

Harold D. Petsinger, age 95, died January 14, 2024, in the Carrington Nursing Home with his family by his side.

Harold was born July 21, 1928, in Cando, ND. He attended school in Rock Lake, ND until he was 10 years old. In the late 1930s, the family left the farm in Rock Lake and moved to Leeds, ND. He graduated from high school and then attended the University of North Dakota, graduating in the spring of 1950 with a business degree. After a short time of working in Great Falls, MT for the S&L Company merchandising chain, he enlisted in the United States Air Force. He underwent training and was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. After being honorably discharged from the military, due to the death of his father, Harold returned to Leeds to operate the family business, Petsinger's Department Store, and the Leeds Theatre. He also formed the dance band, well known throughout the area as the "Swing Petz-Tette" and later, as the "Night Caps".

In 1954, Harold married Winifred Buchl from Rugby. They raised 4 children in Leeds. In 1983, Harold and Winnie relocated the clothing business to Carrington, ND, where they remained in business until late 1989. From that time forward, he worked as a retail consultant, mainly conducting liquidation sales throughout the upper Midwest states.



While residing in Leeds, Harold was a 27-year active member of the Leeds Fire Department, a charter member of the Leeds Ambulance Service, an emergency medical technician, a ten-year city councilman, a past officer, and a long-time member of the American Legion. He was a member of the Civil Air Patrol and past president of the Lake Region Flying Club. He also flew his own airplanes, which he loved.

In Carrington, he again served in the retail division and was director of the Carrington Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Hawks Nest Amateur Radio Association, and a member of the American Legion Post. He was a 59-year continuous member of the American Legion. Harold loved to visit with people, go to the lake, camp in his motorhome, and spend time with his family.

He is survived by his daughters Peggy (Miles) Clauson, Minot ND; Pamela (Craig) Hotzler, Shakopee, MN; Patricia (Rick) Van Vleet, Huron, SD; and son James (special friend Sharon Solberg) Petsinger, Carrington, ND; and sister Ann Arneson, California.

In addition, he is survived by his grandchildren, Ryan (Anna) Clauson, David (Sandy) Hotzler, Bryce (Bridget) Hotzler, Scott (Chris) Van Vleet, Eric (Cenzie) Van Vleet, and Megan Snodgrass. Harold is survived by 10 great-grandchildren: Cameron Brown, Harper Clauson, Coen Clauson, Mason Hotzler, Wyatt Hotzler, Brock Hotzler, Brooke Hotzler, Brynn Hotzler, Madelynn Van Vleet, and Bennett Van Vleet. Harold is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Winifred Petsinger, his parents Helen Petsinger/Deplazes, Alfred Petsinger, & John Deplazes; as well as his sisters Doris Horejsi and Mavis Ganje.

# *Celebrating*

THE LIFE OF



# *Harold Petsinger*

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JULY 21, 1928 – JANUARY 14, 2024



## **AIRMAN**

**By SGT Mildred C. Smith**

*(United States Army Caribbean, Fort Amador, C.Z.)*

*With spirit free, and courage in his heart  
He spurns this troubled earth for quiet sky  
He scorns the fretful minds of weaker men  
For that communion known to those who fly.  
Strange spirits beckon, and with faith as guide  
He ventures onward, knowing he will find  
Among his hosts, the soothing, sighing winds,  
That rare Elysium, content of mind.  
The sun is gone, but now Love lights his lamp...  
'Tis best to fly by night some pilots say  
For then the dreamers of another age  
Are free to bless the pilot on his way.*



Celebrating The Life Of

# **Harold Duane Petsinger**

July 21, 1928 – Cando, ND

January 14, 2024 – Carrington, ND

### **VISITATION**

Friday, January 19, 2024

4:30PM – 5:30PM

Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

### **ROSARY / VIGIL SERVICE**

Friday, January 19, 2024

Rosary ~ 5:30PM

Vigil Service ~ Immediately following the Rosary  
Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

### **MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

Saturday, January 20, 2024

10:00AM

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Carrington, ND

### **OFFICIATING**

Father Terry Dodge

### **SPECIAL MUSICIANS**

Gladys Fluge ~ Mary Freund/Braun ~ Paul Braun

Tom Freund ~ Joe Freund ~ Ceci Freund

—  
Sacred Heart Choir

Marlene Boyer ~ Pianist

### **PALLBEARERS**

Ryan Clauson ~ David Hotzler ~ Bryce Hotzler

Eric Van Vleet ~ Scott Van Vleet ~ Megan Snodgrass

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

Harold's Great-Grandchildren

### **BURIAL**

St. Vincent DePaul Cemetery, Leeds, ND

Burial will take place in the Spring.

Arrangements by

Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND

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