hymn

*"From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles on the land as on the sea;
First to fight for right and freedom and to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title of United States Marine."*