

Marlin “Pete” Erickson of New Rockford, ND, formerly of McHenry, ND, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at Sanford Hospital in Fargo, ND.

Marlin “Pete” Erickson was born on July 5, 1932, to Oscar and Clara (Forde) Erickson on the farm north of McHenry, ND. He attended Paradise Township grade school, two and a half miles from the farm. He graduated from McHenry High School in 1950.

Pete met Lois Vance while attending school in McHenry. They married on October 1, 1953. Together they raised five children and kept a busy farm going for sixty-two years. It was a typical family farm, growing small grains, and a large garden, raising sheep, chickens, horses, and cattle. Pete was particularly proud of his Hereford cattle. He understood their value and prided himself on giving his cows the best care. Pete loved his border collies and always said they were the best hired “man” a farmer could have. It’s quite possible there are more photos of the dogs than of his children. He was equally proud that in 2003 the farm was recognized as an operating Centennial Farm, now in its fourth generation.

Over the years, Pete was a dedicated member of many service boards, including Our Saviors Lutheran Church Council, McHenry School Board, Bethlehem Cemetery, McHenry Ambulance and Fire Department, and the New Rockford Community Credit Union. Pete also served on the Eddy County Social Service board for 32 years and was the clerk/treasurer for Paradise Township for 50 years. Pete had a great sense of humor and loved giving good-natured teasing to dear friends and loved ones. He could strike up a conversation with anyone (whether they wanted to visit or not). He believed in working hard, being a good steward of the land, and providing for his family the best he could.

Pete is survived by his wife, Lois of 69 years; his five children: Gary Erickson, Laurie Erickson, Michael (Lisa) Erickson, Corey (Melissa) Erickson, and Christy (Doug) Leier; five grandchildren: Malynda (Travis) Iglehart, Sean (Chelsea) Erickson, Craig (Sarah) Erickson, Taylor (Samantha) Erickson, Jennifer Erickson; twelve great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Myrna Sweeney.

The family would like to thank everyone for their condolences and prayers during this time. It has been greatly appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers any memorials be sent to CHI Health at Home - Hospice at 367 2nd St. NW, Valley City, ND 58072, which will be directed to the Hospice services in the Carrington area.

# *Celebrating*

## THE LIFE OF



# *Marlin "Pete" Erickson*

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JULY 5, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

## ***MY FARM***

*My farm to me is not just land  
Where bare unpainted buildings stand,  
To me, my farm is nothing less  
Than all creatures I love best.*

*My farm is not where I must soil  
My hands in endless days I toil,  
But where my horses like to roam  
Wild turkeys and geese call home.  
My hands feed them all with grace  
And I'm here with a smile  
God put on my face.*

*My farm, to me, is not just a place  
Not modern I must say,  
And no evil, greed, and selfishness  
For here I love and see  
What God has done for me.*

*My farm's a haven - here dwells rest  
With peace, security, happiness  
Here faith, hope and love abide.*

*And so my farm is not just land  
Where bare unpainted buildings stand,  
To me all animals God loves best  
I fed and loved them all  
Now God took me home to rest.*

Celebrating The Life Of

*Marlin "Pete" Vernus Erickson*

July 5, 1932 - McHenry, ND  
September 16, 2023 - Fargo, ND

### **VISITATION**

Tuesday, September 26, 2023  
Visitation ~ 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
Family Present from 3:00PM - 5:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford, ND

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Wednesday, September 27, 2023  
1:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

### **OFFICIATING**

Paula Loewen

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Mansion Over the Hilltop ~ Elvis Presley  
In the Garden ~ Alan Jackson  
Green, Green Grass of Home ~ Porter Wagoner*

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

All of Pete's Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren

### **PRIVATE FAMILY BURIAL**

Bethlehem Cemetery, McHenry, ND

Arrangements by  
Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND  
[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)