



## Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes

October 10, 1942 - November 7, 2025

Gerald Walter Hayes I "Jerry" "Abe" "Papa", age 83 of Harding, MN, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 7, 2025, at home on his farm. A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brainerd, MN with Rev. Mark Skinner officiating. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 P.M. on Wednesday at the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls and 10 to 11 A.M. on Thursday at the church in Brainerd, MN. Military Rites will be conducted by the Pierz American Legion Post #341. Caring for Jerry and his family is the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls, MN.

He was born October 10, 1942 in Lastrup, MN, to the late Lester L. Hayes and Josephine O. (Orzechowski) Hayes. He graduated from Little Falls High School and went on to serve in the United States Army in Vietnam. After his honorable discharge, he returned home to his family farm in Harding, MN and soon after married Lucinda A. Larson. Together they started a family and he spent the rest of his life raising Appaloosa Horses and beef cattle. Texas Longhorns were his never-ending passion until the end. Off the farm, he worked a short time at Ford Motor Company in the cities before becoming an Artificial Inseminator for MidWest Breeders. He remained with that company for many years as it changed from Midwest Breeder to 21st Century Genetics to Genex and finally to CRI. He then retired for a short while before returning to work again, this time with Great Northern Logging Company. Eventually, he

decided to completely retire and spent the rest of his days enjoying the farm and dedicating his free time to his wife, children and many grandchildren. He remained actively involved in his community over the years serving as Platte Township treasurer, numerous boards such as Faith Community Church, Mid Minnesota Cattleman's Association, Northland Teamsters Riding and Driving Club and many more. He was also a member of the Pierz American Legion Post and a Lifetime member of the Appaloosa Horse Club.

Jerry is survived by daughters, Andrea "Tic" (Allen) Fleischhacker, Dondi (Tom) Schubert, Jenean (Brian) Woitalla and son, Gerald "Jerry" "Spud" (Stacy) Hayes II. Grandchildren, Zaryn (Nick) Schwab, Tori (Eric) Wisneski, Codey (Michelle) Fleischhacker, Chelsea (Derek) Anderson, Jamie (Haley) Schubert, Ty (Marcy) Schubert, Lane (Kylee Howard) Schubert, Tate Schubert, Matt (Tracy) Woitalla, Miranda (Danny) Cobenais, Marisa Hayes and Mariah Hayes. Great-grandchildren, Cooper and Emory Fleischhacker, Sophie and Lucas Schwab, Hank, Josie, Blair and Stella Woitalla, Skylar Schubert, Lindy Schubert, Waylon Cobenais, and baby Wisneski on the way. Brothers, Marcel "Sonny"(Jean) Hayes, and Rhynardt "Butch" (Esther) Hayes; sister, Karen (Bobby) Foss; brothers-in-law, Larry Larson, Mark (Nancy) Larson, David (Candy) Larson, Tim Larson, Chris (Jo) Larson and Kyle Larson. Loyal dogs, Maggie and Cash.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Cindy; both parents; sisters, Eleanor Tretter, Ellen Tretter and Sharon Hayes; brother, Lyle Hayes; as well as in-laws, Elmer Tretter, Marvin Tretter, Dorothy Larson, Cheryl (Bruce) Gangon, and Heather Kleinschmidt.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **12**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Little Falls Chapel  
214 2nd St SE  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
(320) 632-5242  
info@shelleyfuneralchapels.com

## Visitation

NOV **13**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church  
418 8th Ave NE  
Brainerd, MN 56401

## Funeral Service

NOV **13**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church  
418 8th Ave NE  
Brainerd, MN 56401

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - November 11, 2025 at 11:15 AM

MT

*What a beautiful tribute to Jerry's life. It radiates a life filled with family, happiness and memories that will not fade! You are all in our thoughts and prayers!*

*Aaron and Mary Tomberlin*

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**Mary Tomberlin** - November 11, 2025 at 09:00 PM

JB

*Beautiful tribute. So many wonderful memories!*

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**Judy Boser** - November 12, 2025 at 09:55 AM

GM

*A wonderful tribute to a great neighbor*

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**Gary n Valerie Matlock** - November 12, 2025 at 02:03 PM

CH

“ *Corey, Karen, Sam, Ty, Ethan, Hanna Hayes purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.*



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**Corey, Karen, Sam, Ty, Ethan, Hanna Hayes** - November 12, 2025 at 08:01 PM

GK

“ Greg, Shelly, Shelby, Evan, Seth, Nikki & kids purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.



Greg, Shelly, Shelby, Evan, Seth, Nikki & kids - November 12, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.



November 12, 2025 at 10:32 AM

EH

“ I remember the beautiful Christmas eve service we shared in your barn, with all the animals and good friends around us, sitting on straw bales and singing our hymns. And the summer service outside in your yard, beautifully mowed, food and visiting to follow. How much time and work it must have taken to get ready; I'm sure with help from family. We were blessed to have you.

Eileen Hargrave - November 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.



November 12, 2025 at 09:40 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.*



November 12, 2025 at 09:37 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.*



November 11, 2025 at 06:57 PM



“ *GENEX and Josh Sassen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.*

**GENEX and Josh Sassen** - November 11, 2025 at 04:45 PM



“ *GENEX and Josh Sassen purchased the Arrive i n Style for the family of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes.*



**GENEX and Josh Sassen** - November 11, 2025 at 04:45 PM

CB

“ my sympathies to Jerry's family.



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**Correna Becker** - November 11, 2025 at 01:18 PM



“ My condolences to the entire family.  
I have a memory of uncle Jerry I have never forgotten.

*I loved going to spend time there. It was always an adventure for sure!*

*We use to always play Little house on the prairie. One visit Dondi had a friend over and I always played "Carrie" but now Dondi wanted her friend to be Carrie. So she told me I had to be Nelly and Nelly don't live with them so I had to go find a different home. I wandered to the barn had tears going down my cheeks Uncle Jerry was in the barn asked what was wrong I told him he said follow me. Took me up to the house. Sat me at the table and gave me a bunch of snacks. I was happy. When the kids came in excited there were snacks I remember him saying "She is Nelly. Her dad owns the store and the nice house. Pay up or ship out."*

*Let me just say they were not happy. Uncle Jerry laughed, I think aunt Cindy said "Gerald" and I remember both laughing as the watched the kids walking back to their house ( the corn bin) with no snacks kicking dirt up mad.*

*Big hugs to you all!*

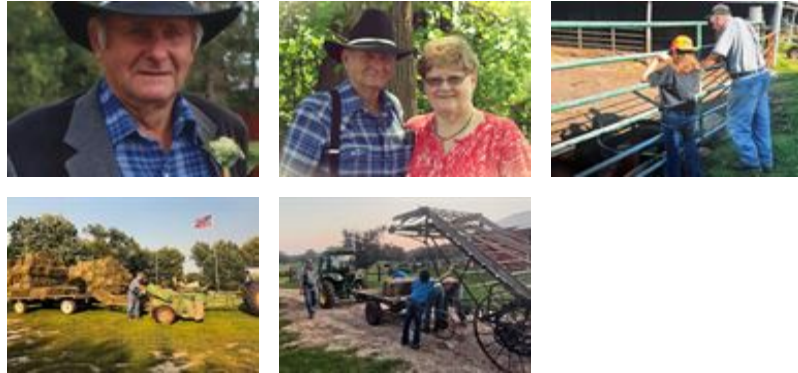


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**LeeAnn Larson** - November 11, 2025 at 11:09 AM



“ 81 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - November 11, 2025 at 11:08 AM



“ Ruthann Jensen lit a candle in memory of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes



**Ruthann Jensen** - November 11, 2025 at 08:20 AM



“ Paul Cindy And Parker Pulak lit a candle in memory of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes



**Paul Cindy and Parker Pulak** - November 11, 2025 at 12:01 AM



*And Cindy*

**Paul Cindy and Parker Pulak** - November 11, 2025 at 12:01 AM

TF

“ *Toni & Cody Kathrein Family lit a candle in memory of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes*



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**Toni & Cody Kathrein Family** - November 10, 2025 at 07:18 PM

DY

“ *DELORES YOUNG lit a candle in memory of Gerald "Jerry" W. Hayes*



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**DELORES YOUNG** - November 08, 2025 at 09:07 AM

EE

“ *Jerry was a staple at our house when my parents milked cows. It was always exciting to see him, he was pretty much like a bonus grandpa. He always carried a soft tone and a twinkle in his eye. He will be greatly missed.*

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**Emily Espersen** - November 07, 2025 at 09:16 PM