



## Thomas Benda

Thomas Benda, 75, of Groton, died Thursday, Aug. 8 at his residence. His funeral will be held Saturday, Aug. 10, 2 p.m., at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Father David Janes will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel. Military Rites will be provided by Groton Legion Post #39.

Thomas Ray was born on September 7, 1926 to John and Nellie (Najmajstr) Benda in Britton. He grew up in Britton and attended school there. He was drafted into the army from 1945 to 1947. He reenlisted for the Korean war serving from 1951-1954. Following his discharge, he returned to Britton and worked in the area. On July 26, 1956 he married Wilda Baker in Webster. They moved to Groton in 1961, where he worked as a farmhand. He retired from farming in 1989.

Tom was a member of the Groton American Legion Post #39.

Survivors include his wife, Wilda, three sons; Tony, Andy and Marty all of Groton, one granddaughter (Jessica Benda of Aberdeen), one great-grandson (Brett Benda of Aberdeen), his mother, Nellie Benda of Britton, one brother, Dennis Benda of Pierre, one sister, Marie Benda Storbakken of Britton and caretaker and friend, Cheryl Schorg of Groton.

Preceding him in death were his father and one son, Lonny.

Casketbearers will be Wayne Freeman, LeRoy Freeman, John Baker, Alvin Storbakken, Les Dohman, and John Martin.

Honorary Casketbearers will be members of Hospice: Nancy Wells, Kathy Gubin, Barbara Surmayer and Linda Anderson.