



Donald Dean De Jager, son of Henry and Rena (Siegersma) De Jager, was born April 26, 1937, on a farm near Ireton, Iowa. Don met his wife, Helen Van Middendorp, while riding together in carpool from the country to attend Rock Valley Christian School. Their friendship grew, and lifelong best friends were married on November 20, 1957, at the First Reformed Church in Rock Valley, Iowa. They started their married life on the farm and had their first daughter, Leanne, in Edgerton, Minnesota. Don and Helen moved to a farm near Maurice, Iowa where he farmed some land, milked cows, and cared for chickens and pigs. While living near Maurice for four years their family grew with three sons, Darwin, Mike, and Herlan. In 1964 Don's dad, Henry,

retired from farming near Alford, Iowa. Don and Helen moved to the "home place" and continued his passion of farming, and had their 5th child, Kyle.

Don enjoyed farming, while he did most of the milking, Helen was working alongside taking care of the chickens and running the household. In the earlier years of marriage, they enjoyed taking the kids fishing and visiting grandpa Henry in Minnesota. As the children grew older and took care of the farm, Don and Helen enjoyed several trips together traveling to Hawaii and Alaska. They also enjoyed taking bus trips with friends and family. Don faithfully attended Calvin CRC in Rock Valley where he served as a deacon. Don believed strongly in Christian education, and he imprinted the values of family and faith into his children's lives. Don passed away Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at Whispering Heights in Rock Valley at the age of 87.

Don is survived by his **wife of 66 years, Helen; 5 children, daughter, Leanne (Roger) Kriz** of Sioux Falls, South Dakota and their children, Nick (Megan) Kriz and Stacey Kriz, **son, Darwin (Carla) De Jager** of Doon, Iowa and their children, Angela (Andon) De Boer, Joshua (Shonna) De Jager, and Cody (Sarah) De Jager, **son, Michael (Margaret) De Jager** of Doon and their children, Jesse De Jager, Lacey (Jeremy) Ballew, Michaela (Michael) Van Surksun, and Kasia Van Egdome, **son, Herlan (Jeaneen) De Jager** of Rock Valley, Iowa and their children, Eric (Melissa) De Jager, Alex (Ashley) De Jager, Andrew (Carissa) De Jager, and Emily De Jager, and **son, Kyle (Mindy) De Jager** of Alford, Iowa and their children, Kylie De Jager, Kaden De Jager, and Maddyn De Jager; 31 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Alvina Van't Hul of Rock Valley and Lois (Roger) Baatz of Rock Rapids, Iowa; brother, Loren (Sandy) De Jager of Hull, Iowa; sister-in-law, Mary Van Middendorp of Sioux Center, Iowa; and brother-in-law, Berwin Van Middendorp of Sioux Center.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Rena De Jager; daughter, Mona Joy De Jager; 2 brothers, Harvey De Jager and Bernard (Martha) De Jager; and 3 brothers-in-law, Bernard Van't Hul, Merlin Boeve and John Van Middendorp.

## *Remembering the Life of Donald Dean De Jager*

*April 26, 1937 ~ October 8, 2024*

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

11:00 AM, Friday, October 11, 2024  
Calvin Christian Reformed Church  
Rock Valley, Iowa

### **OFFICIANT**

Rev. Gideon Wamala

### **PIANIST**

Vonnie Van Ginkel

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"The Old Rugged Cross"*

Whitley De Jager

Don's Great-Granddaughter

### **CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS**

*"Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine"*

*"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"*

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

*"Victory In Jesus"*

### **PALLBEARERS**

Nick Kriz ~ Jesse De Jager

Josh De Jager ~ Cody De Jager

Eric De Jager ~ Alex De Jager

Andy De Jager ~ Kaden De Jager

### **MEMORIAL**

Rock Valley Christian School

### **INTERMENT**

Valley View Cemetery  
Rock Valley, Iowa

*Don's family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall following the committal service at the cemetery.*

# *The Heidelberg Catechism*

## *Lord's Day 1*

*In Loving Memory*

*Q 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?*

*A 1. That I am not my own  
but belong—  
body and soul,  
in life and in death—  
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.*

*He has fully paid for all my sins with  
his precious blood, and has set me free from  
the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me  
in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head  
without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact,  
all things must work together for my salvation.*

*Because I belong to him, Christ, by his  
Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and  
makes me whole-heartedly willing  
and ready from now on to live for him.*



*Donald Dean De Jager*

*April 26, 1937 ~ October 8, 2024*