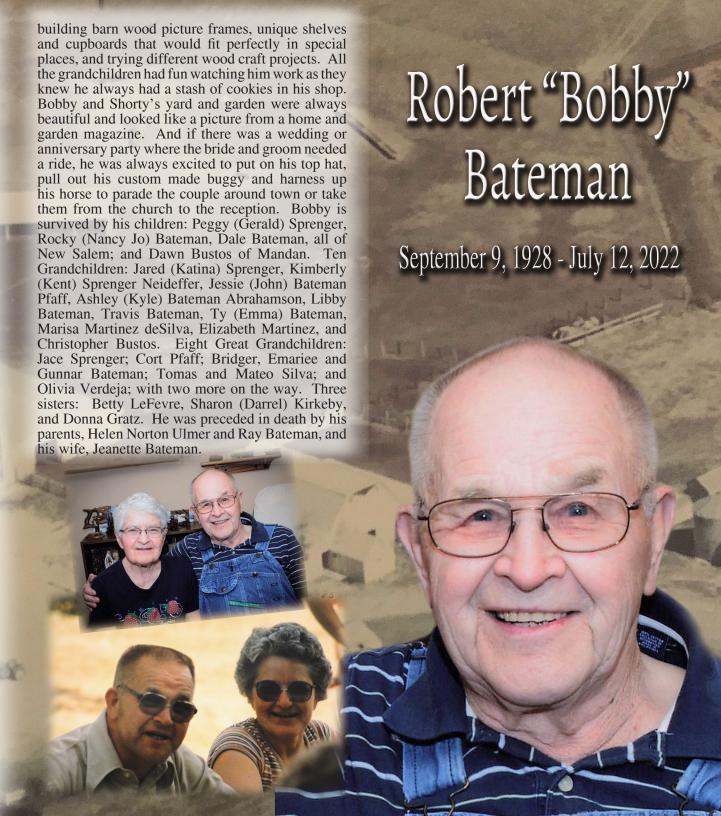
Robert "Bobby" Bateman was born September 9, 1928, in Mandan, to Helen Norton and Ray Bateman. He lived his life in New Salem and was raised by his grandparents, Harley and Emma Norton, on their farm south of New Salem. His Norton family aunts and uncles also played a very important part in his life. He attended school in New Salem and like many of his generation, formal school ended between the 8th and 9th grade when he began helping with farming and ranching full time. At the age of 21 he married the love of his life, Jeanette "Shorty" Werchau, at Peace Church in New Salem on June 30, 1950. He loved to tease her about the fact that he couldn't remember her name on their first date so called her "Shorty," a nickname that she would be known by for the rest of her life. They celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary in 2021, only three months before she passed away. During their life together, Bobby & Jeanette had four children and cared for 11 foster children. Bobby always had a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye, usually because he was thinking of some practical joke to play on friends, family members, or a staff member at Elm Crest Manner. He also loved teasing his children and grandchildren, snitching a bite of their ice cream or dessert as he distracted them with a comment like "What's that out the window, over there?", or other tricks that always ended in laughter and a comment like, "Oh!! Grandpa!!" He also loved a good steak, Shorty's cooking, and a root beer float or dish of ice cream. Farming, ranching, milking cows, and raising quarter horses were all a part of Bobby's life on the Bateman farm. Over the years, he also held various part-time jobs including working for Famers Union Oil, John Deere, as a horse wrangler for Trails West at Ft. Lincoln, and as the maintenance man at Elm Crest Manor. His talent at laying cement tile can also still be seen in buildings and projects in New Salem and on several dairy farms in the area. His woodworking talent is also displayed in the beautiful pulpit he built and the oak cross he helped with at the Crosswinds Community Church. Community involvement was also a big part of Bobby's life. He was a charter member and served for 30 years on the Morton County Fair Board and helped start the popular barbequed chicken dinner at the fair. Bobby also was a charter member of the New Salem Saddle Club, a 4-H leader for the Morton County 4-H Horse Club, and served on the New Salem School Board and Credit Union Board. After moving into New Salem, Bobby spent time in his wood working shop





Bobby Bateman

FUNERAL SERVICE:

Friday, July 29, 2022 11:00 am CrossWinds Community Church New Salem, North Dakota

VISITATION:

Friday, July 29, 2022 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. CrossWinds Community Church New Salem, North Dakota

OFFICIATING:

Pastor Carl Black
Pastor Mike Martin

MUSIC:

Jessie Pfaff Ashley Abrahamson Libby Bateman

INURNMENT:

Bethel Cemetery New Salem, North Dakota

ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Stevenson Funeral Home Glen Ullin, North Dakota

Lunch will be served at the New Salem Auditorium following the funeral service.

Everyone is welcome.