

Donald R. Henley, 80

Donald R. Henley, 80, died Thursday, Sept. 18, 2003 at Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen.

His funeral was Monday, Sept. 22, 2003 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton, with Pastor Craig Grams officiating. Burial was in the Groton Union Cemetery. There was a prayer service, Sunday evening at Spitzer Funeral Home, Aberdeen.

Donald R. Henley was born December 18, 1922 at Claremont, SD, to Howard and Ellen (Carlson) Henley. He attended various country schools during the Depression in the Claremont and Putney area.

He married Lavanda Gerharter April 24, 1944 at Stratford, SD. They made their home on a farm near Putney, where they farmed until July 1999, when they moved into Aberdeen.

Donald was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton, serving his Lord in various capacities. He was also an associate member of Eternal Life Lutheran Church, Mesa, Ariz., where they spent their winters. He served on the Putney Township Board and Putney School Board, and also on the Brown County Co-op Board, Aberdeen. He loved traveling, woodworking and golfing.

Grateful for having shared his life are his son, Dennis (Bonnie) Henley, Greeley, Colo.; daughter, Diane (John) Schaefer, Kansas City, Mo.; three grandchildren, Steve (Theresa) Henley, Kristin (Geoff) Shumaker, and Jeff Weishaar; one great granddaughter, Madisen Henley, and sister, Mavis (Elmer) Iverson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and sister, Dorothy Pray.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorials to St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton, or the American Heart Association, 27047 Reynolds Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57108-8306.

Casketbearers were Steve Henley, Jeff Weishaar, Ken Jark, Robert Pray Jr., Lee Thompson, Art Gengerke and Bill Schuelke.

