

The Life of Clayton Litch

Pierpont, SD: The memorial service for Clayton Litch will be 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pierpont. Pastor Paul Kosel will officiate. Charles Young Post #99 of the American Legion of Pierpont will present military honors. Private family inurnment will take place at a later date.

The Price Funeral Chapel of Britton, SD has been entrusted with Clayton's arrangements.

Clayton fell asleep Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at his residence in Pierpont at the age of 87.

Clayton Louis Litch was born December 23, 1928 on a farm southeast of Britton in Marshall County, SD to Ralph Roland and Dorothea (Berger) Litch. His family lived on various farm sites in the Marshall County area. Clayton attended school at Victor #4. After completing his education, Clayton helped his dad on the family farm. He was married to Faye Swanson from 1951 to 1983.

Starting in 1947, Clayton served his country for a six-year period in the U. S. Army. Part of his time he was stationed in Korea during the Korean War. He attained the rank of Corporal in the 2nd Infantry Division. He earned the WW II Occupation Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation Award, and three times was awarded the Korean Service Medal. Upon his honorable discharge, Clayton returned stateside, and worked for a number of different farmers in the Langford and Britton areas. In 1968 he purchased a farm near Pierpont, which he nicknamed "The Ponderosa", and he raised sheep. During his time of the farm, Clayton also worked as a mechanic at the John Deere dealership in Pierpont, and later for Groton Truck Center in Groton. In 1985, he moved into Pierpont and worked part time at a dry cleaner and Walmart in Aberdeen.

Clayton was a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pierpont. He also belonged to Charles Young Post #99 of the American Legion of Pierpont. He greatly enjoyed fixing things and was known to make a tool that would perform some specific function, when nothing else would work as well. Clayton was very artistic, and was known to make beautiful pencil drawings. Above all else, he was a perfectionist and insisted that things be done correctly.

Grateful for having shared his life are his four children: Kathryn (Daryl) Sundermeyer of Andover, SD; Karla (Ed) Juran of Cogswell, ND; Mikel Litch of Gwinner, ND; Kari (LaVern) Lee of South Shore, SD; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren and a sister, Velza Behnke of Rosholt, SD.

Preceding him in death were his parents; four brothers and their wives: Earl and Della Litch, Ivan and Leona Litch, Donald and Shirley Litch, Warren and Donna Litch; a sister, Ella Litch, and a brother-in-law, Merle Behnke.

Condolences may be directed to the family in care of Karla Juran – 12567 91st Street SE – Cogswell, ND 58017.

