

April 20, 1967

William H. Raecke ✓

Funeral services were conducted on Monday, April 10, 1967, at 2:00 p. m., at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ferney, for William H. Raecke. Pastor H. A. Kriefall officiated. Mrs. Dallas Sombke was organist. The church choir sang, "The Lord is My Shepherd" and the congregation joined in the singing of "Abide With Me."

Active pall bearers were: Gerhard Erdmann, Wayne Feller, August Grieben, Herman Krueger, Arthur Pigors and Hubert Stange. Honorary pall bearers were: Werner Baumgartner, Gus Ehrenberg, Gottlieb Erdmann, Carl Pigors, Herman Pigors and Alvin Sombke.

Mr. Raecke was laid to rest in the Groton Cemetery. The Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

William Raecke was born in Groton, S. Dak., June 10, 1900, the son of Emma and Frederick William Raecke. In 1903, his parents moved to their homestead northeast of Ferney. He received his early education in Ferney schools and later, as a young man, he attended the Hombolt Business College in Minneapolis.

On July 20, 1919, he was united in marriage to Mary A. Nystrom of Minneapolis. To this union four children were born, three daughters and one son. The first year of their married life was spent in Ferney after which they set up permanent residence on the original homestead.

He was a lifelong member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Ferney and had always been active in both church and community affairs until his semi-retirement due to ill health. He served in various offices of his church: Trustee, Elder and at the time of his death, was treasurer of the Bell Fund. He also helped in organizing the "Young Lutherans" group, now known as Men's Club; also served as a township supervisor and as treasurer of the school board. He was also an ASC Community Committeeman for many years.

Mr. Raecke underwent a successful heart operation at St. Mary's in Rochester, Minn., on March 6, following hospitalization of four weeks at the Day County Hospital and St. Mary's. He had completed the plans for his trip home, on the eve of April 6th, but later that same evening, God saw fit to call him to His heavenly home.