

Joel Ellis Skarpness was born on July 10, 1938, in Starbuck, Minnesota, the son of Julius and Esther (Hagen) Skarpness. He grew up in Glenwood and at the age of 3, moved with his family to the Skarpness farm near Spring Creek in Kerkhoven Township, Swift County. He attended school in Murdock and graduated from Murdock High School in 1956. Joel enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served from 1956-1959 at the Barbers Point Naval Base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Following his service, Joel attended the University of Arizona for 4 years and then received technical training for computer programming in Minneapolis. Joel was employed as a computer programmer at Uni-Vac Corporation in St. Paul. In 1973, he retired and moved back to the homestead to assist his parents with the farming duties. In 2005, Joel retired from farming and moved into an apartment in Willmar. He has resided at Rice Care Center for the past year due to his declining health. Joel enjoyed photography and telling jokes. He had a wonderful sense of humor.

He is survived by several cousins, besides other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Celebrating the Life of



Joel Skarpness

1938 - 2023

Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want...
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters...*

*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for His name's sake...*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,
they comfort me. Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of mine
enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over...*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord forever.*

Arrangements By
Peterson Brothers Funeral Home
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"

In Loving Memory Of

Joel E. Skarpness

July 10, 1938
Starbuck, Minnesota

April 30, 2023
Willmar, Minnesota

Celebration of Life Service

Thursday, May 4, 2023 - 1:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church
Sunburg, Minnesota

Officiant

Pastor Daryl Thul

Music

Organist: Bonnie Magnuson
Pianist & Vocalist: Lori Dokken

Casketbearers

Jim Carlson Nancy Carlson Wesley Magnuson
Orvin Gronseth LeRoy Larson Milton Sjelstad

Military Honor Guard

New London American Legion Post #537

Interment

Spring Creek Lutheran Cemetery
Murdock, Minnesota