

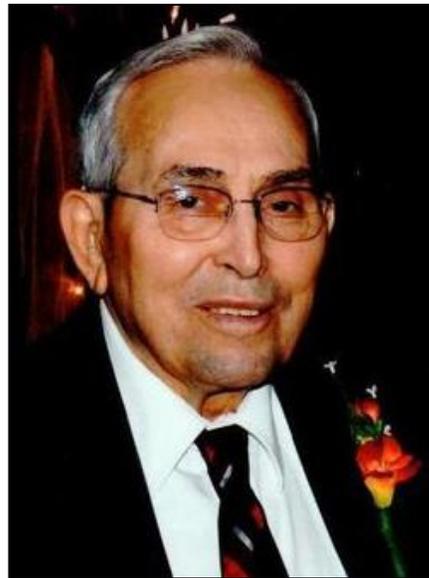
Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel

Delbert Leonhardt

(Died January 17, 2015)

A Celebration of Life for Delbert Leonhardt, 83, of Groton, will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 23rd at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton. Rev. Craig Grams will officiate. Burial will follow in the spring in Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel on Thursday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.



Delbert went to his heavenly home on January 17th, 2015 surrounded by his loving family at the Groton Golden Living Center. Delbert was born on February 3, 1931 to Hans & Ella (Bahr) Leonhardt at Verdon, SD. As a young boy his family moved to Henry Township near Groton, where they lived on various farms until purchasing their own farm in 1951. He went to school in Henry Township for all his schooling. It was during this time he met his long time friend Jerry Erdmann.

He was baptized as a child and was confirmed in the Lutheran faith at St. John's Lutheran church in Groton. He was a lifetime member and a faithful church attendee of the church.

In 1953 he was drafted into the US Army. He was stationed in France and Germany for the duration with 45th transportation Company. He served as a helicopter mechanic. He returned home in 1955 and was a member of the Groton Legion.

He started farming with his father when he finished school. In 1956 he started farming with his brother Floyd until the 1970's when they split into their own farming operations. Delbert enjoyed helping his children start their own farms.

Delbert enjoyed traveling and making new friends. Family was his pride and joy. He cherished each time he was with family and all the family get-togethers.

Delbert is survived by his special friend Arletta Peterson, Groton, SD, his sister Lorene Blocker, Ashley ND, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Delbert was blessed with 4 children, Suzi (Torrie) Oswald, Chaska, MN, Thomas (Jean) Leonhardt, Mansfield, SD, Terry (Cindy) Leonhardt, Groton,

SD, Betsy (Tony) Oleson, Watertown, SD.

Delbert deeply loved his 12 Grandchildren, Eric (Fiona) Oswald, Perth, Australia, Matt (Samantha) Oswald, Groton, SD, Ronda Oswald, Chaska, MN, Elizabeth, Delbert, Hans Leonhart of Mansfield, SD, Taylor, Cheyenne, Tyra and Mark Leonhardt of Groton, SD, Cody and Sierra of Watertown, SD. Delbert was also blessed to have 2 Great Grandchildren, Abigail and Benjamin Oswald of Perth, Australia. Preceding him in death were his parents Hans and Ella Leonhardt and 2 brothers, George and Floyd Leonhardt.

Casketbearers will be Robin Hagen, Spike Nehls, Jerry Erdmann, Chad Lehman, Dale Dobberpuhl and Marc Sippel.

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