

So God Made a Farmer

On the eighth day, God looked down
on his planned paradise and said, "I need a caretaker."
So, God made a farmer.

God said, I need somebody willing to get up
before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields,
milk cows again, eat supper and then go to town
and stay past midnight at a meeting of the Farm Bureau.
So, God made a farmer.

I need somebody with strong arms to wrestle a calf,
yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild.
Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery,
come home hungry and have to wait until his wife is
done feeding visiting ladies,
then tell the ladies come back soon.
So, God made a farmer.

God said, I need somebody willing to sit up all night
with a new born colt and watch it die and then dry his eyes
and say maybe next year. I need somebody
who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout
and shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire.

Who can make harness out of a hay wire, feed sacks
and shoe scraps. Whose planting time and harvest season will
finish his 40 hour week by Tuesday noon.
Then, with the pain from tractor back, he will put in another 72.
So, God made a farmer.

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts
at double-speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds
and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first
smoke from a neighbor's place.
So, God made a farmer.

God said, I need somebody strong enough
to clear trees and heave bales, and yet gentle enough
to wean lambs and pigs and tend the pink combed pullets.
And who will stop his mower for an hour
to splint the broken leg of a meadowlark.
So, God made a farmer.

It had to be somebody who would plow deep
and straight and not cut corners.
Somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed, and rake and disc
and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and
replenish the feeder and finish a hard weeks work with a five
minute church. Somebody who would bale a family
together with the soft strong bonds of sharing.
Who would laugh, then sign and reply with smiling eyes...
When a son says he wants to spend his life doing what Dad does!
So, God made a farmer.

I N
Loving
M E M O R Y



David Nielsen

July 26, 1939 - August 27, 2024

David Martin Nielsen was born on July 26, 1939 to Ejnert and Edel (Ollgaard) Nielsen in Tyler, Minnesota. David attended Tyler High School, graduating with the class of 1957. During his childhood he was baptized and confirmed at the Danebod Lutheran Church in Tyler. David was a lifelong member of the Danebod Lutheran Church. David met Agnes Hoflock and the two were married on May 1, 1971 at Holy Redeemer Church in Marshall, Minnesota. The couple moved to the family farm on April 2nd, 1973, where they farmed and raised their four children, Jim, Jason, Jody and Justin.

David was a proud member of the Air National Guard in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He was also a member of the McKinley Lodge #251 of Tyler, receiving his 50 year pin in 2017. David loved farming, tending to his crops and livestock. He often enjoyed going for a "drive" to check out the crops. He was a fan of the Minnesota Twins, watching and following them often. He loved spending time with his family, and particularly loved spending time with his grandsons on the farm. He also enjoyed attending his grandsons many activities and events.

In 2021, David became a resident of Edgewood Memory Care facility in Brookings, South Dakota. He enjoyed the many visits from family and friends during his time there. He would always provide a warm greeting and could often be seen with a Kit Kat or a bag of M&Ms during these visits. In August 2024, he became a resident of United Living Community in Brookings where he passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at the age of 85 years, 1 month and 1 day.

Left to lovingly remember David is his wife of 54 years, Agnes Nielsen of Brookings, South Dakota; children, Jim(Jill) Nielsen of Lake Benton, Minnesota, Jason (Darice) Nielsen of Marshall, Minnesota, Jody (Kurt) Heinemann of Dell Rapids, South Dakota and Justin (McKenzie) Nielsen of Brookings; siblings, Marjorie Meinders of Edmond, Oklahoma and Dale Nielsen of Tyler, Minnesota; and five grandchildren, Ramsey (Tayler), Brayden (Jade), Jerad, Parker and Carter. David was preceded in death by his parents, Ejnert and Edel Nielsen; mother- and father-in-law Camille and Dorothy Hoflock; and siblings, LeRoy Nielsen, Agneta Rasmussen, and Vivian Nelson.

IN LOVING
Memory
David Nielsen

Funeral Service

Monday, September 2, 2024 - 11:00 AM
Danebod Lutheran Church
Tyler, Minnesota

Officiating

Pastor Megan Eide

Scripture Readings

Psalms 23 Ecclesiastes 3

Organist

Marijane Borresen

Congregational Hymns

"Softly and Tenderly" - WOV 734
"In the Garden" - Insert

Soloist - Don Buhl

"How Great Thou Art"

Pall Bearers

Ramsey Nielsen Brayden Nielsen
Jerad Nielsen Parker Nielsen
Carter Nielsen Kurt Heinemann

Interment

Danebod Cemetery
Tyler, Minnesota

Arrangements Entrusted To
HARTQUIST FUNERAL HOME