



Raymond "Ray" Schwanke

October 2, 1920 - May 8, 2011

Raymond "Ray" Schwanke was born on October 2, 1920 in Little Falls, MN to the late August and Dora (Guild) Schwanke. He grew up in the Randall, Scandia Valley area where he attended rural school. As a youth Ray was actively involved in 4H and FFA (Future Farmers of America). Ray worked with D.H.I.A (Dairy Herd Improvement Assoc.) as a Supervisor in Wadena, Todd, Cass, Hubbard, and East Otter Tail counties. He enlisted in the U.S Navy in August of 1942 and served his country proudly in the Naval Intelligence at Admiral Nimitz Headquarters in the Pacific. Ray was honorably discharged in October of 1945. While serving in the Navy he was united in marriage to Jeanette Copley on May 20, 1943 . Ray and his family farmed southwest of Randall, MN for many years. Their Stepping Stone Registered Holsteins won many Premier Dairy Awards throughout their farming years. Ray served on several boards throughout his life, some of which were D.H.I.A (Dairy Herd Improvement Assoc.), school board for 16 years, St. Peter's Lutheran Church board, and secretary of the Holstein Association of St. Cloud. He was a life long member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Randall, MN, a life member of the Randall VFW and American Legion, and member of the Randall Senior Center. In 1968 Ray and Jeanette sold their farm and purchased a home on the Mississippi River and resided there for several years. After selling the farm Ray worked for the Morrison County Soil and Water Department and also at Camp Ripley as a Security Guard. He completely retired in 1982 and built a home on Lake Alexander which they

resided at till 2000 when they moved to Little Falls, MN. Ray enjoyed fishing, hunting, reading, and playing cards with relatives and friends.

Ray is survived by wife of 67 years, Jeanette Schwanke of Little Falls, MN; sons, Gary Schwanke of Staples, MN, and Terry Schwanke of Randall, MN; daughter, Cindy Lange of Monticello, MN; brother, DeWayne (Mildred) Schwanke of Fish Trap Lake; 12 grandchildren, and 28 great-grandchildren. Ray is preceded in death by parents, August and Dora Schwanke; infant brother, Beverly; and sister, Velda Merrit,

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 10. 4:00 PM - 8:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Visitation

MAY 11. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church - Randall
121 East 6th Street
Randall, MN

Service

MAY 11. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church - Randall
121 East 6th Street
Randall, MN

Tribute Wall



“ Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Raymond "Ray" Schwanke



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Raymond "Ray" Schwanke

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ We are truly sorry to hear of Ray's passing. He was a super nice gentleman. God be with you Jeanette & Family.##imported-begin##Janet & Gene Retka##imported-end##

May 09, 2011 at 02:29 PM