

Harlan Wilmer Tenhoff entered his heavenly home Saturday, March 5, 2022, at Alomere Health in Alexandria, with beloved grandchildren at his side. Harlan was born March 18, 1924, in Osakis, MN at the family farm, to Amanda and Ed Tenhoff. He attended Country School District 12 and 22, attending through the 8th grade. He then continued to work with his family on their farm through his growing up years.

In 1947, Harlan had the good fortune to meet a tall, dark-haired beauty at a neighborhood gathering. Her name was Marie Knoblach and they were married January 6, 1948. To this union were born James, Donald, Mary, Linda, and Kathleen.

Harlan worked for a time for his brother-in-law, Leo, on his farm. In September 1950, Harlan began work at the Osakis Creamery, driving milk truck. It was not an easy job, hoisting heavy milk cans up into the truck. His kids would accompany him occasionally and can attest to the fact that Harlan literally “whistled while he worked” all day long! After his route was done for the day, Harlan began to pick up painting jobs. In the course of his life, he has painted innumerable structures of every size and shape. Harlan worked for the Creamery until 1967, at which time he began working as a custodian at the Osakis Public School. He retired after 22 years in 1989. After retirement, he continued painting and doing handy-man jobs for many years.

The “job” he enjoyed the very most was volunteering at St. Agnes School in Osakis, which he did daily for 29 years. Harlan was very mechanically savvy and there seemed to be nothing he could not fix. He was fond of asking his grown children, “you HIRED that done??” He loved a challenge.

Harlan and Marie were able to enjoy some travel, although Marie needed a bit of convincing. Their first airplane ride was a 1970 trip to California. They also traveled to Washington several times.

Harlan became a Knight of Columbus in 1949 and remained a Knight until his death.

He was never one to “sit around.” Always busy, Harlan and Marie cleaned the sanctuary and sacristy every week for countless years. If there was any job that needed to be done, Harlan was more than willing to do it.

Harlan was a man with a truly joyful spirit. He was a gracious man; he had a way of making others feel comfortable and important. He enjoyed visiting and looked forward to daily morning coffee with a great group of friends for years.

Harlan was blessed with a large family, and he looked forward to their gatherings and all the happy chaos that ensued. He was proud of each one.

He was rarely seen without a smile. As a granddaughter wrote, “You taught me how to live: Simply, Happily, Generously. Spreading joy and kindness wherever you went.”

Harlan moved to West View Assisted Living in 2018. He enjoyed reading, watching the Vikings and Minnesota Twins games, and playing bingo.

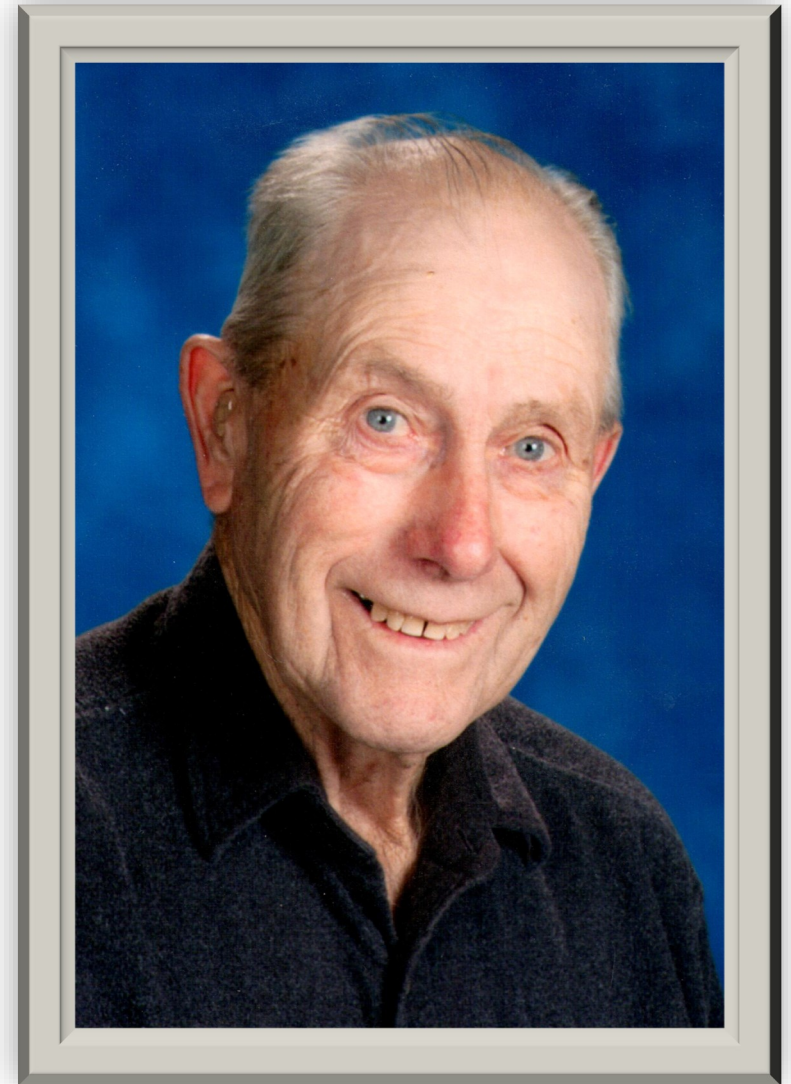
Harlan has been a faithful member of Immaculate Conception Church of Osakis for many years and a constant supporter of St. Agnes School. He had an extra-large smile when the new playground was named after him.

Harlan was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marie; sons, James and Donald; grandchildren, Joshua and Angelina; and daughter-in-law, Faye Tenhoff.

He is survived by daughter, Mary (John) Lang of Fargo, ND, Linda Amren of Waite Park, MN, and Kathleen Clark of Crystal, MN; daughter-in-law, Anne Marie Tenhoff; 18 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; brother, Delbert Tenhoff of Osakis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Harlan will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

In Loving Memory



Harlan W. Tenhoff

1924 ~ 2022

*To laugh often and much;
To win the respect of intelligent people and
the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
To appreciate beauty,
to find the best in others;
To leave the world a bit better, whether by a
healthy child, a garden patch, or a
redeemed social condition;
To know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.*

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

In Memory of

Harlan W. Tenhoff

March 18, 1924



March 5, 2022

Mass of Christian Burial

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Osakis, Minnesota

Friday, March 11, 2022

11:00 AM

Officiant

Father Tom Knoblach

Musicians

Jan Temple

Dana Hetland

Readers

Allison Fuchs

Christine Tenhoff

Shari Klukken

Gift Bearers

Hadley Lang

Eila Johnson

Harlyn Johnson

Casket Bearers

(Harlan's Grandchildren)

Shari Klukken

Craig Tenhoff

Kari Soderholm

Brent Tenhoff

Dana Tenhoff

Lisa Tenhoff

Matthew Tenhoff

Christine Tenhoff

Amanda Tenhoff

Allison Fuchs

Isaac Lang

Mary Breanna Johnson

Kayla Amren

Mitchell Glynn

Gary Glynn

Erica Carruthers

Lucy Clark

Taylor Clark

Interment

Calvary Cemetery

Osakis, Minnesota