

I'm Just a Farmer, Plain and Simple
By Bobby Collier

I'm just a farmer,
Plain and simple.
Not of a royal birth
But rather, a worker of the earth.

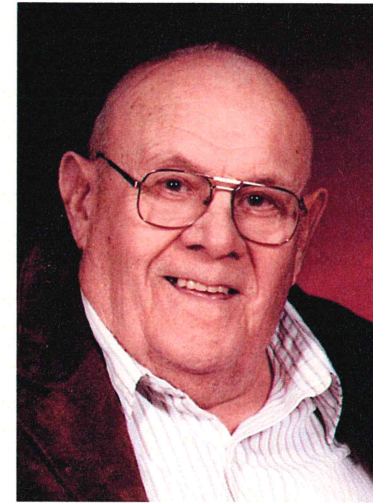
I know not of riches
But rather, of patches on my britches
I know of draught and rain,
Of pleasure and pain.

I know of the good and the bad,
The happy and the sad.
I am a man of emotions.

A man who loves this land,
And the beauty of its sand.
I know of a spring's fresh flow
And autumn's golden glow,
Of a newborn calf's hesitation,
And the eagle's destination.

I know of tall pines,
And long, waiting lines.
Of the warmth of campfires,
And the agony of flat tires.
But I am a man who loves his job
And the life I live.

I am a man who works with God,
I cannot succeed without His help,
For you see,
I'm just a farmer
Plain and simple.



In Loving Memory

Melvin M. Hulshof

February 27, 1931 ~ October 5, 2024



Melvin M. Hulshof was born February 27, 1931, in Ireton, Iowa, the son of Herman and Hendricka (Vanden Hull) Hulshof. He graduated from Ireton High School in 1949 after taking a year off from school to care for his mother at home until her passing.

He married Dorothy Lockhorst on November 14, 1958. They lived on the family farm, now a century farm, and raised their family there. Melvin physically retired from the farm in 2000, when they moved to Ireton. In his heart he was still farming until his final days. In the fall of 2014, he moved to Mica Hill Estates in Hawarden to be by Dorothy's side at Hillcrest Health Care Center.

He was a lifelong member of the First Reformed Church of Ireton where he served on the consistory numerous times. He also served on the Board of Directors of various businesses including Farmers Coop Society, Coop Gas and Oil, Sioux County Cattlefeeders, and Southern Sioux County Rural Water. He had no greater joy than watching his grandkids grow up and participate in various activities. Melvin passed away on Saturday, October 5, 2024 at the age of 93.

Melvin is survived by three children and their families: **Glenda** and Randy Van Wyhe of Ireton and their sons, Austin of Superior, Colorado and Aaron and his wife Chantelle and their daughters Aynsley and Baylor of Rock Valley, Iowa; **Dennis** and Mindi Hulshof of Ireton and their children, Molly and Kenneth; **Lyle** and Stephanie Hulshof of Ireton and their children, Mitchell, Zachary and his wife Lisbet, and Emily; his in-laws, Don and Deanna Lockhorst of Ireton, Garold and Christina Cleveringa of Sioux Center, and Herman Oldenkamp of Orange City; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Melvin was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 58 years Dorothy on July 19, 2017; an infant son, Kenneth Lynn on January 18, 1963; his siblings, Everett and Jacob; and his in-laws, Jacoba Hulshof, Mary Ann Hulshof, Peter and Priscilla Lockhorst, Darold and Adrianna Bultman, Les Webert, Fred and Jeanette Boogerd, Grace Oldenkamp, and Paul and Geri Lockhorst.

In Loving Memory Of
Melvin M. Hulshof

February 27, 1931 † October 5, 2024

MEMORIAL SERVICE

11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 12, 2024
First Reformed Church
Ireton, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Rev. Gerald Norman

ORGANIST

Wanda Van Ravenswaay

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Is He Worthy?"

Andrew Peterson video

"Still Waters (Psalm 23)"

Leanna Crawford video

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"Blessed Assurance"

"How Great Thou Art"

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS

Chantelle Van Wyhe ~ Lisbet Hulshof
Aynsley Van Wyhe ~ Baylor Van Wyhe

CASKET BEARERS

Emily Hulshof ~ Molly Hulshof
Austin Van Wyhe ~ Aaron Van Wyhe
Mitchell Hulshof ~ Zachary Hulshof ~ Kenneth Hulshof

PRIVATE FAMILY INTERMENT

Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Ireton, Iowa

*Please join Melvin's family for lunch and fellowship
at the Ireton Community Center
following the memorial service.*