

Leon "Lee" Francis Westhoff, Jr., age 70, of Perham, MN died January 26, 2023 peacefully in his home.

Leon was born March 7, 1952, in Breckenridge, MN to Leon Westhoff Sr. and Neta (Reese) Westhoff. He was baptized in Wyndmere, ND. The family then moved to Deer Lodge, MT where he started school. In 1960, his family moved to Perham. He graduated from Perham High School in 1970 and attained a degree in diesel mechanics from Staples Vo Tech.

Leon was united in marriage to Judy A. Klein on May 24, 1975 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Frazee, MN. From there, they moved to their current residence and Lee farmed with his father for many years. Upon retiring from farming, Leon worked at Lund Boats and Barrel O' Fun until he retired.

Leon and Judy were blessed with two children, Mark and Lisa. Leon loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and extended family. He enjoyed giving ATV rides to his grandchildren, and sitting outside enjoying the day. Leon and Judy enjoyed going to church and spending time together.

Leon is survived by his wife Judy; son Mark; daughter Lisa (Bryan); four grandchildren, Erin, Andy, Zoie, and Avery.

Preceding Leon in death were his parents; his father-in-law, Francis Klein; and his grandchild, Jasmine.



## **A Farmer's Hands**

Hands that are large and tough from years of rugged outdoor work.

Hands with fingers sensitive to music, but too thick to strike just one key on the piano, or a single string on a violin.

Hands that are versatile, simultaneously wielding an ax and swiping a fistful of berries from a nearby bush.

Hands that clasp themselves habitually in prayer giving thanks for food, for rain, for sun, for late frost, early springs, good yield, for soil, for health, for a newborn calf.

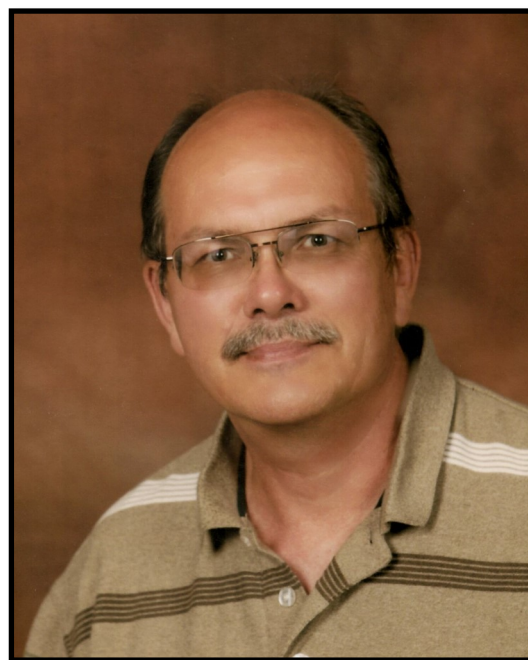
Hands that are strong, squeezing out a pailful of milk in just no time, pulling strands of barbed wire taut, carrying mountains of hay and oceans of water to hungry, thirsty farm creatures.

Hands that are gentle, marveling out at the softness of a furry kitten, rescuing a killdeer's nest from the path of a plow, patting the shoulder of a disappointed child.

Hands that are inventive, twisting, pounding, pinching until a machine is fixed, shaping an idea into something useful.

Hands that are tired from over a half century of tilling, planting, weeding, harvesting.

Hands that I love—a farmer's hands, my father's.



*Leon Francis Westhoff*

### **Funeral Mass**

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

### **Officiants**

Father George Michael

Father Tom Skaja

### **Musicians**

Kathy Young

The St. Lawrence Choir

### **Casket Bearers**

Dustin Westhoff - Kiata Westhoff - Jeremiah Doll  
Scott Wischnak - Tiffany Anderson - Deidrik Wanderi

### **Interment**

St. Lawrence Catholic Church Cemetery