In Tears We Saw You Sinking

In tears we saw you sinking
and watched you fade away
Our hearts were really breaking
but we could not make you stay.
God watched you as you suffered,
he knew you had your share
He tenderly closed your weary eyes
and took you in his care.
But when we saw you sleeping
peacefully free from pain
We could not wish you back
to suffer that again.
Our hearts still ache with sadness
and the secret tears still flow
What it meant to lose you
only God will know.
To the place of rest we wander
where we say a little prayer
No one knows the heartache
as we turn and leave you there.

Author Unknown

In Loving Memory Of

Wilbert "Willie" Laib

July 29, 1930 – Mercer, ND
June 20, 2017 – New Rockford, ND

FUNERAL SERVICE
Saturday, June 24, 2017 – 11:00AM
First Lutheran Church – New Rockford, ND

OFFICIATING
Rev. Doug Nemitz

SPECIAL MUSIC
Mary Ellen Rue – Organist

OBITUARY READER
Jessi Lagein

CASKET BEARERS

Daina Degenstein
Rachael Odermann
Ben Lagein
Jill Lagein
Shain Fields
Katerina Fields

BURIAL
Zion Lutheran Church
rural Mercer, ND

Arrangements By
Evans Funeral Home – New Rockford & Carrington, ND
www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com

Wilbert "Willie" Laib, age 86, of New Rockford, ND, died Tuesday, June 20, 2017, in Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd, New Rockford.

Wilbert Eugene Laib, known as Willie, was born July 29, 1930, on the family farm south of Mercer, ND, the son of Fred and Martha (Schlafman) Laib. He grew up there, attended school at Mercer, and then worked on the family farm.

On July 1, 1954, Wilbert was united in marriage to Gertrude Jean Strobel at McClusky, ND. In 1955, they moved to Bismarck, ND, were he worked various jobs. In 1971, they moved back to Mercer, and Willie bought the family farm. They farmed until 1984, when they moved to Carrington, ND, where they bought and operated the DelClaire Motel. Willie and Gertie retired in 1993, and moved to New Rockford.

He was a member of First Lutheran Church, New Rockford. They attended many threshing shows, including shows at Rollag, MN and New Rockford. They enjoyed taking Farmers Union bus tours to various locations, and had taken three trips to the Philippines to visit their son Dale. Favorite activities included fishing, playing cards and various board games. Willie and Gertie were often seen taking walks around New Rockford, collecting the cans they encountered along the way.

Willie is survived by his wife Gertrude "Gertie", New Rockford; one son Dale of Jamestown, ND, and the Philippines; two daughters, Jeannie Laib, Fargo, ND, Jannell (David) Lagein, Rock Lake, ND; 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Marion (Lloyd) Heid of Mercer, ND.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Renee Fields; one son, Robert; one granddaughter Shaila Fields; his parents, two brothers Meinhart and LeRoy; and two sisters, Eileen Schell, and infant Loretta Laib.

A Life Remembered