



Melvin H. Warneke

February 22, 1927 - March 31, 2015

PIERCE — Melvin H. Warneke, 88, of Pierce, passed away Tuesday, March 31st, 2015, at Heritage of Bel Air Nursing Home in Norfolk from complications of Parkinson's. Funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 4th, 2015 at the Zion Lutheran Church in Pierce. Officiant will be Rev. Gordon Bruce and Vicar Eric Oberman. Interment will be at the Zion Lutheran Cemetery, rural Pierce. Visitation will be held from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Friday, April 3rd, at Stonacek Memorial Chapel in Pierce. Military Rites will be by the American Legion Post #72, Pierce the United States Navy Honors Guard.

Melvin was born Feb 22, 1927 to Gustav and Dorothea (Carstens) Warneke on the farm near Pierce, Nebraska that was homesteaded by his grandfather, Heinrich Warneke. He was baptized on March 6, 1927 at St John's Lutheran church east of Pierce. Melvin attended grade school at St. John's and was confirmed in 1940. He graduated from Pierce High School in 1944 and served in the U. S. Navy until his discharge in 1946. He then went to work for Henning's Bakery in Norfolk under the G.I. Bill. It was here that he met Ardith Bostelmann and the two were married May 23, 1948. They moved to Pierce purchasing the Bakery from Henning and operating it until 1964 when they moved the business to Norfolk. In 1967 because of his allergy to flour he sold the business. He went to work for AAL Insurance and moved to Fremont where they lived for 11 years. After that time, upon the encouragement of his General Agent, Lars Granath, he returned to Pierce to serve the area and assist in the Agency Office. During his earlier years in Pierce Melvin served as

President of the Pierce Chamber of Commerce, was a member of Fire Department and a Lifetime Member of the American Legion serving several years as Adjutant. He was also a very active member of Zion Lutheran Church, serving in many offices, and a member of the choir. He also served The Nebraska District Lutheran Family Service, Lutheran Church Extension Fund, and Nebraska Association of Churches for Concordia, was District President of the Lutheran Laymens League and held other Zone offices. When the Orphan Grain Train was organized in 1992, he served on the Executive Board for 14 years and traveled many volunteer miles for them picking up medical equipment for the U.S. and other countries in need. Melvin enjoyed his motorhome with his family on many camping outings in the summer months. During their retirement years they enjoyed traveling with their motorhome throughout the U.S. and Canada. They attended International L.L.L. conventions in different states every summer for 23 yrs. Melvin was preceded in death by his parents, seven brothers; Walter, Martin, Rudolph, Arnold, Anton, Ervin, and Erhard, three sisters; Bertha Peter, Emma Schellpeper, and Helen Warneke, and a stillborn daughter in 1951. He is survived by his wife of 66 years Ardith Warneke of Pierce, three daughters, Debra (John) Matasovsky, of Truman, MN., Dorla (Mike) Ray of Fremont, Diane (Kern) Newton of Jackson, and one son Dean (Theresa) Warneke of Omaha, 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren, sisters in law Louise Barry of Battle Creek, Gladys Meisinger of Norfolk, NE, brothers in law, Dwayne (Avis) Bostelman of Superior, NE and Wally (Jackie) Bostleman of Moscow, TN, many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Organist will be Dottie Ahlers. Casket Bearers are Jeffrey Ray, Andrew Newton, Kevin Matasovsky, Christopher Matasovsky, Derek Warneke, David Warneke. Honorary Casket Bearers are Erin Boyer, Lindsey Warneke, and Brenda Newton. In Lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Lutheran Hour Ministries, Lutheran Family Service, Orphan Grain Train, or Zion Lutheran Church/School.

Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Cemetery Details

Zion Lutheran Cemetery - Rural Pierce

Pierce, NE 68767

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Stonacek Memorial Chapel - Pierce
403 West Main Street
Pierce, NE 68767
(402) 329-4270
stonacekmemorialchapel@hotmail.com
<https://stonacekfuneralchapel.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Melvin H. Warneke*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to you and your family at this time. I can still remember the smells coming from the bakery when I was a kid. Oh such wonderful memories that brought to me. The goodies were so GOOD. May God stand by you all at this time and ease your grief and sorrow.*



Pam (Krohn) Purdie-Purinton

pam purdie-purinton - April 04, 2015 at 09:21 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Mel's family. I remember him always being in church on Sundays. God be with all of you. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

God's Blessings, Julie Wingett

Julie Wingett - April 03, 2015 at 08:56 AM

MS

“ *My thoughts and prayers go to Ardith and family. Melvin was the sweetest man, always had a smile on his face. He was the luckiest man I've ever known with playing 'Bingo'!!! He loved to talk about his family and all what he had accomplished. Melvin will be greatly missed.*

God Bless, Michelle Schommer - Norfolk (your Activity Pal)

michelle schommer - April 02, 2015 at 07:37 PM

LF

“ *Deb, John and Family~
Our deepest sympathy to you. What a time of mixed emotions, grieving for your loss while rejoicing that through his faith, your father and grandfather has been carried to his heavenly home by the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. May you be comforted in our Savior's loving arms and by the wonderful memories you have of your loved one.*

*Lawrence & Myrna Rae Franzen
Leigh, Nebraska*

Lawrence & Myrna Rae Franzen - April 02, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melvin H. Warneke.*



April 02, 2015 at 03:55 PM

PN

“ May the blessed joy and hope we have from the resurrection of our Lord Jesus comfort all your family at this time. I remember well working with Mel throughout the years in the Lutheran Laymen's League, especially in zone 11 as I helped as pastor counselor (while I served at St. John, Wakefield from 1984-2002), and the numerous connections made through the years at District LLL level. He always had an attitude of joy and encouragement toward service for the Lord. May God use all of us just as well in our service to Him to the honor and glory of His name.

Pastor Bruce L. Schut, Scribner, NE - April 02, 2015 at 01:49 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melvin H. Warneke.



April 01, 2015 at 04:06 PM