

That at the
name of *Jesus*
knee should bow,
of things in heaven,
and things in earth;
& that every tongue should
confess
that Jesus Christ is LORD,
to the glory of God the Father.
- Philippians 2:10-11



Donald McConnell

December 24, 1936 - May 31, 2023



Donald Calvin McConnell was born December 24, 1936 to Claude Harold and Esther Mabel (Goodrich) McConnell in Marshall, Minnesota. His parents moved and farmed near Garvin, Minnesota. A short time later, they moved and farmed near Balaton, Minnesota. After finishing school, Donald continued to farm until 2006 when he retired. In 1960, Don purchased an adjoining farm land. On December 30, 1960, Donald was united in marriage to Betty Otto. Following their marriage they were blessed with 5 children.

Donald spent the rest of his life with Betty. At first farming, which included 20 years in dairy. Meanwhile enjoying many outdoor activities such as fishing, hunting, and camping. Along with spending time outdoors, they spent time traveling and visiting friends and family. For many years (after the cows were sold) they would enjoy their winters with new found friends in Texas. When he wasn't seen outdoors or traveling, you could find him woodworking or making family videos. Don was an involved individual when it came to the community. He would mow at the cemetery, donate blood, meet with coffee friends, also volunteering at Marshall Avera Thrift Store. While in the National Guard for six years he helped during the Marshall flood. Don was a very active individual, even in his 80's he would insist on walking for the deer drive. You would often hear him say "I'll send them by slow". One of his many accomplishments is that he was proud of never getting a ticket. In the early years Don built a special friendship with his brother-in-law, Philip McCurdy by shearing sheep with him for several years.

Donald is lovingly survived by his wife, Betty; four children, William "Bill" McConnell, Roger (Marcy) McConnell, Sandy (Scott) Niemela, and Paul (Gwen) McConnell; 12 grandchildren Tracy (Steve) Mankowski, Tyrel (Mary) McConnell, Nathan (Nancy) McConnell, Alisha McConnell, Jessica (Jake) Keenan, Michelle (Dewayne) Carollo, Jennifer (Joe) Stein, Chelsea (Peter) Noding, Emily (Noah) Melhorn, Courtney (John) Sullivan, Melissa (Trevor) Fricke, Breanna McConnell; and 29 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; Claude (Esther) McConnell; sisters, Elrene McConnell, Elaine McCurdy; and daughter Kristine.

Celebrating THE *Life* OF
Donald McConnell

Funeral Service

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 - 10:30 AM
Grace First Parish Church
Russell, Minnesota

Celebrant

Elly Sprik

Pianist

Beth Erdmann

Scripture Readings

Proverbs 22:1-4
Romans 8:18-25

Congregational Hymns

"Amazing Grace"
"Abide With Me"

Honorary Urn Bearers

Bill McConnell Tyrel McConnell Paul McConnell
Scott Niemela Nathan McConnell

Urn Bearer

Roger McConnell

Inurnment

Russell City Cemetery
Russell, Minnesota

Arrangements By
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME