

## Raymond "Ray" Dwight Ward

Ray was born on January 29th, 1928, in Breckenridge MN to Elmer and Myrtle (Larsen) Ward. He grew up on the Ward family Centennial Farm, of over a hundred years, spending most of his life there. He attended Mooreton Country School and Wahpeton High School, graduating in 1945. He then attended college at NDSCS in Wahpeton. His true love of farming brought him back to the farm after college.

In 1958, he married Pat Mergens from St. Paul MN. They spent many years living on the farm and eventually moved to Wahpeton in 1976. It was there that he said he was "a sidewalk farmer", even though he continued working on the farm until his son, David, took over. In the years during his marriage, he served the community on many boards. He was a Mooreton Township Supervisor for 20 years, a member of the ASCS County Committee Board for 18 years, a Director on the Farmers Union (Cenex) Station Board for 16 years, a Richland County Commissioner for 8 years, along with the Richland County Weed Control for 8 years. Ray was a Trustee at the United Church of Christ (Congregational) of which he was a member for over 60 years. He was also a lifelong member of the 25th District Democrats.

Ray loved to attend sporting events and school activities of his sons and grandchildren. He was always there to cheer them on and watch them succeed in their endeavors. He especially enjoyed them in their dance and skating programs. Ray lived his life to the fullest and enjoyed every minute of it. Especially, when spending time with his sons and their families. His time spent with his grandchildren was also special to him. He loved to work at the farm with David, even after retirement. We will all deeply miss him and the jokes he would love to tell right up to his passing.

He is survived by his three sons, Steven (Lorrie), Westminster CO., Kevin (Gina), Independence MN, and David (Cindy), Wahpeton ND. His grandchildren, Chelby (Zac), Paige, Chantelle, Ryan Brown, Juliana and Antonio. Also, his sisters Marlice, Mesa AZ, and Karen (Robert), Eden Prairie MN, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Myrtle, his wife Pat (Mergens), his brothers Elwood, Warren, Lester, Ralph, Roy, Donald, and his sisters Grace, Marion.



## Treasured Seasons

*To everything there is  
a season, and a time  
for every purpose  
under heaven:*

*A time to be born and  
a time to die; a time to  
plant, and a time to  
pluck up that which is  
planted;*

*A time to kill and a  
time to heal; a time to  
break down and a  
time to build up;*

*A time to weep, and a  
time to laugh; a time to  
mourn and a time to  
dance;*

*A time to cast away  
stones, and a time to  
gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and  
a time to refrain from  
embracing.*

*A time to get, and a  
time to lose; a time to  
keep, and a time to  
cast away;*

*A time to rend, and a  
time to sew; a time to  
keep silence and a  
time to speak;*

*A time to love, and a  
time to hate; a time of  
war and  
a time of peace.*

## Raymond "Ray" Dwight Ward 1928 - 2022



In Loving Memory

# Raymond "Ray" Ward



**Born**

January 29, 1928 - Breckenridge, Minnesota

**Passed Away**

July 23, 2022 - Wahpeton, North Dakota

**Age**

94 Years 5 Months 25 Days

**Funeral Service**

12:30 PM - Thursday, July 28, 2022

Vertin Munson Funeral Home - Wahpeton, North Dakota

**Officiant**

Pastor Ken Adams

**Organist**

Connie Raguse

**Hymns**

"How Great Thou Art"

"In The Garden"

"Amazing Grace"

**Pallbearers**

Chelby Miller, Paige Ward, Chantelle Ward

Antonio Ward, Juliana Ward, Ryan Brown

**Interment**

Fairveiw Cemetery - Wahpeton, North Dakota

**FINAL HARVEST**

*He was bound to the land from the  
day of his birth his roots anchored  
deep in the fertile earth  
nurtured, sustained, by  
the soil he grew and his  
life, like his furrows,  
ran straight and true.  
In faith, each spring,  
he planted the seeds  
in hope, to reap his  
family's needs with  
patience, he waited  
for the harvest to  
come to gather the  
fruits of his labor  
home. Ever turning  
seasons, the years sped  
past til the final harvest  
came at last then claimed  
anew by beloved sod He  
was gathered home to be with God.*



Vertin-Munson Funeral Home - Wahpeton, ND

Funeral Directors: Whitney Demarais - Shanna Grumbles - [www.vertinmunson.com](http://www.vertinmunson.com)