November 29, 2011

The Life of Arnold McFarlane

• Arnold McFarlane, age 83 of Wilmot died November 25, 2011, at Milbank Area Hospital - Avera Health. Funeral services will be Tuesday, November 29, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Wilmot. Rev. Jeffrey P. Spencer will officiate and burial will be in the Wilmot Cemetery. Assisting with the service will be Rev. Dr. DeVern Schwenn and Dr. Peter Reynen. Visitation will be Monday from 5 - 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Visitation will continue at the church on Tuesday, one hour prior to the services. Military honors will be provided by the American Legion, Drake-Sorbel Post #64. The organist will be Sharon Ammann. Honorary bearers will be: Neil Long, Bill Argo, The Dice Shakers and Card Players, and All Family and Friends. Casket bearers will be: Dale Peery, Craig Deutsch, Ronnie Marko, Ray Christensen, Richard Johnson, and Russell Tempel.

• Arnold Ellis McFarlane was born October 26, 1928, in Springdale Township, Roberts County, SD. He was the son of Ellis and Ruth (Crocker) McFarlane. He attended school in Wilmot. Arnold served in the United States Navy during the Korean War. He returned to South Dakota and was united in marriage with Muriel Kirkup on September 11, 1955.

• Arnold was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Wilmot. He was a member of the American Legion, Drake-Sorbel Post #64. He was a member of the Wilmot Volunteer Fire Department, and was Chief of Police in Wilmot for 19 years. He also was a truck driver and cattle hauler. Arnold enjoyed auction sales and all the treasure he found there, as well as exotic animal sales. He worked for various farmers, and also farmed on his own. His family describes him as a "professional card player" at the sale barn, and also enjoyed playing Bingo. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the delight and pride of his life.

• Left to cherish his memory are his children: Alan (Anita) McFarlane of Wilmot, SD; Teresa (Dennis) Davies of Groton, SD; Dana (Monica) of Britton, SD; daughter-in-law: Rhonda McFarlane (and fiancé Marlon Nelk), of Wilmot, SD; 10 grandchildren: Jessica and Allen Ekern, Traci Davies, Andrew and Amanda Davies, Lindsey and Tessa McFarlane, Tara, Dustin, and Lacey McFarlane; 5 great-grandchildren: Abigail and Evan Ekern, Emma Davies, Malachi and Korie McFarlane; one brother: Maurice (Dori) McFarlane of Watertown, SD; two sisters: Doris Christensen of Wilmot, SD; Evelyn (Don) Reynen of Mitchell, SD; sisters-in-law: Kathleen Tempel of Wheaton, MN; Marlys Susa of Wheaton, MN; brother-in-law: Jack (Judy) Marko of Pelican Rapids, MN.

• He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Muriel; son Timothy McFarlane; an infant brother, Floyd; three brothers-in-law: Lloyd Christensen, Bill Tempel, and Ben Susa; one sister-in-law: Maxine Marko.