

Cornelius “Cornie” Folkerts was born October 20, 1933, at the home of his parents, Pierre and Trina (Boersma) Folkerts, seven miles southwest of Inwood, Iowa. His education began in the country school nearby through the elementary years. Cornie graduated from the Inwood High School in 1951. He attended Iowa State College for almost a year before deciding to farm with his dad.

In April of 1954 he was drafted into the United States Army and sent to Fort Leonardwood for basic training, after which he served his country for 18 months in South Korea. Cornie was honorably discharged in February of 1956. He married Gert Van Bommel on September 7th that same year in the Sioux Falls Christian Reformed Church. They made their home in Sioux Falls, South Dakota for 6 months before moving to the family farm. They were blessed to become parents to Jeffrey, Julie, Lauren, and Gregory.

Cornie enjoyed life on the farm planting and harvesting crops and feeding cattle. He was especially proud of his registered Red Angus Cows and their offspring, which were sold throughout the United States, Canada, and South Africa. Cornie was active in the Inwood Christian Reformed Church and his community through Kiwanis, the American Legion, and also playing the part of Santa Claus for many Christmases celebrated at the Inwood Community Center.

In 1987, he sold the farm to begin a new venture, establishing Inwood Machine located on the east edge of the city. One of his most satisfying achievements was inventing and building ten Kid -A-Round Ferris wheels. This ride was popular at county fairs and city celebrations in the tri-state area. Cornie retired in 2011 at the age of 78. On Tuesday, June 22, 2021, Cornie died at Fellowship Village in Inwood at the age of 87.

Cornie is survived by his wife, Gert; daughter, Julie (Kirk) Hulstein and their children, Amanda (Carlos) Bahena and their children, Celia, Isaiah, and Isabella, Matthew (Tracey) Hulstein and their child, Elinor, Christopher Hulstein, and Nichole (Tim) Van Dyke and their children, Wyatt and Genevieve; son, Gregory (Jill) Folkerts and their children, Marcel, Daniel, and Emma; son, Jeffrey’s children, Jason Folkerts and Jarod Folkerts; daughter, Lauren’s child, Cynthia Centofanti; sisters, Alice Faber, Sadie Faber, and Bess Bolkema; and brother, Roy Folkerts.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Pierre and Trina; son, Jeffrey Folkerts; daughter, Lauren Centofanti; sisters, Nellie Van Tol and Jean Kowalski; and brother, Henry Folkerts.

Remembering the Life of
Cornie Folkerts
October 20, 1933 ~ June 22, 2021

FUNERAL SERVICE

10:30 AM, Saturday, June 26, 2021
Inwood Christian Reformed Church
Inwood, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Rev. David Smit

PIANIST

Paula Van Bochove

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

“When We All Get to Heaven”
“And Can It Be That I Should Gain?”

RECESSIONAL

“Amazing Grace”

CASKET BEARERS

Cornie’s Grandchildren

MILITARY RITES

Inwood American Legion
Iowa Honor Guard

INTERMENT

Richland Cemetery
Inwood, Iowa

*Following the committal service at the cemetery,
Cornie’s family invites everyone to the church
fellowship hall for a time of food and fellowship.*

*For I am convinced that
neither death nor life,
neither angels nor
demons, neither the
present nor the future,
nor any powers, neither
height nor depth,
nor anything else in
all creation, will be able
to separate us from the love
of God that is in
Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38-39



In Loving Memory



*Cornelius "Cornie"
Folkerts*

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