

Ervin Longnecker, 102, passed away on December 18, 2020 doing chores on his farm in rural New Rockford, ND.

Ervin Leo Longnecker was born to Cleo and Alma (Maurer) Longnecker on December 3, 1918 in rural Eddy County, ND. He was the oldest of 7 children; 4 brothers - Ervin, Merle, Jim and Charles; 3 sisters - Eileen (Peters), Anita (Koepplin) and Lucille (Saldivar). Losing his mother at the beginning of the Great Depression put many extra responsibilities on Ervin, but he helped grow a big garden and raise animals to keep the family fed. He attended school in the Brantford area before completing high school in New Rockford, ND in 1937. On September 1, 1941 he married Vivian Jasman, his soulmate of 76 years. Together they raised 4 sons; Dennis, Charles, Merle and Roger. Ervin served in the US Army during WWII from November 1942 to November 1945. The Invasion of Normandy on D-Day and The Battle of the Bulge were among the battles he survived. Ervin spent his life doing what he loved, farming the land. He experienced so much change in his occupation, from plowing with horses to driving Caterpillar tractors that steer themselves.

Ervin was a lifetime member of the VFW and a member of the Eagles and American Legion. He served on the Pleasant Prairie Township Board for many years. He was one of the founding cowpokes of the Circle Trail Riders, still driving his team across the prairie on each annual ride more than 45 years later. Ervin enjoyed fishing and deer hunting, still actively trying to fill his gratis deer tag this fall. In his retirement he spent endless hours riding his JD lawnmower and keeping his garden producing abundantly. To this day his chickens are still laying farm fresh eggs! Ervin loved watching his grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow into young adults. He was so blessed to be able to meet 3 great-great grandchildren! Ervin worked hard and played hard - a good, cold Coors Light at Hansons Bar and friends who gathered there always kept him going. To live 102 years, he must have been really good at living!

Ervin is survived by two sons, Merle (Sandy) and Roger (Patti) both of New Rockford; one sister, Lucille Saldivar of CA; eight grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vivian; two sons, Dennis and Charles; one great-grandson; his parents; three brothers and two sisters.

## *In Loving Memory of*



*Ervin Longnecker*

*December 3, 1918 – December 18, 2020*

## *Weathered Yet Unbroken*

A poem for farmers

A farmer of this land who never wastes a day,  
Even if his work will come with no pay,  
Hard-working and self-sufficient on just his two hands,  
Just trying to make a life on the earth where he stands.

He's seen many things; he's lived many years,  
He will have many stories to tell new young ears,  
Yet old age and sickness may bring him down,  
He's still a farmer whose mark will stick around.

~ Riley Eric Longnecker



### *Gift of Life*

God gives us each a gift of life  
To cherish from our birth.  
He gives us friends and those we love  
To share our days on Earth.

He watches us with loving care  
And takes us by the hand,  
He blesses us with countless joys  
And guides the lives we've planned.

Then, when our work on Earth is done,  
He calls us to His side,  
To live with Him in happiness  
Where peace and love abide.

In Loving Memory of

# *Ervin Leo Longnecker*

December 3, 1918 - rural New Rockford, ND

December 18, 2020 - New Rockford, ND

### **VISITATION**

Tuesday, December 22, 2020 ~ 6:00PM – 9:00PM  
Wednesday, December 23, 2020 ~ 8:00AM – 12:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford, ND

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Wednesday, December 23, 2020 ~ 2:00PM  
First Lutheran Church, New Rockford, ND

### **OFFICIATING**

Rev. Amy Kippen

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Kerstin Allmaras ~ Pianist  
Ali Vannett, great granddaughter  
Eric Longnecker, great nephew

### **PALLBEARERS**

Tony Rademacher ~ Cory Jorgensen ~ Dale Rosenberg  
Bill Ziegler ~ Jim Indergaard ~ Robert Lies

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

All of Ervin's Trail Riding Friends

### **MILITARY HONORS**

Raymond B. Thorn American Legion, Post #30, New Rockford, ND  
North Dakota Army Funeral Honors Team

Arrangements by

Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND

[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)