

And on the 8th 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, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board"

-- so God made a Farmer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon -- and mean it"

-- so God made a Farmer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps; who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain'n from tractor back," put in another seventy-two hours"

-- 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 bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark."

It had to be somebody who'd 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 self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life "doing what dad does"

-- so God made a Farmer.

~ Paul Harvey



Heaven Gained A Farmer



Robert Karl Rudebeck
June 24, 1937 ~ October 1, 2019

Robert Karl Rudebeck, 82, of Buckingham, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at UnityPoint Health-Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, while under UnityPoint Hospice. Visitation for Robert will be held on Sunday, October 6th from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Abels Funeral & Cremation Service-French-Hand Chapel, 409 Clark Street, Reinbeck, IA. The funeral service for Robert will be held on Monday, October 7th at 10:30 AM at the Abels Funeral & Cremation Service-French-Hand Chapel. Interment will follow services at the Buckingham Cemetery in Buckingham. Following the burial, the family invites those in attendance to join them for lunch at the North Tama Activity Center, 212 N. Main St., Traer, IA.

Robert was born on June 24, 1937, in Waverly, IA, to his parents Charles & Jesse (Lawrence) Rudebeck. As a young child, Robert grew up in Bremer County, IA, living near Horton, IA for many years, then the family relocated to the Hudson and Gladbrook areas. In March of 1954, his family bought the family farm south of Traer. Robert graduated from Traer High School with the class of 1955. On October 22, 1958, Robert was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Ethel Ludvick at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Traer. The couple were blessed with 4 children. After high school, Robert began his lifelong farming career. He alongside his wife Ethel and their children, raised livestock including cattle and hogs and planted hay, corn and beans. The Rudebeck family was mostly known for their dairy farming. They also raised chickens and geese, the geese being the most 'interesting' to work with. After the family raised and had their geese butchered, people couldn't stop raving about the quality of the meat, some being the best people had ever tasted!

In addition to farming, Robert was also very mechanical, fixing tractors (John Deere of course!). After his retirement in 1986 due to health problems, Robert continued to do a little farming and continued working on tractors. He discovered Ebay at this time, where he would buy tractor parts and other interesting things, his family would say. He was a member of the 2-Cylinder Tractor Club, enjoyed attending farm auctions and tractor shows, and he loved going on tractor rides. Robert was able to enjoy his last tractor ride just this past summer, at the WMT Tractor Cade in Cresco, with a very special driver, his grandson Michael. He enjoyed attending county fairs, his favorite being the Clay County Fair. He was also a member of Farm Bureau and the NE Iowa Classic Chevy Club.

Above all, Robert was a true family man. He doted on his precious grandchildren and was even able to be called 'great-grandpa'. He attended all his grandkids Christmas programs, band concerts and sporting events. Although his passing leaves his family heartbroken, their memories of him will bring them laughter and comfort in the days ahead. He will be dearly missed by all those he leaves behind.

Robert is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Ethel Rudebeck of Buckingham; children Denise Rudebeck and Gwyn (David) Edwards both of Monroe, IA, Robert Paul (Tina) Rudebeck and Holly (Brian) Frisbie, both of Buckingham, IA; 4 grandchildren Payge Edwards, Christopher (Jenny) Rudebeck and Hally & Michael Frisbie; great-granddaughter Clara June Rudebeck. He rejoins in heaven his parents; 3 sisters Eva (Bob) Crooks, Ruth (Harvey) Schwartz and Ellen (Lawrence) Hess and brother Ray Rudebeck; great-grandchildren Henry & Audrey Rudebeck.

In Loving Memory **Robert Karl Rudebeck**

Sunrise

June 24, 1937
Waverly, Iowa

Sunset

October 1, 2019
Waterloo, Iowa

Funeral Service

Monday, October 7, 2019
10:30 AM

Abels Funeral & Cremation Service
French-Hand Chapel

Officiating

Father Jon Seda

Special Music

“I Walk the Line”

Johnny Cash

“Take Me Home, Country Roads”

John Denver

“Big Green Tractor”

Jason Aldean

Casket Bearers

Christopher Rudebeck	Michael Frisbie
Eric Moore	Jeff Crooks
Lewis Schwartz	Roger Rudebeck

Honorary Casket Bearers

Ron Rudebeck	Keith Crooks
David Crooks	Ron Crooks
Todd Moore	Harley Moore

Earl Schwartz

Interment

Buckingham Cemetery
Buckingham, Iowa

Robert's family would like to invite those in attendance to join them for lunch and fellowship at the North Tama Activity Center in Traer, following the committal service at the cemetery.