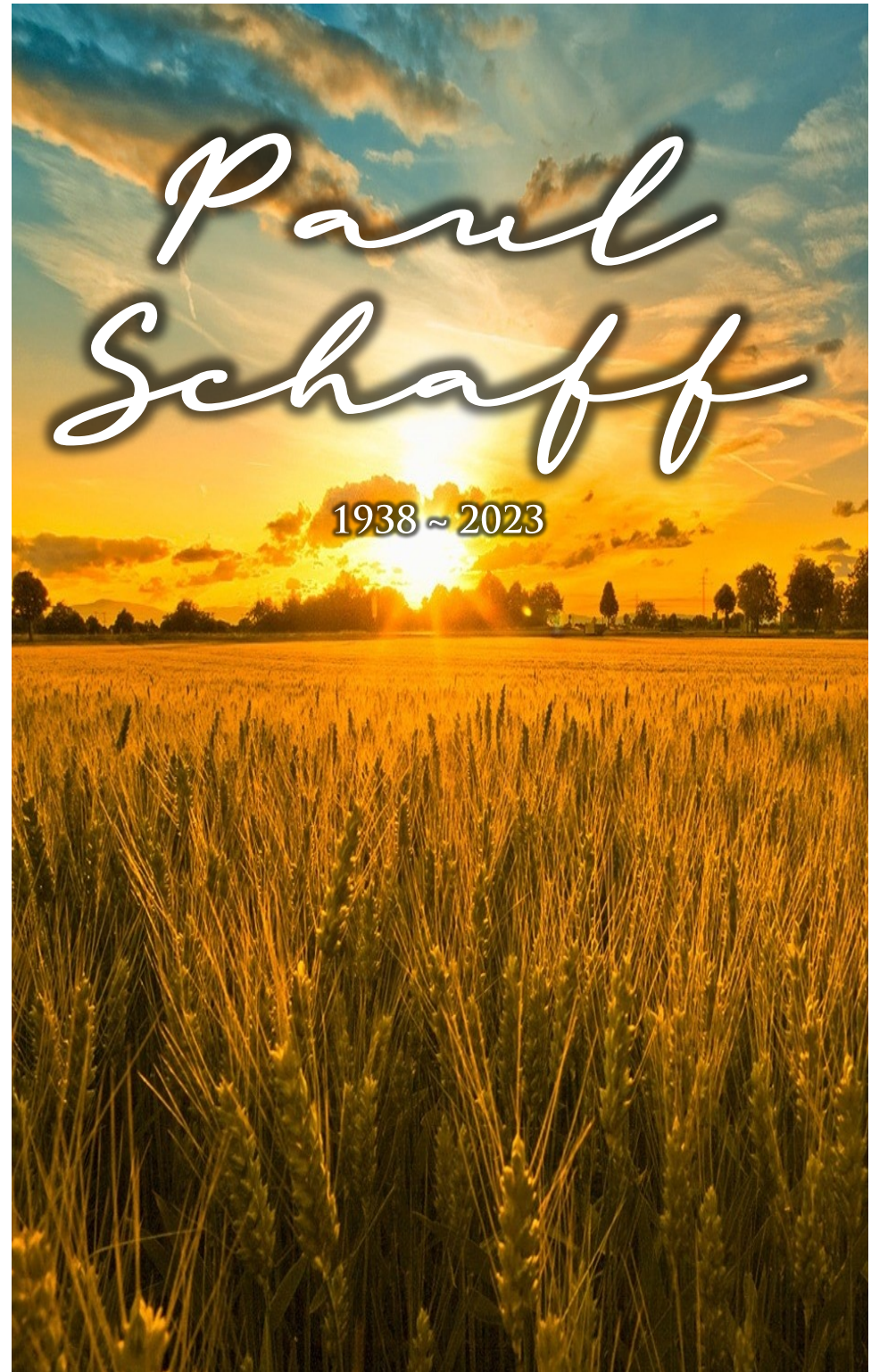




*"If a task is once begun
never leave it till its done
Be the labor great or small
Do it well or not at all"*



Paul John Schaff Jr. of Mandan, died April 8, 2023, at his home under the care of hospice with his loving wife, Laura, and his family by his side.

Paul was born at his family's home near St. Anthony on October 27, 1938, one of eleven children to Paul and Magdalena (Wetsch) Schaff. He attended country school at St. Anthony Sister School and then St. Joseph Catholic School. Paul went on to attend St. Henry Seminary in Belleville, Illinois for one year. In 1973, he completed an extension course of training in building construction from the Commercial Trades Institute. On June 8, 1959, he married his sweetheart, Ann Koller of Glen Ullin and they were blessed with four children. Along with his faith, Paul taught his children the value of hard work, love for farm life, integrity, and honesty. From 1959 to 1981, they farmed near Solen, raising Angus cattle and dairy cows. His strong Catholic faith guided Paul in his daily life. He served for over twenty years as a Eucharistic Minister and usher at Christ the King Church. He was an honorary lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus and also served for seven years as president of the Solen School Board. Paul and his brother, Tom, purchased Mandan Supply & Equipment in 1981 and ran a successful operation until retiring in 2004. Paul continued being self-employed serving his previous customers, whom he truly appreciated. Paul was well-known for his Christmas decorating for 20 years at his homes on Custer Drive and West View Place SE, displaying numerous decorations with over 50,000 lights. He was a master of many trades including work in the cattle business, as a mechanic, landscape artist, and gardener. He had a wealth of wonderful friends throughout his career and continued to work until he was 80 years old. Following the death of Ann, the first love of his life, Paul married Laura (Hopfauf) Helbling on April 12, 2008. Together they shared fifteen wonderful years of marriage, joining their love of companionship and family, and opened their home as a ministry of social gatherings for the elderly and young alike. They traveled the United States and to many countries in Europe, Africa, and the Holy Land. They continued to serve the Lord through their love of church and fellowship. Paul and Laura began creating concrete leaves, glass water fountains, and bird feeders during the Covid crisis. Paul continued to work as long as he could and gave his creations to family and friends.

Paul was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Ann; son, Brian; an infant son; three grandchildren; his parents, Paul Sr. and Magdalena Schaff; brothers, Adam and Tony; sisters, Katie Taghon, Barbara Saumell, and Leona Schaff; a special niece, Judy (Preston) Bankhead; and in-laws, John and Gertrude Koller, Bill and Clara Miller, Martin Koller, Lawrence Koller, and Mary and Ned Chandler.

Paul is survived by his wife, Laura (Hopfauf) Helbling-Schaff; Paul's sons, Jim Schaff, Bismarck and Jerry (Brenda) Schaff, Mandan; one daughter, Sue (Clair) Gullickson, Solen; grandchildren, Amanda (Donny) Fisher, Clayton (Megan) Schaff, Brent Schaff, Cole (Amy) Gullickson, Callie Gullickson (fiancé, Bayle Bertch), Carsten Gullickson, Amber Mathern, Ashton (Herb) Bristow; and several great-grandchildren. His siblings, Bertha Heinrich, Joe (Ruby) Schaff, Marianne (Mike) Blasco, all of Bismarck, Tom (Lois), Shakopee, MN, and Martin (Angie) Schaff, Mandan; brothers-in-law, John (Mimi) Koller, Great Neck, NY and Mike (Bev) Koller, Glen Ullin; sisters-in-law, Barbara Schaff, Delores Koller, Jamestown, Lori Chamblee, Florida, Sister Annuncia, Philadelphia, Lucy Koller, Minneapolis, and Irene (Chris) Rudy, Michigan; and several nieces and nephews. Paul's stepchildren include, Brandon (Julie) Helbling and Montague Helbling, all of Mandan and Lacey (Jeff) Paul, Queen Creek, AZ; step-grandchildren, Breanna, Brady, and Austin Helbling and Brody and Brooklyn Paul; brothers-in-law, John (Mel) Hopfauf, San Antonio, TX, Dwight (Lynn) Hopfauf, Roscoe, IL, and Scott (Kareen) Hopfauf and Dean (Jeri) Hopfauf, all of Bismarck; sisters-in-law, Jacque Hahn, Grand Island, NE, Marlys Hopfauf, Bismarck, Lynette Hopfauf, Mandan, and Mary Mieras, Orlando, FL; and several nieces and nephews.

Knights of Columbus Rosary Parish Vigil	Wednesday, April 12, 2023; 6:45 PM Wednesday, April 12, 2023; 7:00 PM Weigel Funeral Home
Vigil Presider	Fr. Fred Harvey
Funeral Liturgy	Thursday, April 13, 2023; 10:30 AM Christ the King Catholic Church
Celebrant	Fr. Fred Harvey
Musicians	Alice Gerhardt, Judy & Jess Friesz, & Janell Thomas
Ushers	Brady & Austin Helbling
Casketbearers	Clayton Schaff, Brent Schaff, Cole Gullickson, Donny Fisher, Donny Taghon, Ed Schaff, & Montague Helbling
Honorary Casketbearers	Kenny Schmidt, Jack Feist, Bill Schaff Kelly Schaff, Leo Janzer, Al Kovash, Jim Kohler, & Tim Bumb
Eucharistic Minister	Martin Schaff
Lector	Marianne Blasco & Carol Friesz
Prelude Music	“In the Garden”, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee” & “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”
Opening Song	“Be Not Afraid”

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading	Wisdom 3:1-9
Response	Psalm 23
<i>“The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.”</i>	
New Testament Reading	Romans 5:17-21
Gospel Reading	John 6:51-58
Homily	

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts Song	“Here I Am, Lord”
Presentation of Gifts	Mandy Fisher, Callie Gullickson, Ashton Bristow Breanna Helbling, Amy Gullickson, Megan Schaff Brooklyn Paul, & Amber Mathern
Eucharistic Prayer	
Communion Songs	“Hail Mary, Gentle Woman” & “Old Rugged Cross”
Communion Meditation	“The Summons”
Final Commendation	“Song of Farewell”
Closing Song	“Wherever You Go”
Committal Service	Mandan Union Cemetery

*You are invited for food and fellowship at the Mandan Eagles
immediately following the burial service.*