

Wesley “Wes” Olaf Miller, 82, passed away on April 28, 2025, doing what he loved—planting trees.

Born on June 26, 1942, Wes lived a full and meaningful life defined by his passion for hard work and love for conservation of the land. He married the love of his life, Patricia Engberg, on June 30, 1963. Their partnership spanned more than five decades until Patricia’s passing in 2016.

Wes had a lifelong passion for both animals and nature. Over the years, he raised pheasants, turkeys, and peacocks, gradually expanding his interests to include exotic animals such as ostriches, emus, rheas, wallabies, and even a zebra. His enthusiasm and dedication to raising these unique animals and birds brought joy and fascination to those who visited his farm.

Wes was a true friend of the land. His love for nature extended beyond the animals he raised to the trees and soil themselves. His greatest passion was for trees—he firmly believed there was no such thing as too many. Over the years, he planted tens of thousands on both his home property and his childhood homestead, affectionately known by family and friends as “The Farm.” He also shared this passion through selling Christmas trees to local families for many years, and through his tree-moving business, which he operated for more than 40 years. In doing so, he helped others create their own meaningful ties to the land, leaving landscapes more beautiful and lives more connected.

Wes will be remembered not only for his devotion to nature and the land, but also for his incredible desire to work hard. He worked from sunup to sundown his entire life, taking pride in every task, no matter how big or small. When he wasn’t working, he could be found ice fishing, deer hunting with his family, and tinkering in his shop. He was far from a perfectionist when it came to his shop projects—his goal was always functionality. This was evident in the many unconventional, yet brilliant contraptions and “work-arounds” that he came up with over the years.

He is deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Wes is survived by his sons, Mike of Carrington, ND, and Tim (Alyssa) of Valley City, ND, as well as six grandchildren: Kahlor, Casey, Tanner, Tyler, Taylor, and Ethan. He is also survived by siblings, Gladys Kautzman of West Fargo; James Miller of Bismarck; Dianne Marsh of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin; and Joyce Miller of Richfield, Minnesota, and Bournemouth, England. He is also survived by his very special friends, Harold Erickson, Joni Parks, Sam Partlow, and Brad Skytland.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia; daughter, Michelle; his siblings, Merlin Miller, Alice Campbell, Betty Wahl, Wayne Miller, and Shirley Kivley.

Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



Wesley “Wes” Miller

JUNE 27, 1942 - APRIL 28, 2025

The Dash Between

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on his tombstone
From the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came his date of birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years. (1900 -1970)

For that dash represents all the time
That he spent alive on earth...
And now only those who loved him
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own;
The cars...the house...the cash,
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard...
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
How other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile...
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy's been read
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent your dash??

In Loving Memory Of

Wesley Olaf Miller

June 27, 1942 – Carrington, ND
April 28, 2025 – Carrington, ND

VISITATION

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
12:00PM - 1:00PM
Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

FUNERAL SERVICE

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
1:00PM
Evans Funeral Home, Carrington, ND

OFFICIATING

Pastor Rick Loewen

SPECIAL MUSIC

He Walked On Water by Randy Travis
My Old Man by Zac Brown Band
How Do I Say Goodbye by Dean Lewis
Save The Roses by Lee Brice

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Kahlor Krefting ~ Casey Krefting ~ Tanner Krefting
Tyler Krefting ~ Taylor Miller ~ Ethan Miller
Harold Erickson ~ Brad Skytland ~ Joni Parks ~ Sam Partlow

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