

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 grand-child; 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.

# Celebrating A LIFE Richard 'Dick' Wente

FEBRUARY 22, 1944 - APRIL 8, 2024



## **Services At:**

Faith Lutheran Church - Morris, Minnesota Monday - April 15, 2024 - 1:00 p.m.

## Officiating Clergy:

Reverend Emmy Swedlund

### **Readers & Family Remembrances:**

Jon Moser & Moe Wente

### Special Music:

Peggy Wilke, Piano Greg Sperr, Vocals Lyle Rambow, Drums Stephanie Oberg, Violin

# **Urnbearers:**

Dick's Grandchildren:

Cade, Cole, & Jacie

### Interment:

Summit Cemetery Morris, Minnesota







**Richard Roy 'Dick' Wente**, son of Leroy and Virgal (Baysinger) Wente, was born February 22, 1944 in Morris, Minnesota, where he was baptized and confirmed at Peace Lutheran Church. He attended country school at District #20 in Horton Township through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. After the family moved to a farm ten miles north of Morris, Dick attended School District #39 in Rendsville Township. He graduated from Morris High School in 1963. As a young child, Dick overcame polio and was still able to participate in track and football while in high school.

Dick was united in marriage to Linda Stoneberg on June 24, 1967 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Donnelly. Their marriage was blessed with a daughter, Brenda Lynn and son, Chad Richard. Dick was a farmer through and through. He farmed with his dad and in later years with his son. He also raised hogs and cattle. In 2008, Dick was granted a new lease on life when he received a "double kidney" transplant. He was the 500<sup>th</sup> transplant at Merit Care in Fargo, ND.

Dick was an avid fan of stock car racing and was on the pit crew for Storck/Andersen racing. He was voted mechanic of the year at both Viking and Madison Speedways. He was always a kid at heart and could be found racing a car or pickup on the frozen pond near his farm. Dick LOVED his tractors, especially Allis Chalmers and would collect scale models. He sponsored "plowing bees" at his farm and organized the Donnelly Threshing Bee tractor-cade.

Dick was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Morris and also served as supervisor for Rendsville Township for many years. He enjoyed attending his grandchildren's school and church activities. Dick loved many and was loved by many.

Dick died peacefully, surrounded by family, at Sanford Health in Fargo, North Dakota, on Monday, April 8, 2024. He was 80 years old.

Dick is survived by his wife: Linda Wente of Donnelly; son: Chad (Jackie) Wente and their children: Cade, Cole and Jacie of Donnelly; brother: Robert (Kathy) Wente of Faribault; sister: Diane (Wally) Kill of Morris; sister-in-law: Nancy (Glenn) Knopp of Morris; brothers-in-law: Wayne (Barb) Stoneberg of Willmar and Marvin Stoneberg of Moorhead and aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his daughter: Brenda Wente; his parents: Leroy and Virgal Wente; grandparents: Fred and Katie Wente and Elmer and Hazel Baysinger; mother and father-in-law: Merle and Leora Stoneberg and many aunts and uncles.

